

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

February 26, 2015
1:30 P.M.
Conference Room 308

HOUSE BILL NO. 871 HD1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill No. 871 HD1. This bill would establish a new part in chapter 150A, HRS that would allow for the department to enter into private-public partnerships to enhance the biosecurity program and for the department to adopt rules to establish parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities. The department supports this measure provided it does not adversely impact the priorities in the Administration's budget.

The department has been working with freight forwarders, airlines, produce importers, and others to develop inspection facilities, manifesting systems, database sharing and other avenues to enhance the effectiveness of our biosecurity program. This bill will strengthen our ability to work collaboratively with our partners.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Thursday, February 26, 2015
1:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 871, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY**

House Bill 871, House Draft 1 proposes to authorize the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to enter in to private-public partnerships to implement enhancements to its biosecurity program and to appropriate funds for HDOA biosecurity program projects. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget request.**

With regard to SECTION 2 of this measure, which authorizes the HDOA to enter into private-public partnerships to enhance portions of the biosecurity program, the Department supports this concept. The interagency Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC), of which the Department and the HDOA are co-chairs, conducted a stakeholder survey in late 2014 on legislative concepts relating to biosecurity. This survey, which was promoted via email lists and websites of the HISC and the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, found that the majority of respondents (78%) supported the concept of private-public partnerships relating to biosecurity. Only 6% of respondents opposed the concept, stating that biosecurity should be the sole responsibility of the State (the remaining 16% of respondents selected "other" and provided additional input that is available in the full survey report from the HISC website, <http://hisc.hawaii.gov>).

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

CARTY S. CHANG
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

DANIEL S. QUINN
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

W. ROY HARDY
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
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BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
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KAOHOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

finance1-Kim

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: darakawa@lurf.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB871 on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM

HB871

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

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 871, HD1, Relating to Biosecurity, which requires the department of Agriculture to establish or participate in private-public partnerships to enhance the biosecurity program and quarantine inspection process. Appropriates funds for specified projects. (HB871 HD1)

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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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 871 HD1 Relating to Biosecurity
House Committee on Finance
Thursday, February 26, 2015, 1:30PM, Room 308

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. 871 HD1.

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.

Also, 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.

This bill provides useful clarifications and authorities related to biosecurity facilities as well as additional funds to support the realization and implementation of the Biosecurity Program.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer our support for this bill.

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Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

Testimony for the Twenty Eighth Legislature, 2015
State of Hawaii

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2015
1:30 P.M.
Conference Room 308
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

A bill for an act
HB871 RELATING TO BIOSECURITY.

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.

Chair Sylvia Luke and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to work with you to protect our personal and business information, and continue to advance the Hawaii's Biosecurity Program. The Hawaii Biosecurity Program provides a balance in pest risk, and agriculture. Therefore, the Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association (HFNA) and myself **Strongly SUPPORTS** House Bill 871.

Reaffirming Hawaii's Biosecurity program is an action that is sorely needed and is essential for our industry. HFNA believes that building upon the current, though stalled, Biosecurity System is the most effective, cost-efficient and logical approach.

The Legislature correctly placed the Biosecurity Program in the Plant Quarantine Law because it is based on a quarantine system. For us in agriculture, to compete in a global market, we must speak the same language in trade and commerce. Our goods must be in sync with the quarantine requirements of other states and nations. Biosecurity is the term that the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (194 member countries) has adopted to facilitate trade or movement among countries.

We strongly support this measure because it instructs the Department to implement the Biosecurity program and to focus back on what it was intended to do, which was to establish a **comprehensive prevention system** that also addressed the further spread of pests.



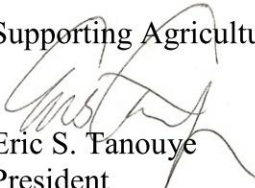
Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

HFNA supports the amendment to the biosecurity law to allow public-private partnerships to continue in the development of facilities. Transportation efficiency is a critical component of the growth of agriculture. However, we feel that inspection should be left to Plant Quarantine inspectors, who are hired and trained to perform this task. We support the increase in the number of inspectors to prevent introductions into Hawaii, and also to assist in the implementation of the Biosecurity Plan.

We also approve of having the ability to provide input. In the past, we met regularly to discuss issues and worked together on initiatives and we like the idea of a panel or council of some sort to be able to provide official input to ensure that biosecurity programs be implemented, the inspectors be hired, and the funding be wisely used. This is an important and essential program, which has been stalled for too long.

We thank you for your consideration of HB871. 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



The House of Representatives
Committee on Finance
February 26, 2015
1:30 p.m., Conference Room 308
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of HB 871 HD1

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

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **supports HB 871 HD1**, *Relating to Biosecurity*, which appropriates funds to the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture to expand the maritime cargo electronic manifest system; develop and implement new diagnostics to identify new pests; develop new pesticide and quarantine treatment options to reduce or treat pests; promote local production of imported crops that tend to be high-risk for carrying pests; and conduct related outreach.

CGAPS notes that the priorities listed in the bill text, the planning and rulemaking related to construction of biosecurity facilities for food safety concerns, and the establishment of on-port and off port biosecurity facilities (inserted text page 7, lines 10-18; page 8-9 lines 17-3), are not clearly listed among the list of specific projects in Section 4. Currently, only Kahului Airport has a functional inspection facility. Inspections at Honolulu International Airport are conducted in temporary spaces, in less-than-optimal conditions, with minimal or no climate control to protect against food-spoilage. It is our hope that these important components of the Biosecurity Program can be listed as a priority use of these funds in future drafts.

We respectfully ask your support HB 871. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS



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Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 26, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 871 HD 1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Room 308
1:30 PM

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 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 interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB is in strong support of HB 871 HD 1, which appropriates funds to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) for their biosecurity program. It also requires DOA to establish or participate in private-public partnerships to enhance the biosecurity program and quarantine inspection process. .

Invasive species have become one of the most challenging problems impacting Hawaii. Many invasive species are damaging Hawaii's environment and the state's economy. Agriculture has a vested interest in this matter. Agriculture is one of the major casualties when invasive species are introduced. Every year, numerous new pests are introduced into the State, such as the coqui frog, coffee berry borer, macadamia felted coccid, little fire ant, coconut rhinoceros beetle, small hive beetle and varoa mite, to name a few. Most recently, the coffee berry borer was found on Oahu demonstrating issues with interisland product movement.

Control measures take time to develop, leaving farmers and ranchers at risk. This is not consistent with the State's goal of increasing self-sufficiency and sustainability

Funding the HDOA's biosecurity program is essential to fully execute a comprehensive strategy to address the increasing amount of invasive species entering the state.

This measure addresses the needs of HDOA to help prevent new invasive species from entering Hawaii and to control and hopefully eradicate invasive species that are already established in Hawaii. HFB is willing to work with the legislature and department to accommodate updates as needed to achieve our goals in biosecurity.

Please pass HB 871 HD 1. Mahalo



The House of Representatives
Committee on Finance
February 26, 2015
1:30 p.m., Conference Room 308
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of HB 871 HD1

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

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **supports HB 871 HD1**, *Relating to Biosecurity*, which appropriates funds to the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture to expand the maritime cargo electronic manifest system; develop and implement new diagnostics to identify new pests; develop new pesticide and quarantine treatment options to reduce or treat pests; promote local production of imported crops that tend to be high-risk for carrying pests; and conduct related outreach.

CGAPS notes that the priorities listed in the bill text, the planning and rulemaking related to construction of biosecurity facilities for food safety concerns, and the establishment of on-port and off port biosecurity facilities (inserted text page 7, lines 10-18; page 8-9 lines 17-3), are not clearly listed among the list of specific projects in Section 4. Currently, only Kahului Airport has a functional inspection facility. Inspections at Honolulu International Airport are conducted in temporary spaces, in less-than-optimal conditions, with minimal or no climate control to protect against food-spoilage. It is our hope that these important components of the Biosecurity Program can be listed as a priority use of these funds in future drafts.

We respectfully ask your support HB 871. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS

finance8-Melanie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 5:15 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: swhalen@harc-hspa.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB871 on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM*

HB871

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 26, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie A Whalen	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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