

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

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Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii  
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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 HOUSE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND  
HIGHER EDUCATION**

**MARCH 15, 2018  
2:30 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 309**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2069 SD1  
RELATING TO 'ULU**

Chairperson Creagan, Chairperson McKelvey and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2069 SD1, which makes an appropriation for research, development, marketing and conservation of 'ulu. The Department supports this bill and offers a comment.

The Department recognizes that it lacks the scientific technologies, tools and expertise to develop micropropagation methods for rapid expansion of plantings, to develop shelf-stable products for retail sale, and to develop uses for the latex and inflorescence for insect repellent properties. The Department, however, has been actively engaged in the marketing of 'ulu, through collaboration with agencies such as the Breadfruit Institute of the National Tropical Botanical Garden, Hawaiian Homegrown Food Network, Hawaii 'Ulu Producers Cooperative and Mililani Agricultural Park, on projects to achieve commercial success for Hawaii-grown 'ulu. In July 2016, the Hawaii 'Ulu Producers Cooperative introduced their ready-to-eat, vacuum-packed, 'ulu value-added product to the hotel, restaurant and institutional sectors in the Department's section at the Hawaii Lodging, Hospitality and Foodservice Expo. The Cooperative reports that because of their participation, through contacts made at the show, they are



currently working with the Department of Education to provide 10,000 pounds of their value-added product for school lunches across the State.

The Department comments that the marketing of 'ulu should be assigned to the Agricultural Development Division (ADD), as they are responsible for the marketing of Hawaii agricultural products. The additional funding will allow ADD to expand the promotion and marketing of 'ulu to local, domestic and international consumers. The Department believes that it is both practicable and advantageous to assign the marketing portion to ADD as they have had success with marketing 'ulu and will be able to continue to work in collaboration with the University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, agricultural associations and non-profit organizations to achieve commercial success for Hawaii-grown 'ulu through state and federally funded projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**SB-2069-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 4:57:49 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/15/2018 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Democratic Party of Hawaii, Hawaiian Affairs Caucu	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2069-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 10:14:38 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/15/2018 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Regina Gregory	EcoTipping Points Project	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2069-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 9:40:36 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/15/2018 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	Yes

Comments:

We continue to STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill. Mahalo.

**SB-2069-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2018 9:25:35 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/15/2018 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randy Cabral	Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation	Support	No

Comments:



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Agriculture

And

House Committee on Higher Education  
Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 2:30 p.m.

By

Nicholas Comerford

Dean, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

And

Debora Halbert

Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### SB 2069 SD1 – RELATING TO 'ULU

Chairs Creagan and McKelvey, Vice Chairs DeCoite and Hashem, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture and Committee on Higher Education:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 2069 SD1.

Breadfruit is indeed a commercial crop in Hawai'i that has not met its commercial potential. Statewide surveys show that the number of commercial trees is growing. It is culturally and historically significant to the state. Early signs of potential industry engagement are the recent establishment of processors, of a breadfruit cooperative, and of farm-to-school programs.

The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources has expertise that can address the tasks itemized in Section 2.

- (1) Developing breadfruit businesses that have demonstrated significant product sales – CTAHR has edible crop Extension Agents throughout the state that can help individual farmers with existing information on the production of this crop. CTAHR has recently hired a faculty member to work on value added food products, who could potentially work on breadfruit issues.
- (2) Performing research that is directly supporting farmers and industry development – CTAHR has researchers that are currently working with 'ulu. Most notable is the work of Dr. Noa Lincoln that has developed a citizen research program statewide to better understand the growth and development of the tree and its crop. One of the objectives of this program is to boost local 'ulu production (<https://www.hawaii.edu/news/2017/11/06/local-breadfruit-citizen-project/> ; <http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/36779251/citizen-scientists-wanted-to->

[help-study-the-ulu-plant](#)) . In addition, CTAHR has expertise in fruit tree management, post-harvest treatment, and related soil management.

- (3) Providing ancillary support such as tree production, marketing and public education – CTAHR, through its Extension program can promote the crop through its educational programs by translating research into actionable practices. Currently, CTAHR has a publication entitled – “Breadfruit; ethnobotany, nutrition, and human ecology” as an example of current information that can immediately be brought to the issue.

We support SB 2069 SD1 under the conditions that it does not affect, and is in addition to, the UH budget request.



**SB-2069-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2018 2:20:53 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/15/2018 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2069-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 10:00:08 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/15/2018 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

In STRONG SUPPORT.

**SB-2069-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 6:24:31 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/15/2018 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2069-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2018 10:30:28 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/15/2018 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: