

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 SENATE COMMITTEES ON AND AGRICULTURE AND ENERGY AND
ENVIRONMENT**

February 5, 2015
3:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 225

SENATE BILL NO. 312
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Chairpersons Ruderman and Gabbard, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 312. This bill appropriates general funds and funds from the pest inspection, quarantine, and eradication fund to the Department for the biosecurity program. The Department supports this bill provided that it does not adversely affect the priorities in the Administration's budget.

The biosecurity program fights invasive species by: administering pre-entry measures to minimize the risk of invasive pests entering the State; conducting port of entry inspections to detect and quarantine or destroy pests upon arrival; and administering post-entry measures to mitigate the establishment of pests in the State.

Currently, HDOA has 42 positions that are funded by the Pest Inspection, Quarantine and Eradication fund to run operations for inspections, quarantine, and response to pests such as the little fire ant and coconut rhinoceros beetle. This fund is essential for the continued operation of HDOA's Plant Quarantine branch at current capacity and our ability to prevent and respond to invasive pests. Additional funding for fiscal year 2015-2017 will help ensure that HDOA's efforts to contain invasive species are continued and strengthened.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: amel.s.chun@hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:06:35 AM
Attachments: [SB0312_LNR_02-05-15_AGL-ENE.pdf](#)

SB312

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carty S. Chang	DLNR	Support	Yes

Comments:

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Cc: legechair@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:41:14 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments:

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Cc: jsimpliciano@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 2:30:35 AM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james simpliciano	HFUU, HTF	Support	No

Comments: As a farmer/chef we believe that we should help the increase in protecting our Aina from invasive seeds, plants, import of produce from other countries, America U.S. ports. There should be less importation of goods coming from third world countries. The example the military at Hickam Air Force base found the coconut bore beetle. Hawaii can be what once was the largest exporter of tropical fruits, and produce. Please help by adding more agricultural irradiation facility and staff to monitor this issue to each county.

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P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
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e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 5, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON SB 312
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Room 225
3:15 PM

Aloha Chair Ruderman, Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, Vice Chair Green, and Members of the Committees:

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 SB 312, appropriating funds to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) for their biosecurity program.

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 support SB 312.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: warrenmcfb@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:10:14 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 312 Relating to Biosecurity
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Senate Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, February 5, 2015, 3:15PM, Room 225

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life in these islands depends. The Conservancy 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. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy supports S.B. 312 and its proposed funding for Hawai'i Department of Agriculture's Biosecurity Program.

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.

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, agreements with importers and producers for improved sanitary protocols, and support local growers to produce import substitutes.

We also hope that providing the necessary and critical support for HDOA's Biosecurity Program 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 the Committees 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. The Hawai'i Invasive Species Council is the appropriate multi-agency venue for this broader effort.

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

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February 3, 2015

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture

Support of SB 312 - Appropriates general funds and funds from the pest inspection, quarantine, and eradication fund to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) for its biosecurity programs.

Thursday, February 5, 2014, at 3:15 p.m., in Conference Room 225

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support of SB 312.**

SB 312. This bill proposes to appropriate funds out of the State's general revenues and out of the pest inspection, quarantine, and eradication fund for fiscal years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017, for the biosecurity programs of the DOA. The purpose of this measure is to provide funding for the DOA to complete the implementation and continue the operation of its biosecurity programs.

LURF's Position. Invasive species such as insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and other pests pose the greatest threat to Hawaii's economy, tourism, agriculture, the natural environment, native species and to the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people. According to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council, invasive species already cause millions of dollars in crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of native wet, moist and dry land forests, the spread of disease, and the quarantine of exported agricultural crops.

The DOA has established a biosecurity program to combat invasive species and has also supported the growth of agriculture in Hawaii by attempting to reduce the State's dependency on imported agricultural products that may contain invasive pests. The public's health and welfare would benefit by continued and further funding of these biosecurity programs.

This bill is also consistent with the underlying intent and objectives of the IAL laws (Hawaii Revised Statutes [HRS], Sections 205-41 to 52), which were enacted to fulfill the mandate in

Article XI, Section 3 of the Hawaii State Constitution, “to conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands.” As noted in HRS Section 205-41, the intent of Act 183 (2005) was to develop agricultural incentive programs to promote agricultural viability, sustained growth of the agricultural industry, and the long-term use and protection of important agricultural lands for agricultural use.

Passage of the long-awaited IAL legislation would be pointless without implementation of programs and efforts like the DOA’s biosecurity program which involve the collaboration and support of agricultural and business organizations, as well as government agencies.

By recognizing the significance of, and need to improve and protect the local agriculture industry, and establish programs which help to support the growth and maintenance of agriculture in the State, this bill significantly helps to promote economically viable agriculture and food self-sufficiency in Hawaii.

For the above reasons, LURF **supports SB 312** and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding this matter.



The Senate
Committee on Energy and Environment
Committee on Agriculture
February 5, 2015
3:15 p.m., Conference Room 225
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of SB 312

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Ruderman, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committees,

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **supports SB 312**, *Relating to Biosecurity*, which appropriates funds for Hawai'i Department of Agriculture's (HDOA) Biosecurity Program.

Aiding HDOA's invasive species prevention, rapid response, and control programs, and their active work to promote locally-grown alternatives to high-risk imports are some of the highest priorities of CGAPS. Despite valiant efforts, we continue to see harmful pests enter the state, spread around islands, and then spread to new islands. The worldwide movement of pests will continue, but we do not have to make it easy for these pests to become established in Hawai'i. Concerted efforts must be made to ensure that HDOA has the tools and resources necessary for the job of Biosecurity.

We must continue to strive for the best invasive species prevention and response system possible, and we respectfully ask your support SB 312 to support this vital service. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: swhalen@harc-hspa.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:15:34 AM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie A Whalen	HARC	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please support funding for the Biosecurity program to reduce invasive species and to support farmers attempting to replace imports. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: alikamaui@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:06:37 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alika Atay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:19:52 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments:

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Cc: dfisherhi@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 1:48:14 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David B. Fisher	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is important that we be pro-active in this area for food security, health and economic reasons.

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Cc: ihemphi@live.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:06:17 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Key	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: teahawaii@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:30:48 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eva Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: mauifaith@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:28:11 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Faith Ewbank	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this Senate Bill. i have two son in laws who work for NARS, I hear first hand the level of work truly needed to manage our forests. Please please please SUPPORT SB 312 relating to Biosecurity. Mahalo, Faith Ewbank

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: likowallace@ymail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:26:23 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Faye L Wallace	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: olindaorganicfarm@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:23:30 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: caveguy@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:17:30 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lars Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: lou@akaku.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:07:04 AM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louis Dilberto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: mauimartha@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:08:58 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martha Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill to help control invasive species in the State of Hawaii.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: themomhui@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:09:26 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mercy Ritte	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:24:48 PM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: pfierro@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:36:45 AM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phyllis Robinson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: robyn.c.smith@maine.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:52:12 AM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
robyn smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly strongly strongly support this bill. Thank you and Aloha.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: progressive.conservation@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:58:01 AM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Eisen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Dept of Agriculture's Bio-security program is an important element in the fight against damaging pests invading Hawaii, and funding this program is a great step forward in this important battle. Mahalo,

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: jacinthow001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB312 on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 1:02:55 AM

SB312

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGL/ENE on Feb 5, 2015 15:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Jacintho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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