SHAN S. TSUTSUI Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

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

# BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MARCH 5, 2015 10:30 A.M.

HOUSE BILL NO. 1051 HD 1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1051 HD 1, relating to agriculture. The bill proposes to authorize the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules relating to the declaration of Hawaii origin for agricultural commodities. The department supports this bill.

Hawaii produces a wide variety of agricultural products unique to individual geographic regions. The production of these high-quality products support farmers and their families and contribute to Hawaii's economy. Protecting the identity of Hawaii's high-quality and high-value agricultural products is critical in preventing unscrupulous individuals from fraudulently marketing agricultural products originating from outside a specified Hawaii geographic region.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759 Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921 e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 5, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

### TESTIMONY ON HB 1051 HD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 308 10:30 AM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,932 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

**HFB supports HB 1051 HD 1**, which authorizes the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules relating to the declaration of Hawaii origin for agricultural commodities.

HDOA is ideally suited for this authority, with expertise in market development, public, national and international relations, quality control, geographic origin designation, enforcement and grade certifications.

The Hawaii Board of Agriculture is a long-established entity that draws from a cross section of capable volunteers from a variety of disciplines.

Please pass HB 1051 HD1.

Mahalo!

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 11:42 AM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	john@olsontrust.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
John C. Cross	Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 11:46 AM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	jwayman@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Jim Wayman	Hawaii Coffee Assoc	Support	Yes

Comments: IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 1051 The purpose of this act is to allow the department to establish rules, standards, certification programs and labeling requirements relating to Hawaii geographic origin products. It is important to provide a path for origin protection and the development of rules to support each of our agricultural commodities. This bill establishes a path for those commodities which desire this service to do so without having to go to the legislature for the passage of new statutes, although the legislature is still an option. Individual commodity groups will have a place at the table with the HDOA in determining their own future.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.



Email: <a href="mailto:communications@ulupono.com">communications@ulupono.com</a>

### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE Thursday, March 5, 2015 — 10:30 a.m. — Room 308

# Ulupono Initiative Supports HB 1051 HD 1, Relating to Agriculture

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment company that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally grown food, increase clean, renewable energy, and waste reduction. We believe that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity, and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

**Ulupono** <u>supports</u> HB 1051 HD 1, which allows the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules regarding defining and marketing food products originated in Hawai'i, because it aligns with our goal of providing more locally produced food.

After conducting a local food market demand study, one of the biggest takeaways was how difficult it was for shoppers to identify what food products were local. Furthermore, there were a lot of products whose marketing made it appear to be a Hawai'i grown product when it was not. Therefore, for Hawai'i farmers and ranchers, they bore the higher expenditures that come from operating in Hawai'i but had other outside products be able to capture some of the pricing premium associated with a Hawai'i grown item. This bill helps to address this problem by better defining and marketing Hawai'i originated food products.

As Hawai'i's local food issues become more complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that by collaborating we can help produce more local food, support an economically strong homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

#### Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



Kyle Datta General Partner

From: Sent:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:42 PM
Sent:	Tuesuay, March 05, 2015 12.42 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	jkimof@msn.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
james Kimo Falconer	Hawaii Coffee Growers Assn	Support	No

Comments: Dear Finance Committee members, Please support this bill to help protect our Hawaii origins that will help support each of our agricultural commodities. Thank you, James Kimo Falconer President Hawaii Coffee Growers Association

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:07 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	gbiven@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/4/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Gloria Biven	Royal Kona Coffee Visitor Center Mill & Museum	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for your time. I would like to submit in strong support of HB 1051. Mahalo, Gloria Biven

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 8:37 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	michael@intelligentblends.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing	
Michael	Intelligent Blends	Support	No	

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 1:11 PM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	briana.chang@parbev.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted B	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Briana Chang	Paradise Beverages I	nc. Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 1:22 PM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	connie.phillips@parbev.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Connie Phillips	Paradise Beverages, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:35 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	jlenhart@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
James Lenhart	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly support HB1051

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:12 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	bill.judd@parbev.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
William H. Judd	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:58 PM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	victor.lim@partners.mcd.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Victor Lim	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Hawaii Restaurant strongly supports HB1051 HD1 authorizing the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules relating to the declaration of Hawaii Origin products as we have previously testified. thank you for giving us this opportunity to share our position.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From: Sent:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:09 PM
Sent:	Tuesuay, March 03, 2015 12.09 PM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	cmiyashiro@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Charlie Miyashiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In strong support of HB 1051

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:22 PM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	cpang@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Christopher Pang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:04 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	draket@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Drake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:02 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	tikehara@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Terry Ikehara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 2:30 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	eva.woo@parbev.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Eva Woo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:29 PM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	harry.harris20@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
harry harris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 11:38 AM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	smawae@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Shawn Mawae	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 11:41 AM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	rnishihara@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
RACHEL NISHIHARA	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 11:38 AM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	rcavaco@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
randy cavaco	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this measure.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:09 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	michael.conway@dole.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Michael Conway	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 1:05 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	larrywilkens@roadrunner.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
lawrence wilkens	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 2:05 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	rwong@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Roy Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 11:54 AM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	wittermarc@aol.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Marc Witter	Individual	Support	No

Comments: IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 1051

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 2:27 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	sal.bruno@parbev.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Salvatore Bruno	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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# finance8-Melanie

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 3:14 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	annaheil@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing	
Anna Heil	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 3:42 PM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	rkaiwi@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Roger Kaiwi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB1051. Please help us bring control of Hawaii AG products under the control of HDOA. Roger Kaiwi

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 3:44 PM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	rkaiwi1@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Stacie Loo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB1051 and urge you to pass it. Stacie Loo

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Wednesday, March 04, 2015 8:32 AM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	wendell.ho@parbev.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM*

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/4/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing	
Wendell Ho	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, March 03, 2015 11:12 PM
To:	FINTestimony
Cc:	tim@castleandcompany.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/3/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing	
Timothy J. Castle	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: I am in strong support of hb1051 and believe it to be the best solution to a complex issue that needs the involvement of those closest to the exact challenges regarding each commodity; this measure allows for that, while not burdening the Hawaiian taxpayer with an excess layer of cumbersome bureaucracy.

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March 3, 2015

Good afternoon Finance Chair Rep. Luke, Vice Chair Rep. Nishimito, and committee members,

My name is HC "Skip" Bittenbender, I am a resident of St. Louis Drive , Honolulu and I strongly support HB1051.

My strong support is related to my experience with the growing, processing and marketing of coffee, cacao, macadamia, guava, and 'awa in Hawaii. My experience is based on my job as extension specialist in CTAHR at UHM for the past 29 years. This is my personal testimony and not the official position of the University of Hawaii.

Labeling Hawaii-grown agricultural products to everyone's satisfaction is challenging. Directing the HDOA to make the labeling rules for each commodity when requested by its principal association of farmers, marketers and processors is a good approach to this complicated issue. HDOA's public hearings and rules making is a much more deliberate, transparent, and fair approach to what can be an emotional issue particularly when held at legislative hearings.

The Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) has the proper rules making approach that has and can continue to serve our agriculture and state quite well. This may require additional resources be provided to HDOA but it will be money well spent.

Thank you,

H.C. "Skip Bittenbender, Ph.D.

2377 Saint Louis Drive

Honolulu, HI 96816

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Wednesday, March 04, 2015 4:01 AM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	dsayad@socopac.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/4/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
David	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly support HB1051

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Clifton M. Hasegawa 1044 Kilani Avenue 12, Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786 Telephone: 808.633.2532 \* Mobile: 808.498.8408 Email: clifhasegawa@gmail.com LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/cliftonhasegawa

March 3, 2015

#### TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 1051, HD1, HSCR490

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2015

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

#### The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair

#### The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Representative Romy M. Cachola	Representative Nicole E. Lowen
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen	Representative. Richard H.K. Onishi
Representative Lynn DeCoite	Representative James Kunane Tokioka
Representative Aaron Johanson	Representative Kyle T. Yamashita
Representative Jo Jordan	Representative. Feki Pouha
Representative. Jarrett Keohokalole	Representative Gene Ward

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi

PURPOSE: Allows the Department of Agriculture to establish rules, standards, certification programs and labeling requirements relating to Hawaii geographic origin products. This legislation ensures consumers a clear, flawless and continuous path from origin, the adherence to rigorous rules and standards for handling, processing, and food quality and safety to comply with a State of Hawaii administered Certification Program.

POSITION: Strongly Support.

Hawaii is a magical place; there is no other place like Hawaii in the World!

"Made in Hawaii" captures the destination, geographic place of origin. "Made in Hawaii" includes and incorporates standards of food quality and food safety.

The Legislature has provided general direction on the food quality and food safety in §147-21 and §147-22. A specific expression of Legislative intent and direction by your Committee to the Department of Agriculture and Department of Health is warranted and recommended. The Legislative intent has not been forthwith and forthright proactively carried out by the Department of Agriculture as indicated by industry, government, the farming community and desired by the consumers, the general public.

Respectfully, for your consideration, evaluation and comparison the following information is provided.

1. Quality Assurance International (QAI) provides independent, third party certification of food systems for domestic and international organic food trade. The QAI Certification Program certifies every step of the chain from the land on which the product is grown; to the Producers growing the product; to the post-harvest facilities preparing the product; to the processing and handling facilities transforming the product.

Source: Quality Assurance International. <u>http://www.gai-inc.com/</u>

2. The Orthodox Union (OU) is the highest kosher food certification. The Orthodox Union certification provides assurance of cleanliness of product handling, processing and purity of ingredients.

"Market research indicates that fully 62 percent of people who buy kosher foods do so for reasons of "quality" while 51 percent say they buy kosher for its "general healthfulness."

A third buy kosher because they believe that kosher food safety standards are better than with traditional supermarket foods.

Only 15 percent of respondents say they buy kosher food because of religious rules."

Source: Orthodox Union. https://oukosher.org/blog/consumer-news/food-matters-thegrowth-of-the-kosher/

#### 3. OU Certified Company – Taro Brand

"Founded in 1946 by Kakuichi Tottori as Honolulu Poi Company, the company started as a small poi milling operation with just three employees. Today, HPC Foods, Ltd. distributes a variety of products under the Taro Brand label. The Company is Hawaii's largest Manufacturer of Poi, Poi Products, Sprouts, and Fresh Cut Fruits and Vegetables. HPC Foods remains a family owned and operated company. <u>http://www.tarobrand.com</u> "

Source: Orthodox Union. <u>https://oukosher.org/companies/</u> Search: Taro Brand

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As I shared with Senate President Donna Mercado Kim, "We are very fortunate to have a dedicated and astute group committed to sustainability, our environment, good and safe agricultural practices and most importantly the safety and health requirements for products that enter in to our food supply."

Thank you for considering my Testimony in strong support of this Legislation.

Respectfully,

n Alfarega wa

Clifton M. Hasegawa

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Wednesday, March 04, 2015 9:39 AM
То:	FINTestimony
Cc:	careers@parbev.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM

#### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/4/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Human Resources	Individual	Support	No

Comments: IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 1051 The purpose of this act is to allow the department to establish rules, standards, certification programs and labeling requirements relating to Hawaii geographic origin products. It is important to provide a path for origin protection and the development of rules to support each of our agricultural commodities. This bill establishes a path for those commodities which desire this service to do so without having to go to the legislature for the passage of new statutes, although the legislature is still an option. Individual commodity groups will have a place at the table with the HDOA in determining their own future. Thank You

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

# finance8-Melanie

From: Sent: To:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Thursday, March 05, 2015 7:30 AM FINTestimony	LATE
Cc: Subject:	rmckenzie@tropicaltaste.net Submitted testimony for HB1051 on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM	

### <u>HB1051</u>

Submitted on: 3/5/2015 Testimony for FIN on Mar 5, 2015 10:30AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Rod McKenzie	Individual	Support	No

**Comments: Strong Support** 

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.