

SCR80

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE AND HAWAII
FARMERS UNION UNITED TO
COLLABORATE TO ESTABLISH A
NUTRIENT RECYCLING CENTER
PILOT PROJECT.**

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
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SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

March 31, 2015
3:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 414

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 80

Chairperson Ruderman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Concurrent Resolution 80, which is requesting the Department of Agriculture and the Hawaii Farmers Union United to collaborate to establish a nutrient recycling center pilot project on the island on Maui. The Department supports the intent of the resolution but lacks the expertise on the methodology for a complete composting process and distribution as well as the resources that would be needed to carry out such a pilot project.

If funding was to be provided and made available, this could be a project that a partnership between the Department of Agriculture and the University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources could collaborate on with the Hawaii Farmers Union United.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
craig cuthbert	HFUU	Support	No

Comments: Whereas w/o nutrient recycling, nutrients flow from farmland into food? This is the wording of the 4th "Whereas". Was this an innocent oversight? Shouldn't the wording reflect a concern for runoff into aquifers and shorelines? I'd be more concerned with runoffs affecting reefs, shoreline ecosystems wells/aquifers.

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Submitted on: 3/29/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Kakou Chairman Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere, and Honorable Agriculture Committee, Please pass this important resolution through your committee. Hawaii Farmers Union United is in the process of educating the Legislative body as to the importance of soil health to agriculture production. SCR 80 is a measure to outline what we feel is necessary to address the high cost of inputs (Fertilizer) on our farms across the state, and bring soil health to where it needs to be to address our lack of food security. Recycling nutrients back on to the land state-wide will make farming in Hawaii a less expensive business proposition. HFUU envisions a network of mobile composting centers that can turn invasive trees and other species, yard waste, commercial and residential food waste, animal offal and waste and other locally available nutrients into a Hawaii made fertilizer. We believe that this business will be quite profitable, and are asking the HDOA to oversee a pilot program on Maui, a pilot program that is implemented by Hawaii Farmers Union United Professionals. Me ka ha'aha'a Simon Russell Hawaii Farmers Union United Legislative Committee Chairman

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Submitted on: 3/29/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eva Lee	Tea Hawaii & Company	Support	No

Comments:

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SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Soil vitality is only as strong as the amount of organisms that are populating it. For those organisms to prosper and multiply, they need organic matter. Please endorse MFUU's request for a study to be done by the Department of agriculture and the HFUU to determine the necessary steps to undertake to get a large scale nutrient recycling center operational next to prime agriculture lands on Maui as a pilot project

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marcy montgomery	One Island Sustainable Living	Support	No

Comments: The UN estimates the planet has only 60 harvest cycles left before it uses up its top soil. Possibly less they say in the tropics. WE NEED TO BUILD SOIL. Please support the SCR80 to help Hawaii learn to build its own soil.

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Cc: rob@counterculturehawaii.com
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SCR80

Submitted on: 3/29/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Barreca	Counter Culture Food + Ferments	Support	No

Comments:

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SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Agathe Frings	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for listening, I think it is important that we are all acting together and caring for generations ahead. Mahalo

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amber Jade	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii is an island, very far away from many of the external resources we now take for granted. As an island community, we are not only vulnerable to shifts in the availability of foreign and imported resources, we also bear 100% of the impact we have on our ecology and we cannot escape the effects. We cannot walk across the state line to gather food or materials for housing & basic care in times of emergency. It is therefor vital that we reduce our impact to a sustainable level and practice the care necessary to survive a the most basic levels. This study is only the smallest step forward in action to undo all the damage that 100 years of unsustainable human lifestyles have done to our soils. For many years, native peoples lived in harmony with the land, recycling their waste efficiently and allowing Nature to recover and regrow what they took from the land & sea. Our "modern" practices STRIP the land, and make it impossible for Nature to recover from our influence. In our egotistical ignorance, and desire for "more" and a completely misdirected definition of improvement", we have depleted the viability of the very soil that we require to survive. We can keep sprinting blindly toward destruction, OR, we can prioritize actions like this proposal and turn the boat around before it is too late. Healthy soil, healthy water, and healthy air are the 3 pillars that ALL OTHER HUMAN NEEDS branch from. Without healthy soil, air & water, plants cannot grow. Basic science: no plants = no oxygen, no food, no life. Economy, jobs, education, etc are a moot point if we cannot grow food because or depleted and/or toxic soil conditions, or if we can't breathe because the air pollution hits critical mass where we don't have enough plants to maintain oxygen levels & reduce carbon dioxide & other harmful substances. Corporate influences that seek to manipulate their way into profiting from using up and toxifying, damaging & polluting Hawaii's limited natural resources, companies like Monsanto & Dow, are not a stimulating option, but a threat to our communities. We need to focus on taking care of our OWN resources, and treating them with the respect not only THEY deserve, but WE and OUR CHILDREN deserve. Lets not leave this mess in the laps of our children, saying: "Sorry there's no food for you. Sorry we didn't even get started on understanding our soils & fix this back when it was not only possible but simple. Sorry we continued to poison & pollute your homeland out of laziness & lack of intelligence. We didn't know what to do & didn't feel like paying attention, and we knew we wouldn't be around to have the damage impact US personally, so we didn't care enough to take action." Hawaii

doesn't treat the future generations like that. We have Aloha. Lets put action into our Aloha.

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann M. Fontes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Astrid	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Large areas on Maui have soils depleted by pineapple or sugar cane cultivation, making it very hard to grow anything. Organic matter is badly needed to remedy this situation. SCR80 therefore would be helpful

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barb Cuttance	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this resolution. I is essential to the soil health and health of Hawaii's people that this happens and that similar facilities are set up through out Hawaii. Please pass this resolution. Barbara Cuttance 14/266 Papaya Farms Road Pahoia Hawaii

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I strongly support this Resolution! This is the time to be considering soil health restoration and using our green waste in a responsible and productive manner. Mahalo for your support, Ms. Barbara Barry

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SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Hambright	Individual	Support	No

Comments: These are precious resources we need to take advantage of!

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Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 10:00:57 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bobbie Patnode	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a partner in our small organic vegetable farm, Patnode Family Farm, in Kula. We have a constant need for organic compost and spend considerable time creating and managing compost. We are completely in support of anything that can be done to assist us with this critical resource for organic farming. We are in complete support of finding ways to use the tons of organic material that are currently going into Maui's landfill to enable better farming practices on Maui. Thank you.

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bonnie Marsh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support the Maui study for nutrient recycling on polluted Ag lands.

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Gardner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Sadly, much of Hawaii's farmable soil has been abused over the years by imprudent farming practices. A study to develop a pilot program to better inform and educate our agricultural use would be an excellent step in the right direction.

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SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Key	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I ask the legislature to support SCR 80

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Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eloise Engman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I urge you to support SCR 80. This measure is asking for a study to be done by the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii Farmers Union United to determine the necessary steps to get a large scale nutrient recycling center operational next to prime agriculture lands on Maui as a pilot project. This is an important first step towards supporting our local farming infrastructure and improving food security for the Hawaiian Islands.

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Land	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Yes, we have sun. Yes, we have water, but the soil is the key! Years of chemical intensive farming have robbed our soil of life. Like an old junkie, it is time to rehabilitate, slowly, thoughtfully, cleanly. Please move forward with this effort. Aloha nui, James Land, Hawi

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Yunker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: With the extraordinary year-round growing season here on Maui and other Hawaiian Islands. It behooves us to consider the future and plan for the ability to transform the never-ending plant material into reuseable and healthy soil for gardens, potted plants, and use to regenerate great swathes of sugarcane and pineapple lands. Please take this first step towards exploring how such a facility can be created and what benefits it could bring to our islands.

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jesse ryan kawela allen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this request to conduct the study of post industrial agro-farming soils. Our agricultural future is dependent on the soil which may need much reviving through addition of organic materials. Thanks for supporting this study!

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments: www.WeAreOne.cc

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katherine Pomeroy	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please pass SCR 80. It's an important step in an overall green waste plan for Hawaii. Thanks, Katherine Pomeroy

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth A Likout	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristin Solbach	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 9:48:50 AM

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leah Vines	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Caring for our 'aina makes sense financially and morally. Please support this study as a step toward rehabilitating our food production capabilities.

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Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louisa Wooton	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ruderman and Members of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Mahalo for this opportunity to support such an important and beneficial project for reclaiming nutrients for agro-ecological farming on Maui. Using such a facility as a model, farmers throughout the state can have a "jump-start" as we move ahead with sustainable farming systems as the goal for all agriculture in our amazing island home. Many farmers in Hawai'i have inherited lands that have suffered from decades of improper conservation practices. Re-building the health of our soils is a challenge that can only be met by applying good conservation practices and addition of organic materials and nutrients. Please support this important concept. Me ke aloha, Louisa Wooton Kauai Kunana Dairy and Farm Kilauea, Moloa'a, Kaua'i

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Cc: marcy@full-circle.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 7:14:55 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marcy montgomery	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The UN estimates the planet has only 60 harvest cycles left before it uses up its top soil. Possibly less they say in the tropics. WE NEED TO BUILD SOIL. Please support the SCR80 to help Hawaii learn to build its own soil.

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Cc: mpshaw10@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 10:35:14 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Shaw	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill for a study to be done by the Department of agriculture and the HFUU to determine the necessary steps to undertake to get a large scale nutrient recycling center operational next to prime agriculture lands on Maui as a pilot project. This is only asking for a study, and next year, funding will be requested for the project.

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 2:18:20 PM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maureen Garry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: MSMatson@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Friday, March 27, 2015 3:52:29 PM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/27/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Matson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strong support.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: natalie@nataliebrownphotography.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Sunday, March 29, 2015 11:28:17 PM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/29/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Natalie Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Our soil health creates the building blocks for life. If we let our soil go, we let ourselves go. Let's get Maui's soil healthy again! Please support SCR80 Natalie Brown Paia, Maui

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Cc: neil.vonhof@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 7:55:24 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neil Vonhof	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: patcat377@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Sunday, March 29, 2015 11:47:56 PM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/29/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
patrice goodermont	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support the establishment of a pilot project for the collaboration of HFUU and Hawaii State Department of Agriculture on a nutrient recycling center. This would give valuable experience and information into the hands of The Dept. of Agriculture to the mutual benefit of backyard gardeners and whole scale farmers, alike.

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Cc: jahniappleseed@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 7:40:15 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 8:44:02 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
penny levin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 12:31:15 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raphiell Nolin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: asinsparks@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 9:57:05 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Sparks	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: This is a good step toward food sustainability, Please vote in support of this bill

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SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marcy montgomery	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The UN estimates the planet has only 60 harvest cycles left before it uses up its top soil. Possibly less they say in the tropics. WE NEED TO BUILD SOIL. Please support the SCR80 to help Hawaii learn to build its own soil.

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SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tammy Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a registered voter in Kilauea and manage old plantation lands. I support this bill. Sincerely, Tammy Davis

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR80 on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 8:12:48 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanja Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 10:05:49 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tracy E Mills	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We Very much need to have a Good Agricultural Practices program within the Department of Agriculture that will certify farmers for food safety compliance.

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Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 10:26:13 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Valerie Barnes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 12:14:35 PM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
vicki levin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this study as the first step towards increasing the opportunities of small farmers and food security on the island of Maui

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Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 8:12:07 AM

SCR80

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 31, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Cannon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We strongly support. Victoria and Trudy Cannon

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