

P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759 Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921 e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 7, 2017

#### HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

### **TESTIMONY ON SB 806**

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

# Room 224 1:00 PM

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Kahele, Vice Chairs Riviere and Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 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 support SB 806,** which appropriates funds to the UH college of tropical agriculture and human resources cooperative extension service for one full-time ornamental plant extension agent.

The excellent work performed by UH CTAHR's cooperative extension service cannot be overstated. The ongoing outreach and education is unparalleled in the State. Farmers and ranchers rely on this program for their very success. CTAHR has helped develop and improve agricultural technologies pertinent to Hawaii's farmers. This includes intensive cover crop research, promoting the importance of locally grown produce, developing biological and cultural methods for controlling pests without chemicals, and the use of biological nitrogen fixation to significantly increase production of high protein foods while at the same time reducing the need for commercially produced fertilizers.

Hawaii's ornamental plant production exceeds \$20 million annually in wholesale value, and contributes greatly to Hawaii's image as a lush tropical paradise. Oahu produces a significant portion of this value, but has not had a dedicated ornamental plant extension agent since the end of 2009. The recent emergence of new diseases that threaten ornamental ginger production adds to the need for assistance in this field.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



# **UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM**

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Higher Education And Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. By Rachel Novotny, Interim Dean And J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

#### SB 806 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Chairs Kahele and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Kidani and Riviere, and members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong <u>support</u> of SB 806, which appropriates funds to the UH Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources cooperative extension service for one full-time ornamental plant extension agent

We strongly support this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget.

The Cooperative Extension Service is the means by which the Land Grant university system extends the results of research to directly assist agriculture and the public in each state. Among the 50 states, Hawai'i is virtually unique is supporting agricultural research and extension, along with all other university functions, solely through the single budget line of the University of Hawai'i. In recognition of the unique nature and societal significance of agricultural extension and agricultural research, other states choose to provide a budget line specifically for these core Land Grant University activities. In the absence of such a funding mechanism, extension service functions potentially suffer to a greater extent than other university functions during periods of fiscal austerity. Tuition-driven university budget models can also have the unforeseen effect of disadvantaging extension functions.

Hawai'i is also unique among all the states in that the four county governments make no set contribution to the base costs of extension services within the county. Several

provide some annual grant funding, which is greatly appreciated, but core infrastructure support is absent.

As a result of the above-described factors, the extension faculty workforce in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources has decreased 43% over the past 20 years, and 27% over the past six years alone. Retirements and resignations are a normal occurrence, but the present budget situation prevents replacement of many vacant positions. Again, a focus on university budget reductions and increasing tuition revenue does not support extension staffing at optimal levels. In recognition of this situation, the Legislature provided funding for four extension agent positions, representing half of the number requested, in the Regular Session of 2015, specifically to assist with food crops.

Extension assistance is also critical to growers of ornamental plants and the landscape industry in Hawai'i. Floriculture and nursery crops represent a \$67 million industry in the state, and was estimated at almost a \$20 million farm gate value on Oahu alone in 2012. Although CTAHR has continued to provide Oahu growers and landscapers with assistance as best we can since the retirements of the two dedicated O'ahu-based ornamental agents six and eight years ago, there is a strong need for an extension agent with this specialty based on O'ahu, and also offering assistance statewide.

SB 806 strengthens the extension infrastructure in Hawai'i and addresses agricultural and landscape industry needs by appropriating funds for the biennium to support an O'ahu-based ornamental plant extension agent position.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 806.

Testimony for the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment And Senate Committee on Higher Education Hearing on Tuesday, February 7, 2017; 1:00 PM Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 224 By Kelvin Sewake

#### IN SUPPORT OF SB 806 – RELATING TO UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Committee Members:

I am currently the Interim Associate Dean and Associate Director for Extension at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). I have been employed by CTAHR for 31-1/2 years, of which I served as a county extension agent in Hilo with responsibilities for the floriculture industries for 26 of those years. I am providing my personal testimony on SB 806.

Mahalo for allowing me to provide testimony on <u>SB 806, in which I strongly support</u> the appropriation of funds to the UH College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Cooperative Extension Service for one full-time ornamental plant extension agent.

The University of Hawaii is a land grant university which has as part of its basic mission, the extension or outreach educational component that brings scientifically-based and practical information to farmers, consumers, communities, families, youth and the elderly. The Extension Service helps to improve peoples' lives by addressing public needs developed through close interaction with the agricultural industries and local communities in conducting needs assessments, then developing and implementing targeted meaningful programs to address those needs. Over the past 20 years, CTAHR's Extension Service has experienced a significant decline in the number of extension agents that provide assistance in those communities across our State of Hawaii. In particular, Oahu has been without an ornamentals agent since the retirements of two Oahu ornamental extension agents six to eight years ago. Yet, the Floriculture and Nursery Industries in Hawaii have been the number one diversified agricultural industry in Hawaii for many years up until 2006. That industry was valued at \$67.4 million in 2015 and remains an important agricultural industry that brings dollars into Hawaii due to its large proportion of export sales. An extension agent is critically needed to assist the Oahu ornamentals farmers to help ensure their success and to foster the continuous growth of that industry. More extension agents are needed because the number of farmers has also increased and so has the many farming challenges of new invasive species, plant quarantine and biosecurity issues, new regulations, foreign competition, and more. This position would most certainly bring assistance that is truly needed in support of our local farmers.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration on this matter!

Kelvin Sewake 1287-A Puhau Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720 Ph: 808-959-6768



February 5,2017

HFUU Board of Directors	Legislative Testimony in support of SB 806
Executive Committee Vincent Mina President HFUU	Testimony presented to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and the Environment Tuesday, February 7 2017 at 1:00 PM By Simon Russell, Chairperson, HFUU Legislative Committee
Ray Maki Vice-President HFUU	Aloha Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and members of the Committee, Hawaii Farmers Union United strongly supports SB 806.
Anny Bruch Secretary HFUU	We have great admiration for the UH CTAHR Extension service. This measure before you will add a much needed expert in the production of
Karen Reid Treasurer HFUU	ornamental plants to their team. The more ornamental plants that are grown here instead of being imported, the less pests that will be introduced on imported ornamental plants.
<u>Directors</u> Christian Zukerman Wai'anae	Import replacement for biosecurity will be an important side benefit of supporting the ornamental plant industry in Hawaii by funding this important position.
Sean Anderson Waimanalo	We appreciate your support for this important step forward for Hawaii's agricultural future.
Simon Russell Haleakalā	Respectfully Submitted,
Mikala Minn Hāna	HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED
James Simpliciano Mauna Kahalawai	Simon Russell HFUU State Legislative Committee Chairperson
Steve Sakala Kona	
Greg Smith Ka'u	The Hawai'i Farmers Union United and its Chapters is a nonprofit corporation formed under Hawai'i law. It
Clarence Baber Kohala	advocates for the sovereign right of farmers ranchers and fishers to create and sustain vibrant and prosperous agricultural communities for the benefit of all Hawai'i through cooperation, education and legislation.

February 3, 2017

#### SB806: RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Chairs Gabbard & Kahele, Vice Chairs Riviere & Kidani and members of the Senate Agriculture and Environment and Higher Education, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in <u>strong support of SB 806</u> relating to the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

#### My name is Jari Sugano and I am a County Extension Agent at UH Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Today, I am providing personal testimony.

Each land grant university has a federally mandated Cooperative Extension Service (CES) associated with its institution to disseminate research-based information to the public at large. The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) serves as the land grant college of the University of Hawai'i (UH). Historically, individuals, organizations, and communities have turned to the CTAHR for assistance in developing solutions to their critical and emerging problems.

The economic success of producers relies on their ability to adapt farming principles and practices to integrate latest and relevant technology and research developments. UH CTAHR Cooperative Extension Service utilizes a variety of delivery methods or channels to bring the latest research based information to the attention of clients. This includes the utilization of extension agents. Extension agents transfer research based information, knowledge, and skills that help agricultural producers correctly choose and utilize specific technology and practices best suited to meet their diverse educational needs (Bennett, 1990). This information enables agricultural producers to make informed decisions.

The UH CTAHR Cooperative Extension Service serves four counties in Hawaii, which are located on 5 islands within the Hawaiian island chain. Agents are limited in numbers, geographically separated and must deal with diverse conditions unique to each location. Further, agricultural research that applies to the continental United States is not always applicable to Hawaii's conditions.

Continued applied research, on farm field trials, and retention of Extension agent positions are needed to fill vacancy gaps and retain our ability to answer emerging and re-occurring issues in support of Hawaii agriculture.

I believe that SB806 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability of Hawaii's diversified agriculture. Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for SB806.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 3, 2017 9:36 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	pamelaboyar@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/3/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Boyar	Farm Lovers Farmers Markets	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 7:42 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	yoshitol@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Yoshito L'Hote	Aina Ho'okupu o Kilauea	Support	No

Comments: Need for increased staffing

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 6, 2017 6:56 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	alohapowers@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/6/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
megan powers	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 10:09 PM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	chris@mentzel.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Mentzel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 8:09 PM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	neil.vonhof@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submittee	d By Organizati	on Testifier Posi	tion Present at Hearing
Neil Von	nof Individua	I Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 2:19 PM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	tracy.emills@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Tracy E Mills	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 11:58 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	deborah@imaginariums.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Deborah Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 11:36 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	raphiell@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Raphiell Nolin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 10:47 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	sharedpleasures@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
vicki levin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly support this bill

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 10:30 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	alohalways@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitt	ed By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Tanja N	Ailler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 9:36 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	molivit@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Isabelle Olivit	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 9:09 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	ihemphi@live.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Denise Key	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 8:19 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	reneeariley@hotmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Renee Riley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support CTAHR having an ornamental plant extension agent.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 5, 2017 7:00 AM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	taragrace808@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/5/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Tara Grace	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 3, 2017 3:25 PM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	boydready@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM

Submitted on: 2/3/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Boyd Ready	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Committee members: It's not often remembered that our Hawaii landscape industry is bigger, in gross revenues, than all diversified agriculture combined, and employs well over 10,000 people. Our tourism depends on competently landscaped resorts, hotels, and public places, and our people throng to garden shows, Arbor Day tree distribution, and other activities of our industry. We've taken the lead, as an industry, ahead of most every other state in the nation, in researching, preserving, and bringing into widespread use the native plants of our islands, and we've done widespread education and training to assist in combating invasive species. We've also, in the absence of any public education pathway into our industry, bootstrapped a nationally recognized certification and training program for landscape technicians and operated the program self help for over 15 years. Even today only 2 of 42 high schools in the state have any industry-preparatory activities for their students. It's time to redress some of the attrition in professional services for the landscape industry. I support this bill. With respect, Boyd Ready Past President Director Emeritus Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii Haleiwa resident

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, January 31, 2017 4:21 PM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	gordines@kauaiflowers.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Completed

Submitted on: 1/31/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
John R. Gordines	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, January 31, 2017 4:04 PM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*
	<b>F</b> - U
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Completed

Submitted on: 1/31/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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DAVID Y. IGE Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER Deputy to the Chairperson



### TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HIGHER EDUCATION & AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

FEBRUARY 7, 2017 1:00 P.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 224

#### SENATE BILL NO. 806 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Chairpersons Kahele and Gabbard and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 806, which appropriates funds to UH CTAHR for an ornamental plant extension agent. The Department supports this measure.

SB 806 recognizes that there has been a vacancy in the Cooperative Extension Service for the Ornamental segment of the agricultural economy in Hawaii for over 10 years. This comes at a time when we have been striving to increase agriculture productivity and its contribution to a healthy plant production sector in our State. A healthy ornamental sector provides an overall contribution to agriculture by training what are, essentially, agricultural crop production employees; creating a demand for fertilizer, media, irrigation materials and other products associated with agriculture; and complementing and contributing to the agricultural infrastructure necessary for a successful agriculture industry in Hawaii. The ornamental segment of Hawaiian agriculture provides the flowers for lei, the leaves for garnishment, and the foliage for



#### Page 2

arrangements that are commonly demanded by the visitor industry, our number one driver of the economy of the State of Hawaii.

By funding this position we strengthen that segment of the economy of our State that provides for the support of a strong ornamental/horticultural sector.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





# Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

Testimony for the Twenty Ninth Legislature, 2017 State of Hawaii

<u>COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT</u> Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair <u>COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION</u> Senator Kaiali<sup>4</sup>i Kahele, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

> TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7, 2017 1:00 P.M. Conference Room 224 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

#### A bill for an act **SB806** RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE.

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.

The Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association (HFNA) strongly **SUPPORTS** Senate **Bill 806** 

The Hawaii Floriculture and Ornamental Industry understands the importance of the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) for our Agriculture Industry. We find it critical for the support of our members to have a full-time ornamental plant extension agent in the city and county of Honolulu.

We thank you for your consideration of SB806. 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 <u>eric@greenpointnursery.com</u>.

Supporting Agriculture and Hawaii,

Eric S. Tanouye President Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

•Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association • P.O. Box 5640 • Hilo, HI 96720 •





PO Box 22938 Honolulu, HI 96823-2938

February 6, 2017

#### Testimony / Senate Bill 806

Report Title: University of Hawaii; Appropriation; Cooperative Extension Service Description: Appropriate funds to the UH College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Cooperative Extension Service for **one full-time Ornamental Plant Extension agent**.

To: Committee Chairs Senator Mike Gabbard and Senator Kaiali'l Kahele and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment and Committee on Higher Education

The Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii Board of Directors strongly supports the passage SB 806. The Landscape Industry employs over 11,000 individuals, trains and certifies hundreds of landscapers each year, reaches up to 17,000 landscape related citizens with a bi-monthly magazine, holds an annual Conference and Tradeshow at the Blaisdel, and plays a major role in the beautification of our Islands for residents and visitors alike. The landscape Industry has not had an Extension Agent to serve the City and County of Honolulu for six long years! The industry is in desperate need of an agent to help us improve and maintain our many educational programs as well as to assist nurseries and others with the many challenges of producing and maintaining ornamental plants for the beautification of our Islands.

All Hawaiian Islands have an Extension Agents designated to Landscape/Agriculture <u>except</u> for the City and County of Honolulu. Please give this Bill you careful support for the betterment of the Green environment on Oahu.

Sincerely Submitted on behalf of the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii

Garrett Webb President / LICH



From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 6, 2017 2:55 PM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	johnnaylor@kula.us
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM

Submitted on: 2/6/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
John NAYLOR	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I'd love to know how to heal my ornamentals organically!

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 6, 2017 3:35 PM
То:	HRE Testimony
Cc:	tulsigreenlee@icloud.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB806 on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM*

Submitted on: 2/6/2017 Testimony for HRE/AEN on Feb 7, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Tulsi Greenlee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.