

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
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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 COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY**

March 19, 2015
3:30 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 414

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1225
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES**

Chairpersons Ruderman and Wakai and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill No. 1225. This bill authorizes and appropriates funds for the Department of Business and Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) to work in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture to perform studies and analysis relating to establishing facilities on the island of Hawaii for quarantine inspection and treatment and handling of incoming and outgoing agricultural commodities. The Department supports this bill provided it does not adversely affect the priorities within the Administration's budget and submits comments.

The Department knows that ports of entry into the State are key in controlling the spread of invasive species both interstate and interisland. The Department is open to partnering with other agencies who would have the economic analysis capability to flesh out the feasibility of an inspection facility on Hawaii Island. The Department notes that a facility for the Kona International Airport was not included as one of the alternative locations, however, it is also a port of entry that can receive heavy foreign and domestic traffic. The Department would also defer to DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Statement of
Luis P. Salaveria, Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**Senate Committees on
Agriculture
and
Economic Development and Technology**
Thursday, March 19, 2015
3:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of
HB 1225
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES.

Chairs Ruderman and Wakai, Vice Chairs Riviere and Slom, and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism supports the objective of this bill to study and analyze the potential for growth and diversity of Hawaii's economy through the development of infrastructure and available resources in order to facilitate the processing of agriculture and other commercial products from Hawaii Island, especially with respect to those commodities slated for export.

DBEDT is pleased to collaborate with the Department of Agriculture to perform planning, feasibility studies, and marketing and economic analysis for one or more facilities on the island of Hawaii to be used for quarantine inspection, quarantine treatment, deconsolidation, and consolidation of incoming and outgoing agricultural commodities. Due to the seriousness of the invasive species problem and seeing signs of improvement in export markets, most notably in China and Canada, DBEDT estimates an appropriation of \$300,000 would be needed to carry out the purposes of this measure. Of this amount, \$210,000 would be allocated to perform planning and feasibility studies for one or more quarantine inspection and quarantine treatment, deconsolidation, and consolidation facilities; and \$90,000 to perform marketing and economic impact analysis for one or more facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: darakawa@lurf.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1225 on Mar 19, 2015 15:30PM
Date: Monday, March 16, 2015 5:20:53 PM

HB1225

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for AGL/EDT on Mar 19, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Z. Arakawa	Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii SUPPORTS HB 1225, RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES, which authorizes and appropriates funds for Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, to perform studies and analysis relating to establishing facilities on Hawaii Island for quarantine inspection and treatment and handling of incoming and outgoing agricultural commodities. (HB 1225)

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.

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March 19, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

TESTIMONY ON HB 1225
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES

Room 414
3:30 PM

Aloha Chair Ruderman, Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Riviere, Vice Chair Slom 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 is in strong support of HB 1225, authorizing DBEDT to work with HDOA on moving forward with the studies and analysis relating to establishing facilities on the Island of Hawaii for quarantine inspection and treatment and handling of incoming and outgoing agricultural commodities.

Many bills have been introduced this year addressing problems surrounding invasive species. They all address invasives but are not part of a comprehensive effort to manage the core problem. Several years ago the Legislature created the mechanism of a comprehensive plan and significant progress was made in implementing the key measures. We seem to be drifting away from that effort. This measure, however, addresses a key component of the comprehensive Biosecurity Plan and should be given priority by DBEDT along with the Department of Transportation. Last year, SB2347 was heard, requiring treatment of all nursery stock that may contain invasive pests. This sounded like a very logical step, however, if associated programs to reduce pest infestations on lands adjacent to farms, and at ports and harbors along with appropriate treatment facilities are not available, this will be a cost prohibitive program for farmers.

The Big Island has coqui frog, little fire ant and coffee berry borer but also has a huge potential to expand agricultural production. This facility is vital to controlling the spread of harmful and invasive pests as Hawaii Island's production capacity and markets expand. We urge the legislature become familiar with the Hawaii Biosecurity Plan and to support its timely and complete implementation.

We thank you for your strong support of this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: legechair@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1225 on Mar 19, 2015 15:30PM*
Date: Monday, March 16, 2015 6:04:13 PM

HB1225

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for AGL/EDT on Mar 19, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

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

Comments:

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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 1225 Relating to Agricultural Facilities
Senate Committee on Agriculture
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology
Thursday, March 19, 2015, 3:30PM, Room 414

For more than 35 years, The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i has been working closely with government agencies, local businesses, private landowners, non-profit partners, and interested communities across the state to preserve the lands and waters upon which all life in these islands depends. The Conservancy is a private non-profit conservation organization that has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i, and support 19 coastal communities seeking to co-manage marine resources in partnership with the State of Hawai'i.

The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 1225 and its proposed funding to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) and the Department of Agriculture (HDOA) for planning, feasibility and economic assessments for quarantine inspection, treatment, consolidation and deconsolidation facilities for incoming and outgoing cargo on Hawai'i Island.

Invasive weeds, insects, diseases, snakes, and other pests are one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's economy, agriculture, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of its people. With favorable conditions and limited competition, non-native species arrive in the Hawaiian Islands to find an easy environment in which to thrive. Indeed, the colonization rate of introduced insects and mites in Hawai'i has been estimated at 500 times the rate of the continental United States. Hawai'i Island, in particular, has been hard hit with pests like coqui frogs, little fire ants, coffee berry borer, and nettle caterpillars, amongst others. This is especially challenging because of Hawai'i Island's diversified agriculture base that serves statewide, domestic and international customers and markets.

Evidence from Hawai'i and around the world shows that preventing new pest establishment is exponentially more economical than eradicating a pest or, even worse, controlling it indefinitely once it becomes established. The HDOA has developed a multi-faceted Biosecurity Program in an effort to enhance invasive species prevention at air and sea ports with more inspectors, enhanced inspection systems and technologies, improved inspection facilities, and agreements with importers and producers for improved sanitary protocols. Having properly designed and controlled facilities for consolidation, inspection and, if necessary, treatment of cargo is essential to an effective biosecurity strategy, as well as to the efficient movement of goods into and out of the islands.

We also hope that providing the necessary and critical support for HDOA's Biosecurity Program and proper inspection and quarantine facilities at ports of entry will be additive and not prevent the Legislature, the Administration and partners from also devoting appropriate attention and funding to the full range of pest issues across the islands. Therefore, we respectfully ask that this Committee and the Legislature also take a comprehensive approach of providing significant and consistent funding to address the full range of invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, research and outreach priorities across the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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The Senate
Committee on Agriculture
Committee on Economic Development and Technology
March 19, 2015
3:30 p.m., Conference Room 414
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of HB 1225

Aloha Chairs Ruderman and Wakai, Vice Chairs Riviere and Slom, and Members of the Committees,

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **supports HB 1225**, *Relating to Agricultural Facilities*, which supports the planning of multi-purpose agriculture inspection facilities at Hilo and Kawaihae Harbor properties.

This bill has multiple benefits. It supports local food production, the agriculture industry, invasive species prevention, and the protection of human health/food safety. Many agriculture producers are able to stay in business and produce food for local consumption only through diversification and export of some of their products, whether it be interisland or to external markets. Yet the state lacks commodity consolidation & deconsolidation areas and invasive species inspection facilities at most ports. These facilities should be co-housed at key ports such as Hilo and Kawaihae, and should be designed for upcoming Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) rules pertaining to the safe transport of food. Your support for the planning and building of such facilities on the Big Island would support of local agriculture, preparation for FSMA rules, and the reduction of invasive species in agricultural commodities in domestic imports, interisland shipments, and in products destined for export markets.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share some of these thoughts, and we respectfully request your support of HB 1225.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS



Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

Testimony for the Twenty Eighth Legislature, 2015
State of Hawaii

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

THURSDAY March 19, 2015

3:30 P.M.

Conference Room 414

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

A bill for an act

HB 1225 RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES.

My name is Eric S. Tanouye and I am the President for the Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association. HFNA is a statewide umbrella organization with approximately 300 members. Our membership is made up with breeders, hybridizers, propagators, growers, shippers, wholesalers, retailers, educators, and the allied industry, which supports our efforts in agriculture.

We **Strongly Support** HB1225 Relating to Agricultural Facilities. As Nurserymen and Nurserywomen we take pride in the products we grow and it is important that we be able to have our products reach the consumer in the freshest and fastest path possible. These facilities can help to support agricultural growth. It is important that we have the proper facilities to import and export products in a safe and efficient manner. These facilities, next to harbors and airports, will help contain pests and provide quarantine treatments that will allow us to move our product in a timely manner. The county of Hawaii has agreed with us that these facilities can help multiple agricultural products such as papaya, flowers, and tropical fruits allowing these industries to grow. I ask that you consider the good that these facilities could accomplish on behalf of agriculture for Hawaii, and to allow pest-free movement of commodities interisland and to our export partners.

We as an Industry **Strongly SUPPORT** this bill and ask you to consider the good that this bill can do for all of Hawaii's Agriculture. If you have any questions at this time, I would be happy to discuss them and can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 ext 22, cell 960-1433 and email eric@greenpointnursery.com

Supporting Agriculture and Hawaii,


Eric S. Tanouye
President



Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association



*REALTORS®
Association of
Maui, Inc.*

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Kahului, Maui, HI 96732-3507
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March 19, 2015

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1225 BEFORE THE SENATE AGRICULTURE AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEES

The Realtors Association of Maui wishes to state its support for any and all measures the State of Hawaii can take to combat the infestation and spread of invading species that will negatively impact the quality of life in our islands if left unchecked. As such, HB 1225 is one such step the state must take in order to contain the spread of Little Fire Ants and Coqui Frogs throughout our state.

From a narrow, business perspective, the economic impact from the establishment of these two pests must already be enormous on the Big Island and would be very serious on any island where they appear. The statements from residents of Hawaii County and from Tahiti speak to the potential abandonment of agriculture and even habitation in those areas infested with the Little Fire Ants. As the LFA infestation in Mililani and Nahiku on Maui show, we will be stuck in a "whack-a-mole" situation, chasing from one new infestation after another until we increase bio-security between the islands, and especially for out-going shipments and vehicles leaving the Big Island. Therefore the creation of an agricultural quarantine facility on the Big Island is a pre-requisite to getting control of this emergency.

Those who are the front lines of this fight tell us that this moment is pivotal. If this ant species succeeds in spreading across our islands, the result will be transformative to our way of life. We can choose to contain and ultimately eliminate this threat now or a heavy price for inaction will be paid by future generations.

Mahalo.

March 19, 2015

The Honorable Russell Ruderman, Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology
State Capitol, Room 414
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: H.B. 1225, Relating to Agricultural Facilities

HEARING: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 3:30 p.m.

Aloha Chair Ruderman, Chair Wakai and Members of the Joint Committees:

I am Myoung Oh, Government Affairs Director, here to testify on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR"), the voice of real estate in Hawai'i, and its 8,400 members. HAR **supports** H.B. 1225 which authorizes and appropriates funds for DBEDT, in collaboration with DOA, to perform studies and analysis relating to establishing facilities on the island of Hawaii for quarantine inspection and treatment and handling of incoming and outgoing agricultural commodities.

HAR believes that programs to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species are valuable to the quality of life of our residents. Additionally, invasive species can have extreme negative impacts to homeowners and the real estate industry, for example fire ants and coqui frogs.

As this measure proposes studies and planning on quarantine inspection and treatment of agricultural commodities for both import and export, HAR believes this is a positive step towards managing the spread of invasive species domestically and overseas.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1225 on Mar 19, 2015 15:30PM
Date: Monday, March 16, 2015 7:45:56 PM

HB1225

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for AGL/EDT on Mar 19, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	Support	No

Comments: Mahalo for any additional support for Hawai'i Island. Since 2008 the invasive species have been an extreme challenge to all agricultural systems.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: amybrinker@mac.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB871 on Mar 19, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:50:00 PM

HB871

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Mar 19, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Brinker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1225 on Mar 19, 2015 15:30PM*
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 8:42:12 PM

HB1225

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for AGL/EDT on Mar 19, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

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

Comments:

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