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Governor

**SHAN S. TSUTSUI**  
Lt. Governor



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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 WAYS AND MEANS**

April 9, 2015  
9:05 A.M.  
ROOM 211

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1345, HD 1, SD 1**  
**RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1345, HD 1, SD 1. The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds for the operation, repair, maintenance, and improvement of the East Kauai irrigation system by the East Kauai Water Users' Cooperative. The department supports the intent of this bill provided it does not adversely impact the priorities in the Administration's Budget.

Water is a vital component in order for agriculture to flourish. Well-kept irrigation systems are necessary to provide much needed water to agriculturalists across the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





# Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

*Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii*

TESTIMONY FROM BENNETTE MISALUCHA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In Support of HB 1345. HD1.SD1

Appropriates funds for the operation, repair, maintenance,  
and improvement of the East Kauai irrigation system by the East Kauai Water Users'  
Cooperative

SENATE WAY AND MEANS COMMITTEE

April 9, 2015, 9:05 AM in conference room 211

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi and members of the Committee,

My name is Bennette Misalucha, Executive Director of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association.

HCIA is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization that promotes ag bio tech to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education, collaboration and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices and build a healthy state economy.

HCIA is in full support of the intent of HB 1345.HD1.SD1.

Efficient irrigation systems and techniques play a vital role in Hawaii's agricultural sector, given the unpredictable weather conditions like drought. It is therefore, imperative that irrigation systems throughout the state be properly maintained at all times.

This bill will specifically provide the East Kauai Water Users' Cooperative with the resources to achieve this objective for the operation, repair, maintenance and improvement of the East Kauai irrigation system.

We humbly ask for the Committee's support of HB 1345. HD1.SD1.

Mahalo for your kind consideration.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony.

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April 9, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

TESTIMONY ON HB 1345 HD 1 SD 1  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 211  
9:05 AM

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB 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 interest of our diverse agricultural community.

**HFB strongly supports HB 1345 HD 1 SD 1**, appropriating funds for the operation, repair, maintenance, and improvement of the East Kauai Irrigation System by the East Kauai Water Users' Cooperative.

The East Kauai Water Users' Cooperative, a volunteer group, has operated the East Kauai Irrigation System for more than eight years, servicing more than 12,500 acres of agricultural land. Without the volunteer effort of the cooperative, the 21-mile irrigation system would have been abandoned and Kauai farmers left without water.

The repair and maintenance of our irrigation systems is critical because our farmers and ranchers depend on these irrigation systems for their operations. Water availability is a basic necessity for farmers and ranchers to maintain and expand their production, particularly in times or drought manifested on many islands as a result of a changing climate. Moreover, a reliable water supply is a key factor when Hawaii's farmers and ranchers are making decisions to start new or to expand existing operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to stand in support of this measure.

**wam3 - Nicolas**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 08, 2015 10:41 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** darakawa@lurf.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1345 on Apr 9, 2015 09:05AM

**HB1345**

Submitted on: 4/8/2015

Testimony for WAM on Apr 9, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

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 1345, HD1, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE, which appropriates funds for the operation, repair, maintenance, and improvement of the East Kauai irrigation system by the East Kauai Water Users' Cooperative. Takes effect 7/1/2050. (HB 1345, HD1, SD1)

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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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1345 on Apr 9, 2015 09:05AM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 08, 2015 11:38:50 AM

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**HB1345**

Submitted on: 4/8/2015

Testimony for WAM on Apr 9, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louisa Wooton	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.

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