



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Lower and Higher Education
Friday, February 7, 2020 at 2:20 p.m.

By
Nicholas Comerford, Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
And
Michael Bruno, PhD
Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 2180 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Chair Woodson, Vice Chairs Hashem and Quinlan, and members of the House Committee on Lower and Higher Education:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2180 that seeks to support the ornamental and landscape industry on O'ahu County, with particular emphasis on East O'ahu, by requesting three (3) faculty positions for the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). The three positions, and their foci, are well-defined in the bill.

This is one of three bills that deals with biosecurity in the ornamental/landscape industry, which speaks to the problem that this industry is facing. This industry is an important economic engine for agriculture as, taken as a whole, it represents approximately two-thirds of the Hawai'i farm gate value.

Important components of this request focus on pesticide efficacy, labeling, education and training of both conventional and organic certified pesticides. This request fits the CTAHR's goals as it is dedicated to supporting all types of scientifically-based agriculture.

Another important point for this request is that while these positions are stated to work primarily in O'ahu County, all CTAHR faculty also have state-wide responsibilities. This is particularly true for all faculty with Extension appointments.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2180. We support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget.



February 5, 2020

Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair
Representative Mark J. Hashem, Vice Chair
Representative Sean Quinlan, Vice Chair
House Committee on Lower & Higher Education

Testimony in Support of HB 2180, Relating to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UHCTAHR) (Appropriates funds to the UHCTAHR for invasive species specialist and agent positions.)

Friday, February 7, 2020, 2:20 p.m., in Conference Room 309

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 utility companies. 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 HB 2180.**

HB 2180. This bill proposes to make an appropriation to the UHCTAHR for staff positions, including a pesticide extension specialist; an entomology extension specialist; and a plant pathologist extension specialist needed to address the proliferation of invasive species and to protect the future of agriculture on Oahu.

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. 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, and the spread of disease, but even more harmful viral, fungal and unidentified bacterial pathogens such as the unknown pathogen causing devastating crop decline in ornamental ginger in windward Oahu, now threaten to invade all of the Hawaiian Islands and wreak further damage.

Despite efforts by the UHCTAHR and the Department of Agriculture to address this critical situation, more research and outreach is necessary to avoid further damage to the profitability and long-term sustainability of local agricultural and landscape production industries. Control of invasive species involves monitoring crop health, identifying issues in collaboration with other government agencies including the Department of Agriculture, examining the underlying causes of the problems currently faced, and developing solutions and remediation programs.

For the above reasons, LURF **supports HB 2180** and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

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



Meadow Gold Dairies



Written Testimony By: Glenn Muranaka
HB2180, Relating to UH-CTAHR
Hse LHE Hearing – 2:20 pm
Friday, February 7, 2020 – Room 309

Position: Support

Chair Woodson, Vice Chairs Hashem and Quinlan, and Members of the House LHE Committee:

My name is Glenn Muranaka, President and General Manager of Meadow Gold Dairies. Our company has been in Hawaii since 1897—123 years, providing Hawaii consumers with a variety of milk products and juices. Meadow Gold's long history has not come without effort. We continually adapt to our customers' and consumers' ever-changing needs, and we constantly evolve along with our industry, our community and our market. Over the years, this has required that we struggle, tighten our belts, innovate and work extremely hard, making us a better company in the process. The foundation of this work rests with the 305 employees that are committed to providing superior quality products.

Support is expressed for CTAHR's appropriation request for positions that will help farmers and agricultural production in Hawaii. Hawaii's year-round temperate climate is good for agriculture and visitors. However, it is also a thriving environment for invasive species and plant disease.

The positions requested, ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent and pesticide specialist position contribute to stemming the devastating effect of invasive species and plant disease that harm farm production, watersheds and forests.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at 944-5911.



EAST OAHU COUNTY FARM BUREAU
910 CALIFORNIA AVE., WAHIAWA, HI 96786

February 5, 2020

Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair
Representatives Mark J. Hashem and Sean Quinlan, Vice Chairs
House Committee on Lower & Higher Education
State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chairs Hashem and Quinlan, and Members of the Committee,

The East O'ahu County Farm Bureau, which represents approximately 420 farmers and supporters of agriculture from Waimanalo to Kahuku, **strongly supports HB 2180**, "Relating to the University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources," which would provide funding for an ornamental and landscape entomologist specialist, a plant pathologist extension agent, and a pesticide specialist under CTAHR. These positions would help to replace capabilities that are not currently available at CTAHR due in part to recent retirements.

Pests and diseases are constant threats to Hawai'i's agricultural crops, and every year more pests arrive. The proposed positions would help Hawai'i's farmers deal with these problems. The entomologist specialist would identify insect pests and determine best practices for their control. The pesticide specialist would determine best practices to minimize pesticide use while maintaining adequate pest control, and would compile data to allow registration of pesticides (including organic pesticides) for use on crops for which they aren't currently registered – a concern for Hawai'i growers, who often raise crops that are not commonly grown on the Mainland. The plant pathologist agent would identify pathogens such as fungi, bacteria, and viruses that are affecting crops, and educate farmers on the best ways to mitigate the effects of these pathogens. The emerging disease of red ginger, which is currently under study and which may involve several different pathogens, is an example of the sort of problem that this agent would help farmers to solve.

We therefore respectfully request that your committee approve the appropriation proposed by HB 2180. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Frederick M. Mencher
for Grant Hamachi, President
East O'ahu County Farm Bureau

HB-2180

Submitted on: 2/6/2020 11:26:52 AM

Testimony for LHE on 2/7/2020 2:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole K Galase	Hawaii Cattlemen's Council	Support	No

Comments:



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, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOWER & HIGHER EDUCATION

TESTIMONY ON SB 2180
RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL
AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Room 309
2:20 PM

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice Chairs Hashem and Quinlan, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 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.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports HB 2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions

The excellent work performed by UH CTAHR for our Hawaii's farmers and ranchers cannot be overstated. The ongoing outreach and education are 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 the production of high protein foods while at the same time reducing the need for commercially produced fertilizers.

Currently the Ornamental and Landscape Entomologist and Pesticide Specialist positions are temporary and on soft money and a CTAHR Plant Pathologist is retiring. Hawaii's ornamental plant production exceeds \$70 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. The pesticide specialist has also been important in the past in getting registrations for minor crops. All three positions are needed to help farmers deal with crop pests and diseases.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important subject.

HB-2180

Submitted on: 2/6/2020 1:56:43 PM

Testimony for LHE on 2/7/2020 2:20:00 PM

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

Comments:

quinlan1 - David

From: Edward Kawamura <edward@kawamurafarm.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 12:40 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Edward Kawamura
President
M. Kawamura Farm
2824 Wehe Rd
Lihue, HI 96766
edward@kawamurafarm.com

quinlan1 - David

From: Clyde Fukuyama <clyde@kahukubrand.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 11:18 AM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Clyde Fukuyama
owner
Matsuda-Fukuyama Farms
PO Box 36
Kahuku, HI 96731
clyde@kahukubrand.com

From: Hiromichi Nago <emhawaii001@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 10:14 AM
To: LHEtestimony <lhetestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Hiromichi Nago
President
EM HAWAII,LLC
560 N Nimitz Hwy Ste 217A
Honolulu, HI 96817
emhawaii001@hawaii.rr.com

From: Mr. & Mrs. Gerrit Takasaki <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 10:41 AM
To: LHEtestimony <lhetestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Gerrit Takasaki
Hawaii Hybrids, LLC
Hawaii Hybrids, LLC
PO Box 4218
Hilo, HI 96720
hawaiihybrids@aol.com

From: James Gomes <jag@urmaui.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 10:10 AM
To: LHEtestimony <lhetestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

James Gomes
Operation Manager
Ulupalakua Ranch
8640 Kula Hwy
Kula, HI 96790
jag@urmaui.com

quinlan1 - David

From: Alvin Tsuruda <waihale@hawaiiantel.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 1:34 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Alvin Tsuruda
Owner
Waihale Products
41-910 Mahiku Pl
Waimanalo, HI 96795
waihale@hawaiiantel.net

From: Brad Seymour <brad@seymourresourceshawaii.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 10:42 AM
To: LHEtestimony <lhetestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Brad Seymour
Manager
SR HAWAII
390 Hale PI
Kapaa, HI 96746
brad@seymourresourceshawaii.com

From: [Carolynn Lum](#)
To: [LHETestimony](#)
Subject: I support HB2180
Date: Thursday, February 6, 2020 2:20:08 PM

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Carolynn Lum
2746 Apapane St
Lihue, HI 96766
hawaii96766@yahoo.com

quinlan1 - David

From: Esket Padeken <hrcookies@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 11:29 AM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Esket Padeken
PO Box 1203
Kurtistown, HI 96760
hrcookies@outlook.com

quinlan1 - David

From: GLENN TOYAMA <gtoyama67@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 12:08 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

GLENN TOYAMA
hobbies-retire
PO Box 5
Mountain View, HI 96771
gtoyama67@gmail.com

quinlan1 - David

From: Gilly Jackson <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 2:03 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Gilly Jackson
94-163 Kiaha Loop
Mililani, HI 96789
gilly.jackson@yahoo.com

quinlan1 - David

From: John Gordines <gordines@kauaiflowers.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 11:14 AM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

John Gordines
6721 Kawaihau Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746
gordines@kauaiflowers.com

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Kylie Matsuda-Lum
56-800 Kamehameha Hwy
Kahuku, HI 96731
kylie@kahukufarms.com

quinlan1 - David

From: Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Takamiyashiro <pamtaka14@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 1:11 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Stephen Takamiyashiro
1518 Paula Dr
Honolulu, HI 96816
pamtaka14@gmail.com

From: Robert Paull <robertepaull@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 10:48 AM
To: LHEtestimony <lhetestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Robert Paull
PProfessor/researcher
5393 Poola St
Honolulu, HI 96821
robertepaull@gmail.com

quinlan1 - David

From: Ron Kauha'aha'a <ron.kauhaahaa@nutrien.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 11:43 AM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Ron Kauha'aha'a
Manager
Nutrien Ag Solutions
PO Box 86
Kunia, HI 96759
ron.kauhaahaa@nutrien.com

From: Sandi Kato-Klutke <skatoklutke@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 10:08 AM
To: LHEtestimony <lhetestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: I support HB2180

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Sandi Kato-Klutke
Retired
6266 Kawaihau Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746
skatoklutke@gmail.com

quinlan1 - David

From: Susan Cabral <s.kronecabralW@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 12:13 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Susan Cabral
PO Box 337
Volcano, HI 96785
s.kronecabralW@gmail.com

LHEtestimony

From: County Farm Bureau <jerrysfarmkauai@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 2:26 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180



Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

County Farm Bureau
6170 Hauiki Rd Unit G
Kapaa, HI 96746
jerrysfarmkauai@gmail.com



Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2020

COMMITTEE ON LOWER & HIGHER EDUCATION

Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair
Rep. Mark J. Hashem, Vice Chair
Rep. Sean Quinlan, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Friday, February 7, 2020 2:20 P.M.
Conference Room 309
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

HB 2180: RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF
TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES.

Makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

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
House Bill 2180**

The current demand for Hawaii's tropical flowers and ornamentals is higher than we can currently meet. This is due to the high quality, high service and diverse products that is provided by Hawaii. Crops that are healthy and disease free, that can serve as a symbol for high quality. To be able to have healthy crops it helps to have talented resources such as ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

We have had the privilege to work with the UH CTAHR specialists and agents in the past and they are considered an important part of our industry for the help and guidance they



Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association

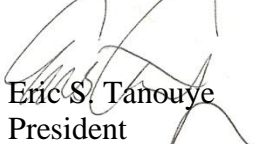
give to our industry. Knowledge should be shared and we look forward to the benefit of such knowledge for members, agriculture and community.

We have experienced many pests and diseases that have impacted our yields. All aspects of our floriculture industry have had to deal with their own unique types of pests and diseases. For example, Anthurium has faced challenges with new thrips and bacterial blight, Orchids have had to contend with thrips and viruses, while tropical flowers such as red ginger, currently have multiple new viruses. It is important to combat these threats as soon as possible and having resource to turn to is a tremendous help for our agriculture community.

We ask you support CTAHR, which supports our industry and agriculture, so that we may continue to bring the beauty of Hawaii to others through flowers and ornamentals.

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



LATE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2020

COMMITTEE ON LOWER & HIGHER EDUCATION

Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair
Rep. Mark J. Hashem, Vice Chair
Rep. Sean Quinlan, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Friday, February 7, 2020 2:20 P.M.
Conference Room 309
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

HB 2180: RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES. Makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

My name is Thong Teng Neo and am the current President of the Hawaii Tropical Flower Council (HTFC). HTFC is a statewide association of commodity organizations, i.e.: anthurium, orchid, protea, tropic flowers and foliage, blooming and foliage plants. The Hawai'i Tropical Flower Council directs promotion and supports research of Hawaii's tropical flower industry. Each of the state's major flower commodity groups (anthuriums, orchids, proteas, tropic flowers and foliage, blooming and foliage plants) is represented on the council's board of directors. HTFC serves as a non-profit Hawaii Corporation to promote for its commodity groups and other producers of tropical horticulture grown in the State of Hawaii.

HTFC STRONGLY Supports HB2180

The University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources is a valuable tool and asset to new and mature farmers in our floriculture industry. It is important that we keep this support available and even increase the support by making sure these important positions are filled.

We ask that you continue to support our industry and keep these positions available and funded.

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony and if you have any questions, I can be reached at neo@greenpointnursery.com or 808 959 3535 ext. 2615.

HTFC ■ P.O. Box 4400 ■ Hilo, HI 96720 ■ www.hawaiitropicalflowercouncil.org





Sincerely,

Thong Teng Neo
President
Hawaii Tropical Flower Council



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2020

COMMITTEE ON LOWER & HIGHER EDUCATION

Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair
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LATE

NOTICE OF HEARING

Friday, February 7, 2020 2:20 P.M.
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[HB 2180](#): RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES. Makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

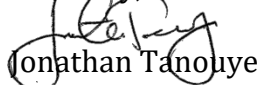
My name is Jon Tanouye and I am the current President of the Orchid Growers of Hawaii (OGOH).

OGOH Strongly Supports HB2180

We believe it is important to plan for the future and having resources available to help with current and future problems is the best way to safe guard our industry. These positions when filled can provide the necessary support that can make or break an orchid farm. I would like to see our industry succeed and ask that you support these positions being filled.

If you have any other questions you may contact me to discuss and I can be reached by phone at 808-959-3535 and email jon@greenpointnursery.com.

Sincerely,


Jonathan Tanouye
President

Orchid Growers of Hawaii (OGOH)

HB-2180

Submitted on: 2/6/2020 9:45:33 PM

Testimony for LHE on 2/7/2020 2:20:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2180

Submitted on: 2/6/2020 10:06:44 PM

Testimony for LHE on 2/7/2020 2:20:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Koon-Hui Wang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

For the last 25 years in CTAHR, I observed a great decline in faculty or staff working in an area of protecting our agriculture from pests and diseases. Current number of faculty is only half of the population compared to that in the late 1990s. Yet, we have more invasive pests and pathogens invaded the state, and the state is aiming toward increasing our food security. As Hawaii is moving towards diversify agriculture, we will need more specialization in different specialty crops. While producers or investors from Hawaii are hoping to expand tropical ornamental cut flower or potted plant export markets, we no longer have an Ornamental Entomologist position in CTAHR to work on pest management strategies to cope with insect /arthropod pests. This is not only causing reduction in crop production, but also inability for producers to meet quarantine regulation for export.

While tropical climates in Hawaii is so welcoming to fungal, bacteria, nematodes and viruses parasitizing agricultural crops, we are losing land grant university services to agriculture communities for plant disease diagnosis. Farmers in need are now sending disease samples to mainland laboratories to get diagnosis. We need a position on Plant Pathology Extension Agent/Specialist that can provide plant disease diagnosis services to be hosted in CTAHR.

As the public is more and more concern about hazardous pesticide use in Hawaii and our agricultural land is getting closer and closer to the residential neighborhood, CTAHR lost another position in Pesticide Specialist that can help us to evaluate more environmentally safe and economically viable pesticides to be registered for local use. We need a Pesticide Specialist back to help the crop industry to improve pesticide efficacy, safe guard our drinking water and most importantly help our farmers to be more competitive. Time is short, the clock is ticking to bring our crop industry back on track. Addressing agriculture biosecurity issues now is most urgent.

HB-2180

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 4:35:22 AM

Testimony for LHE on 2/7/2020 2:20:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelvin Sewake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Committee Members:

Aloha! As the former Interim Associate Dean and Associate Director for Extension, UH Manoa, CTAHR, I strongly support HB 2180 that seeks to address crucial Biosecurity issues that continue to plague Hawaii's agriculture, environment, and communities. Throughout my 34 year career with CTAHR's Extension, I have witnessed first hand the problems created by the many invasive species that have destroyed crops, damaged our fragile ecosystems, and created health problems for Hawaii's citizens. Please support HB 2180! Mahalo!

LHEtestimony

From: Alan Tada <flowersforever@hawaiiantel.biz>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 8:13 AM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180



Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Alan Tada
Flowers Forever
2979 Kalena St
Lihue, HI 96766
flowersforever@hawaiiantel.biz

LHEtestimony

From: Don Sakai <donisakai@mn.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 7:14 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

LATE

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Don Sakai
45-118 Mimo Pl
Kaneohe, HI 96744
donisakai@mn.com

LHEtestimony

From: Greg Kowal <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 8:42 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: My entire Ohana supports HB2180



Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Greg Kowal
330 Kepa Rd
Kula, HI 96790
gregkowal@aol.com

LHEtestimony

From: Jeffrey McCall <mccalljeffreyw@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 8:20 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180



Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey McCall
McCall Flower Farm, Inc.
McCall Flower Farm, Inc.
PO BOX 2048
VOLCANO, HI 96785
mccalljeffreyw@gmail.com

LHEtestimony

From: Jerry Nishek <jerry@kauainursery.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 7:07 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180



Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Jerry Nishek
General Manager
Kauai Nursery & Landscaping Inc.
3-1550 Kaumualii Hwy
Lihue, HI 96766
jerry@kauainursery.com

LHEtestimony

From: Joni Kamiya <jonikamiya@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 5:19 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180



Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Joni Kamiya
Kamiya Papaya
45-601 Apapane St
Kaneohe, HI 96744
jonikamiya@gmail.com

LHEtestimony

From: Kenneth Ibara <Ky5555@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 2:45 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

LATE

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Kenneth Ibara
Owner
Hawaii Pacific Orchids
85-775 Waianae Valley Rd Apt B
Waianae, HI 96792
Ky5555@gmail.com

LHEtestimony

From: Lorie Obra <lorie@rustyshawaiian.com>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 6:26 AM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180



Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Lorie Obra
Partner
RUSTY'S HAWAIIAN
PO Box 845
Pahala, HI 96777
lorie@rustyshawaiian.com

LHEtestimony

From: LUANA BECK <holuanaranch@yahoo.om>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 3:16 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180



Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

LUANA BECK
PO Box 711510
Mountain View, HI 96771
holuanaranch@yahoo.om

LHEtestimony

From: Michelle Gorham <michelle.gorham@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 7:23 AM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180



Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Michelle Gorham
1813 10th Ave Apt A
Honolulu, HI 96816
michelle.gorham@gmail.com

LHEtestimony

From: Michelle Starke <robert.starke.007@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 2:43 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180



Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Michelle Starke
91-1010 Waikoihi St
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
robert.starke.007@gmail.com

LHEtestimony

From: Sharon Iwasaki <siwasaki001@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 8:54 PM
To: LHEtestimony
Subject: I support HB2180

LATE

Dear Chairman Woodson,

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-chair Hashem and Quinlan, and member of the committee,

I support HB2180, which makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii CTAHR for ornamental and landscaping entomologist specialist, plant pathologist extension agent, and pesticide specialist positions.

This bill will assist farmers, who rely on extension agents specialists, to continue to receive proper support from landscaping entomologists, plant pathologists, and pesticide specialists. Agents and specialists provide a free individual consultation to farmers battling any crop disease, virus, bacteria, other crop-related problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Sharon Iwasaki
1559 Alu St
Hilo, HI 96720
siwasaki001@hawaii.rr.com