DAVID V. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, February 13, 2019 1:15 P.M. **State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

In consideration of SENATE BILL 751 RELATING TO THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Senate Bill 751 proposes to appropriate \$500,000 from the Special Land and Development Fund to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). While the Department acknowledges the overall concept of this bill as it proposes funding for the Soil and Water Conservation District Program, the Department opposes this measure due the use of the Special Land and Development Fund. The Department offers the following comments.

The purpose of the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Program is to educate, construct, maintain, and assist in the development of conservation plans to protect soil and water resources statewide. Each SWCD is operated by a five-member volunteer board. HACD is an umbrella organization formed by the 16 SWCDs under Chapters 180 and 180C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and administratively attached to the Department. The Department notes that the SWCD Program has historically been general funded, and it does not have a base budget appropriation, therefore funding would be required for the continuance of their activities.

The SWCD Program primarily supports private agricultural enterprises conducted on lands outside the management of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board). The Department has concerns about this bill because the designated funding source, the Special Land and Development Fund (SLDF), is limited to the management and maintenance of lands under the management and control of the Board. Monies in the SLDF are needed to provide the muchneeded funding to the various conservation and natural resource programs of the Department and

SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA

M. KALEO MANUEL DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESQUECES AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

LAND STATE PARKS

the proposed appropriation could compromise the Department's ability to fund such programs and activities more focused on its core mission of natural, recreational, cultural and historical resource management.

Pursuant to Act 90, Session Laws of Hawaii 2003, the Department has been transferring its agricultural leases to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) via Governor's Executive Order. Upon the set aside, the lands are under the management jurisdiction of the Board of Agriculture, which has the sole authority to lease those lands for agricultural purposes. All revenues from transferred leases are paid to DOA. The Department does not believe it is appropriate to expend monies from the SLDF to support private farming operations on private lands or lands leased from DOA.

Considering these concerns, the Department respectfully requests that identified source of funding be changed to the general fund.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

JOSH GREEN Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Acting Chairperson
Board of Agriculture

State of Hawaii **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

FEBRUARY 13, 2019 1:20 P.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 229

SENATE BILL NO. 751 RELATING TO THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Chairperson Kahele and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 751. This bill appropriates funds to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD) to assist with its staffing and operating costs. The Department of Agriculture supports this bill, but ultimately defers to the Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding the funding.

Proper conservation practices are essential to a farmer's success, and conservation plans are an important tool for farmers to use in order to maximize soil retention by implementing erosion and sediment control best management practices. HACD can provide farmers with the technical expertise needed to create their own conservation plans. With an approved conservation plan, farmers will be able to attain necessary permissions prior to clearing and grading their land to prepare it for planting and to put new lands into production. HACD provides an important service for the State of Hawaii and deserves consistent funding moving forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





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 13, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

TESTIMONY ON SB 761 RELATING TO THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 229 1:20 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, 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 1,900 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.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports SB 751, which provides funding for the staffing and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

HFB appreciates the support provided by the legislature to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts. This program is an excellent example of successful public-private partnerships that bring benefit not just to farmers and ranchers, but to everyone in the State of Hawaii. We support the position of HACD.

The Soil and Water Conservation Districts were founded by farmers who saw the value in implementing conservation practices. It was natural for them to protect the resources that provided nutrients for the growth of their crops and raising livestock.

Over the years, the Districts have also originated major water projects across the State bringing in Federal dollars to be matched by State resources. Today, we have two projects remaining and HACD continues to work with our Congressional Delegation to complete the Upcountry Dual line and the Lahaina Flood Control Projects. Drought mitigation is a major concern for farmers and ranchers. We are constantly looking for ways in which we can partner with USDA NRCS to implement programs in Hawaii.

While the conservation districts are most often associated with the preparation and approval of conservation plans, the scope of their activities is much broader. As part of the National Association of Conservation Districts, we have access to material that can help state agencies meet regulatory requirements. For example, those Counties involved in MS4 or Municipal Stormwater requirements by EPA, have education requirements.

Each year, there is a focus area across the country. In 2017 topic was "Where does your Watershed?". The purpose of this outreach program was to educate children about where water comes from and the need to be cognizant about practices, such as oil discharges from your cars that may end up in the storm drain or dumping hazardous wastes where it can end up in streams. Programs like these are adopted by each district as part of their outreach. By funding the Districts, you contribute to their capacity to carry out these tasks.

Another example is Soil Judging. Each year, students across the state enter a contest to test their abilities to correctly identify, evaluate, classify, and describe soil profiles and their applicability for various uses including housing. Did you know that Hawaii students have consistently placed in National competitions that take place in Oklahoma each year? Through these experiences, students have developed an interest in pursuing careers in agriculture.

HFB strongly supports the position as stated by HACD. We agree that placing this funding as a line item in the DLNR budget is prudent. We respectfully request your strong support of funding the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts and placing them as a line item in the DLNR budget under LNR 141.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/13/2019 7:40:36 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM



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

Comments:

We support the recommendations of HACD. Thank you.



February 11, 2019

Senator Kaiali`i Kahele, Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Water and Land

Strong support of SB 751 - Relating to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (Makes an appropriation from the special land and development fund to the Department of Land and Natural Resources [DLNR] for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts [HACD].)

Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at 1:20 p.m., in Conf. Rm. 229

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 **strong support of SB 751** on behalf of its members, including those who defend the goals of viable agricultural operations and the conservation and protection of agriculture, including important agricultural lands in Hawaii. This bill articulates the need for collaboration amongst diverse sectors of the community - business, government, and agricultural stakeholders - and the importance for them to work together cooperatively to improve food sustainability and the economic viability of the State's agricultural industry.

SB 751. This bill proposes to appropriate moneys from the special land and development fund to the DLNR for HACD operational expenses and staffing costs .

<u>LURF's Position</u>. LURF supports this measure because the soil and water conservation districts which comprise the HACD have worked collaboratively and effectively with partners and government agencies to improve Hawaii's environment and economy through major projects over the past sixty years, including improving farm practices, reducing erosion, augmenting ocean water quality, improving drinking water quality, and fighting invasive species.

Senate Committee on Water and Land February 11, 2019 Page 2

The HACD additionally assists with reviewing each county's grading permits and conservation plans that are critical to proper county grading permit reviews, preserving the environment, and stimulating the economy. Soil and water conservation districts also provide educational and community support for conservation awareness, including introducing elementary school students to conservation principles and participating in high school resource conservation and development projects.

LURF understands that population growth and land use changes have significantly increased the demand and workload of the conservation districts, and that the HACD receives hundreds of requests for reviews of conservation plans and county grading permits each year. To address the HACD's current struggle to keep pace with the critical demand for its services, adequate funding is necessary to assist with operational expenses and staffing costs.

The lack of funding for the HACD results in many negative impacts on agriculture at a time when staunch efforts are being made to build and support the agricultural industry in Hawaii. Funding shortages limit the services and assistance provided by the HACD, which are invaluable to farmers and to the economic viability of agriculture in this State.

For the above reasons, LURF <u>strongly supports</u> **SB 751**, and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

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



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND Wednesday, February 13, 2019 — 1:20 p.m. — Room 229

Ulupono Initiative <u>Strongly Supports</u> SB 751, Relating to the Hawai'i Association of Conservation Districts

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawaiʻi-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawaiʻi by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better manage waste and fresh water resources. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono <u>strongly supports</u> **SB 751**, which provides funding to the Hawai'i Association of Conservation Districts (HACD), because it aligns with our goal to increase local food production.

The O'ahu chapter of HACD, the O'ahu Resource Conservation and Development Council, developed the 808 Planner tool via funding from Ulupono. This tool helps farmers and ranchers by creating customized online conservation plans with expedited approval. The conservation plans are designed to improve farming techniques and minimize environmental damage. HACD plays an integral part in keeping Hawai'i's agriculture land in a quality state.

As Hawai'i's local food issues become increasingly complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that through collaboration, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay Managing Partner

TESTIMONY

SB 751: Relating to Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Senate Committee on Water and Land

Room 229 1:20 PM

February 13, 2019

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts strongly supports SB 751, appropriating operating funds for the districts, with a change in the source of funding from Special Land Development Funds (SLDF) to a recurring bases from General Funds.

Hawaii's Soil and Water Conservation Districts (HACD) and the 16 Hawaii Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) appreciates your history of commitment to investing in us. Your commitment has made it possible to provide services that protect Hawaii's Land and Water resources from a multitude of threats, including erosion. In addition, the Conservation Plans developed by Conservation Specialists funded by these funds and leveraged with County and Federal funds, have provided cost share opportunities for farmers and ranchers, annually averaging \$8-\$9 million. These are Federal funds provided to offset costs by farmers and ranchers to increase the viability of their operations while protecting the lands from erosion, and waters from pollution. Conservation is good business for the islands, as well as it's people.

Our mission is required by law in HRS Ch. 180 that was put into place by Federal legislation requiring States to develop programs to address soil conservation. The State of Hawaii adopted the requirement to have a soil and water conservation program and required the Counties to adopt ordinances to carry out the intent. As a result, all counties have ordinances and the 16 SWCDs were created across the State. This program is an excellent example of how programs that benefit Hawaii can be implemented. It is a shared responsibility between Federal, State and County governments leveraged by local on the ground volunteers that carry out the program. There is consistency as Conservation Plans are developed and approved using USDA-NRCS guidelines and approved by NRCS conservationists.

While HACD funding has not been in the base budget of DLNR, HACD is required to submit its' budget to the agency by statute. This requirement would appear to result in the inclusion of HACD funding needs in the agency's budget. In the past, funding was for HACD and the SWCDs were partially covered by Title 319 funds from the Department of Health, Clean Water Branch. These 319 monies specifically covered the Conservation Specialists until 2011. The agency felt, it was not an appropriate use of funds and for a year, until Hawaii Farm Bureau assisted the Districts with legislation, the Department of Agriculture provided interim funding. While farmers and ranchers are major beneficiaries of our programs, we serve the entire State.

The following items are some examples of the services that we provide to our communities and why we are assigned as a part of DLNR:

- Flood Control Projects
- Watershed Protection Planning
- Conservation Planning
- Education and Community Outreach

We respectfully request your support of this measure on a <u>recurring bases and replacing</u> <u>General Funds as the source of funding</u>, to help the districts expand our services for the welfare of Hawaii's natural resources. We appreciate this opportunity to provide our opinion on this matter. If there are questions, please contact Michelle Watkins at 808-230-4228.

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2019 11:21:20 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2019 11:20:10 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jean Brokish	Testifying for Oahu Resource Conservation & Development Council		No

Comments:

Oahu RC&D strongly supports the appropriation of funds for the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts. Conservation Planners provide vital information to local producers to improve stewardship of soil and water resources, ensuring compliance with local regulations and connecting producers with financial assistance opportunities.

This work is essential and merits public investment.



Hawai'i Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association

Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council

Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation

Hawai'i Farmers' Union United

Hawai'i Food Industry Association

Hawai'i Food Manufacturers Association

Kohala Center

Land Use Research Foundation of Hawai'i

Malama Kaua'i

Maui School Garden Network

Ulupono Initiative

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources - University of Hawai'i at Manoa SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND Wednesday, February 13, 2019 – 1:20 PM - Room 229

RE: SB 751 - Relating to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts – In Support

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee:

The Local Food Coalition **strongly supports SB 751**, which makes an appropriation from the special land and development fund to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprising of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawaii's food supply.

The Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD) and the 16 Hawaii Soil and Water Conservations Districts (SWCD) play an important role in improving farm practices and ensuring the protection of Hawaii's environment. They assist farmers and ranchers with technical support, development and implementation of conservation plans, outreach and education. All of the SWCD Directors are volunteers. The demands of the HACD have increased and legislature's support of this \$500,000 request is vital to enable the HACD to continue its programs.

We respectfully request your support of SB 751. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

John Garibaldi 808-544-8319 jgaribaldi@wik.com

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 10:49:37 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Helmut Klauer	Testifying for A'a Li'i Farm	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 12:32:54 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suellen Barton	Testifying for Maui Farmers Union United	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 1:50:55 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Hew	Testifying for Maui Soil & Water Conservation Districts	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 3:28:20 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Sı	ubmitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
F	Reba O'Day	Testifying for Birds With Arms Farms	Support	No

Comments:

As a family farmer, I ask that you support this bill!

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2019 10:15:26 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erica von Allmen	Testifying for Auwahi Forest Restoration Project	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Erica von Allmen, I am the Project Coordinator for the Auwahi Forest Restoration Project, where I work to protect and restore native Hawaiian watershed forests. I am writing in support of SB751 and its appropriation of funds from the special land and development fund to the department of land and natural resources for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii association of conservation districts. This type of recurring funding is critical in the protection of native ecosystems.

mahalo for your consideration of this testimony,

Erica

<u>SB-751</u>

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 10:09:00 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arthur Medeiros	Testifying for Auwahi Forest Restoration Project	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha no

I am Dr. Art Medeiros, Program Manager for the Auwahi Forest Restoration Project, which practises and develops techniques for ecological restoration of our native watersheds.

I strongly support an appropriation from the special land and development fund for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts on a recurring basis. These groups do critically important work at a critically important time in the protection and management of Hawaiian natural resources.

Thank you for considering my testimony, Art

Working with `Ulupalakua Ranch to protect Auwahi, one of Hawai'i's last and best sanctuary forests...

Arthur C. Medeiros, Ph.D, Program Manager, www.auwahi.org, Auwahi Forest Restoration Project.

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 5:08:32 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Manfredi	Testifying for Hawaii Coffee Association	Support	No

Board of Directors 2018 - 2020

TESTIMONY FROM BENNETTE MISALUCHA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

President Joshua Uyehara In Support of SB751
Relating to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts

Vice-President
Warren Mayberry

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND February 13, 2019, 1:20 p.m. Conference Room 229



Secretary
Dawn Bicoy

Chair Kahele and members of the committee:

<u>Treasurer</u> Laurie Yoshida The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA) strongly supports SB751, which makes an appropriation from the special land and development fund to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

Directors-at-Large Alan Takemoto Adolf Helm Leslie Campaniano Dan Clegg Joshua Uyehara Warren Mayberry

Funding of HACD is critical to the viability of the 16 Soil and Water Conservation Districts across the State. In the past, collaborative efforts with partners have helped to improve farm practices, reduce erosion, fight invasive species, protect property and conserve water. However, a lack of funding has limited HACD's services to priority watershed areas that have approved watershed plans. Efforts need to be expanded to educate all farmers and ranchers on the value of implementing conservation practices to protect resources. Additional funding will allow for this.

President Emeritus
Alan Takemoto

Please vote in support of SB751. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Executive Director
Bennette Misalucha

Respectfully,

Bennette Misalucha Executive Director, Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization that promotes modern agriculture to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education, collaboration, and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices, and build a healthy economy.



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P. O. Box 66 🌣 'O'ōkala, HI 96774

Phone: 808-933-9411 Email: hfia@hawaiiforest.org Website: www.hawaiiforest.org



February 12, 2019

TESTIMONY

SB 751: Relating to Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Senate Committee on Water and Land Room 229 1:20 PM February 13, 2019

Support of SB751 – Funding of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

The Hawai'i Forest Industry Association (HFIA) is a statewide nonprofit corporation established in Hawai'i in 1989 to promote healthy and productive forests and a sustainable forest industry through forest management, education, planning, information exchange, and advocacy. HFIA has over 300 members, including professional foresters, millers, harvesters, growers, educators, retailers, manufacturers, wholesalers, governments, nonprofits, horticulturists, and others interested in HFIA's mission of healthy and productive forests.

The HFIA supports SB751 that identifies funding for the Hawai'i Association of Conservation Districts.

Many of our members use the services of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the course of managing their forests, whether for ecological restoration or for timber production. The presence of SWCD staff and expertise encourage the correct use of erosion mitigation measures. These measures, in turn, reduce sedimentation of our waterways and keep soil where it belongs – on the land. The HACD has a long history of cooperative engagement with landowners, their non-regulatory, friendly approach has gone a long way to increase the effect they achieve with a modest budget.

I urge you to support this bill in the interest of the continued well-being of our soils.

Mahalo,

Nicholas Koch, HFIA President

Mobile 16h

P.O. Box 66

'O'ōkala, HI 96774 Phone: 808-933-9411

Email: hfia@hawaiiforest.org

P.O. Box 66 • 'O'ōkala, HI 96774 • Phone: 808-933-9411 • Email: hfi@hawaiiforest.org • Web: www.hawaiiforestinstitute.org

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 9:19:53 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Ranney	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 9:44:12 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Claudia Kamiyama	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 9:24:22 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Sunny Savage-Luskin	Individual	Support	No	1

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 9:52:08 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cindy Evans	Individual	Support	Yes

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 10:11:44 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Crawford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the conservation districts and the assistance they give to local landowners in developing and implementing conservation plans and helping to receive federal assistance via the Farm Bill via NRCS. The staff are very knowledgeble and helpful and the programs and services are beneficial to local farmers.

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 10:13:55 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Stover	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 10:37:45 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John NAYLOR	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 11:26:18 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bobbie Patnode	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 11:27:12 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 2:24:06 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Daniel Grantham	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

We need to take care of the land, particularly the land that can feed us or protect the life system.

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 7:08:25 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 8:59:21 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amos Meyers	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Funding for HACD and the SWCD's needs to have a permanent and regular source of funding, such as Recurring from the General Funds. These organizations provide valuable services at the local level that benefits the counties workload and helps the state in attaining it's goal of being self-sustaining. Pleae do not treat these organizations like an after thought - they are on the front line.

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 9:56:08 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
james Kimo Falconer	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

Please continue to support the HACD. They are doing great work in our very valuable watersheds.

Mahalo.

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2019 8:18:41 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leslie Takayama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 4:25:43 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanoe Malani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2019 10:09:18 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Hannah Lutgen	Individual	Support	No	ĺ

Comments:

Aloha,

As an individual working in conservation I strongly support the Recurring GENERAL FUNDS as the source of funding for the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). The work that the HACD does to provide unbiased conservation planning and watershed protection is critical to preserve our precious natural resources. Please support HACD funding through GENERAL FUNDS.

Thanks for your support.

Hannah Lutgen

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 10:10:49 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erica Allmen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Erica von Allmen, I am passionate about and work professionally to protect native Hawaiian ecosystems. I am writing in in support SB751 and its appropriation of funds from the special land and development fund to the department of land and natural resources for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii association of conservation districts. This type of recurring funding is critical in the protection of native ecosystems.

mahalo for your consideration of this testimony,

Erica

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2019 10:18:51 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2019 10:36:28 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SB 751, appropriating operating funds for the districts, with a change in the source of funding from Special Land Development Funds (SLDF) to a recurring bases from General Funds.

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2019 11:12:43 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Harriet Witt	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

We need this bill to preserve the resources that are preserving us.

From: Adam Killermann
To: WTL Testimony
Subject: I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 5:48:56 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

HACD was created by farmers who saw the value in implementing conservation practices. They saw the importance of protecting resources, which provides nutrients for crops and livestock.

While the conservation districts are most often associated with the preparation and approval of conservation plans, the scope of their activities is much broader. Their activities include education and outreach to farmers and ranchers. By funding the Districts, you contribute to their capacity to carry out these tasks.

 From:
 Alan Van Zee

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 7:38:38 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Alvin Tsuruda

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 1:24:18 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Bronson Yadao

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Monday, February 11, 2019 9:41:30 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Clyde Fukuyama

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 8:00:39 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Debbie Silk

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Monday, February 11, 2019 10:03:49 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Don Gerbig

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 12:00:35 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

HACD was created by farmers who saw the value in implementing conservation practices. They saw the importance of protecting resources, which provides nutrients for crops and livestock.

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 From:
 donald sommer

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 3:45:46 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

HACD was created by farmers who saw the value in implementing conservation practices. They saw the importance of protecting resources, which provides nutrients for crops and livestock.

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 From:
 Frederick Mencher

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 12:17:44 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 GLENN TOYAMA

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:44:20 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Gregory Friel

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 5:42:09 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Janice Balauro

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Monday, February 11, 2019 11:14:20 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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From: Janoah Young
To: WTL Testimony
Subject: I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:55:36 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Jari Sugano

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:48:02 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Jean Brokish

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:14:03 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Jeffrey McCall

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 6:24:33 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 John Giblin

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Monday, February 11, 2019 10:51:06 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Joni Kamiya

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 7:15:30 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Kenneth Kaneshiro

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 6:35:42 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Laila Jayyousi

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 5:45:21 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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From: Mark Phillipson
To: WTL Testimony
Subject: I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 9:46:29 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

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 From:
 Martha Lanoza

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 10:00:04 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Megan Kono

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Monday, February 11, 2019 10:33:01 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Melissa Moncata

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 7:19:15 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Melvin Kunitake

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 9:16:01 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Melvin Matsuda

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 5:45:38 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Michelle Starke

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 9:48:19 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Randy Yokoyama

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 9:58:03 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Robert Paull

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 6:34:28 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Rodrigo Balala

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 5:18:37 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Roy Asao

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 5:29:12 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 sandra nishek

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 8:14:48 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Stephanie Whalen

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 7:19:44 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Stephanie Mock

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:17:22 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

HACD was created by farmers who saw the value in implementing conservation practices. They saw the importance of protecting resources, which provides nutrients for crops and livestock.

As the state continues to promote increased food security, sustainable use of our natural resources and expanding local businesses, it is imperative that HACD receive the funding they need to continue to provide services to farmers and ranchers throughout the state. These on-the-ground services that the staff of HACD provide include field technical assistance, information on funding opportunities to support agriculture and community outreach to all ages showing the importance of caring for the land and creating a food system that works for all of us here in Hawai'i.

While the conservation districts are most often associated with the preparation and approval of conservation plans, the scope of their activities is much broader. Their activities include education and outreach to farmers and ranchers as well as local communities. By funding the Districts, you contribute to their capacity to carry out these tasks.

 From:
 TinMyaing Thein

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 9:31:05 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Winifred Marcos

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 6:16:31 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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LARRY JEFTS FARMS, LLC PO BOX 27 KUNIA, HAWAII 96759 (808) 688-2892

SB751, Relating to Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts
Sen WTL Hearing
Wednesday, February 13, 2019
1:20 pm
Conference Room 229

Testimony by: Larry Jefts Position: Support

Chair Kahele, and Members of the Senate WTL Committee:

I am Larry Jefts, owner and operator of Larry Jefts Farms, LLC, which is part of our family-run business of farms on Oahu and Molokai, under the administrative umbrella of Sugarland Growers, Inc. We have more than 35 years of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu. I am a volunteer director for the West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

The SWCD framework and authority were created through HRS 180. It helps farmers and ranchers with conservation plan development as well as assist respective County governments' with grading permit and plan reviews. Throughout the State, 80 volunteer directors in 16 SWCD work with local area partners to accomplish its work that includes conservation and environmental education outreach.

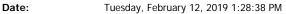
Your support of this funding request will go far toward strengthening environmental stewardship of agriculture soil and water use, particularly as Hawaii welcomes many new farmers and ranchers. It will also facilitate eligibility of farmers and ranchers for federal and state programs that require conservation plans and its implementation at the farm or ranch level.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony

 From:
 Carolynn Lum

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751





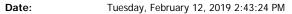
Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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From: Diane Chuensanguansat
To: WTL Testimony
Subject: I SUPPORT SB 751





Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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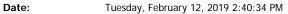
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 From:
 marvin miura

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751





Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I strongly support SB 751, which provides funding for staff and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

HACD was created by farmers who saw the value in implementing conservation practices. They saw the importance of protecting resources, which provides nutrients for crops and livestock.

While the conservation districts are most often associated with the preparation and approval of conservation plans, the scope of their activities is much broader. Their activities include education and outreach to farmers and ranchers. By funding the Districts, you contribute to their capacity to carry out these tasks.

 From:
 Iris Shimabukuro

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 1:19:07 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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 From:
 Joshua Uyehara

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751



Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 4:08:04 PM

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<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/13/2019 12:39:37 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM

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

Comments:

HACD supports environmental stewardship and is instrumental in helping farmers and ranchers develop their conservation plans. And among other functions, the districts help the Counties assure that grading is conducted appropriately. Please support this important work.

<u>SB-751</u> Submitted on: 2/13/2019 7:38:52 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2019 1:20:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mae Nakahata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

 From:
 David Rietow

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751



Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 12:18:01 PM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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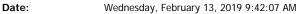
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 From:
 Kylie Matsuda-Lum

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
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Randy Cabral
WTL Testimony
I SUPPORT SB 751

From:

To: Subject:

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 7:10:55 PM



Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

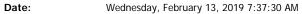
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From: Rodney & Karol Haraguchi

To: WTL Testimony
Subject: I SUPPORT SB 751





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 From:
 Sharon Iwasaki

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 7:54:54 PM

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 From:
 Verna Equires

 To:
 WTL Testimony

 Subject:
 I SUPPORT SB 751

Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 6:47:08 AM

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

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