

The Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2016

THE SENATE

Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Wednesday, February 24, 2016; 10:00 a.m.

STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 2659, SD1 RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL HEMP

The ILWU Local 142 supports S.B. 2659, SD1, which establishes an industrial hemp pilot program to allow the cultivation of industrial hemp and distribution of its seed in Hawaii through limited activities by the Board of Agriculture for purposes of agricultural or academic research and appropriates funds for the Department to assist in registration of industrial hemp licenses.

Since the decline of pineapple production and the impending closure of the last sugar plantation in Hawaii, acres of good agricultural land have remained fallow or have undergone or will undergo extensive development. While other crops have been introduced to replace sugar and pineapple and provide jobs for hundreds of people, some of them have faced stiff opposition from environmentalists and others who oppose genetically modified organisms (GMO) and large-scale pesticide use. The irony is that those who oppose GMO's also oppose expanded development and want to "keep the country country."

Hawaii's economy needs diversification. Tourism may be our number one industry but cannot be the state's sole economic driver. Indeed, tourism needs agriculture for its survival as much as it needs beaches and good weather. Flying over Maui and seeing acres of green, growing sugar cane is a delight for both visitors and residents, but that will end before too long. The State recognized the importance of agricultural lands on the North Shore of Oahu and wisely appropriated funding to obtain lands owned by the Galbraith Estate, but more must be done to ensure that agriculture has a future in Hawaii.

S.B. 2659, SD1 offers an opportunity for another crop to make use of vacant agricultural lands, provide jobs, stave off development, and preserve open spaces. That crop is industrial hemp, which is not the same as marijuana used for medicinal and recreational drug purposes. While from the same family as marijuana, industrial hemp is low in THC, scientifically different from marijuana, and cultivated differently. Industrial hemp is grown for its seed and fiber content and is used to produce food, oil, furniture, and fabric.

We believe this is a crop is worth considering for its economic potential. The ILWU urges passage of S.B. 2659, SD1. Thank you for considering our testimony.

LATE LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2659 on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 9:50:31 PM

SB2659

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

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

Comments: Industrial hemp is a safe and sustainable crop that can really boost Hawaii's economy. I support industrial hemp in Hawaii. Industrial hemp is completely safe and not a danger, and has hundreds of uses. We could export this crop and be free and sustainable .

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2659 on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 7:18:41 AM

SB2659

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Erickson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a crop that deserves to be reintroduced into mainstream agriculture. We need more renewable sources and Hemp can be just that. Lets start saving trees and planting hemp to offset the destruction of our forests for paper based products. Let Hawaii be the leader in bringing this once widely used crop back into mass production. With dirty sugar cane on the way out, lets bring in a cleaner and smarter crop. Mahalos

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2659 on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 9:53:53 PM

SB2659

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ian Davidson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The bill should include sunset clause that allows convicted felons to participate in the hemp program after 10 years from the date of conviction. Discriminating against convicts for life is extreme. This amendment to the bill would put it in line with the stance taken by most other states regulating cannabis.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2659 on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 8:26:25 PM

SB2659

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

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

Comments: Aloha. I am writing to support Industrial Hemp growing in Hawaii. Hemp oil and seeds are powerful antioxidants for the human body. Furthermore the prohibition of hemp is based on an extremely old ruling. My wife and I both consume hemp oil and seeds daily. With the sugar industry dying in Maui, I would really like to see the fertile land used for hemp, rather than condos. Hemp grows in any kind of soil and even under poor conditions. I think it is a perfect crop for Maui to replace the high paying sugar cane jobs. Mahalo and Sincerely, Mark Sloane

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2659 on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM*
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 4:30:49 PM

SB2659

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mitsuko Hayakawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 8:10:04 PM

SB2659

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

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

Comments:

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Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 5:56:08 PM

SB2659

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter deVries	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2659 on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 9:14:22 PM

SB2659

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Boudreaux	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support SB2659 SD1. A majority of US states have already passed industrial hemp legislation. Hawaii is in a unique position to grow industrial hemp year round proven by the research done by UH over the past 2 years with it's pilot program. It's time to expand this program to Hawaii's Farmers and Ag companies alike. If Hawaii is to be on the leading edge of this multi-million dollar industry the Hawaii agriculture community need to be able to grow this crop now! The commercial and industrial applications for this product number in the hundreds and will help decrease dependency on dwindling resources such as timber, cotton, etc. Expanding the growing of industrial hemp to all Hawaii will give farmers the opportunity to grow this crop and develop seed and strains that will boost our economy while helping to clean our soil and reduce our dependency on imports. Respectfully yours, Robert Boudreaux

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Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 8:31:19 PM

SB2659

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

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

Comments: Aloha Chair Tokuda, Chair Keith-Agaran, and honorable members of the committee, I strongly support SB2659 SD1!! Twenty-seven states have already passed industrial hemp legislation and now it's time for us to step in. In Hawaii, we are in a great and unique position to grow industrial hemp year round proven by the research done by UH over the past 2 years with it's pilot program. It's time to expand this program to all Hawaii's Farmers and Ag companies alike. Hawaii should be the leaders of this multi-million dollar industry--the Hawaii agricultural community needs to be able to grow this crop now! Expanding the growing of industrial hemp to all Hawaii will give farmers the opportunity to grow this crop and develop seed and strains that will boost our economy while helping to clean our soil and reduce our dependency on imports. Sincerely yours, Tracy Mills, Haiku

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Cc: sharedpleasures@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2659 on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 8:34:14 AM

SB2659

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Feb 24, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

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

Comments: I strongly urge passage of this bill to allow us to move forward on the use of industrial hemp crops.

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