

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

LATE



TESTIMONY BY:
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

Deputy Directors
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 8, 2024
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 224

S.B. 2815
RELATING TO INFRASTRUCTURE

Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts &
Committee on Agriculture and Environment

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports** this measure that proposes a comprehensive study aimed at improving our state commercial ports to better support the movement of agricultural products at these facilities.

This study is a prudent approach to collect data and address the matters related to the movement of agricultural cargo. However, HDOT requests that the committees consider an amendment to the working group to include representatives from the maritime industry who are responsible for moving agricultural products.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DEXTER KISHIDA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024
3:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**SENATE BILL 2815
RELATING TO INFRASTRUCTURE**

Chairs Lee and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Inouye and Richards, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 2815. This bill establishes a working group to conduct a comprehensive study to assess the State's port and harbor system and the potential viability of each location in that system to support current and future agricultural product transportation methods and needs. The Department expresses our **strong support**.

With statewide goals to increase local food production, and state agency goals to purchase 30% to 50% local, there are significant changes needed to the logistics infrastructure enabling a quintupling of food being transported within the state. While it is ideal to grow what the surrounding community will consume, the reality of our food system requires transportation of food. To make it the most cost-effective, and resilient, port upgrades and infrastructure deployment in and around ports will be necessary.

The department requests two additional areas be included in the assessment. While dry and refrigerated areas are needed, shaded areas to inspect and hold livestock at both air and seaports are necessary to ensure the health and safety of the animals and staff.



The second request is to ensure areas to inspect good moving between islands, along with areas to quarantine and destroy infested product safely are taken into consideration.

The department respectfully calls attention to a report prepared in 2008 for the Agribusiness Development Corporation, "The Demand for Interisland Shipping and the Impact of Shipping Costs on Hawaii Agriculture Production" posted on the HDOA website, wherein the recommendations (page 23) included a need for "centralized facility for consolidation, deconsolidation and inspection may best serve the needs of Hawaii's agricultural industry and at the same time, maximize the State's ability to increase its level of self-sufficiency." Farmers, ranchers, aquaculturists and horticulturists would be well-served by shaded areas to consolidate and distribute their shipments at every port, as well as by the provisions for in this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



WENDY L. GADY
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

**TESTIMONY OF WENDY L. GADY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON TRANSPORTATION AND
CULTURE AND THE ARTS & AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Thursday, February 8, 2024
3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

**SENATE BILL NO. 2815
RELATING TO INFRASTRUCTURE**

Chairpersons Lee and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Inouye and Richards, and Members of the joint Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2815, which establishes a working group to conduct a comprehensive study to assess the State's port and harbor system and the potential viability of each location in that system to support current and future agricultural product transportation methods and needs.

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) supports the Legislature's intent to conduct a thorough assessment of the state's agricultural shipping and supply chain. ADC believes an assessment of the supply chain in its entirety will help the state identify solutions and mitigate future challenges in the evolving shipping landscape. Transportation is a critical component and a

very important issue in the agricultural industry and we look forward to participating in the discussion.

We support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget. Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



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 8, 2024

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON SB 2815
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Conference Room 224 & Via Videoconference
3:00 PM

Aloha Chairs Lee and Gabbard, Vice-Chairs Inouye and Richards, and Members of the Committees:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports SB 2815, which establishes a working group to conduct a comprehensive study to assess the State's port and harbor system and the potential viability of each location in that system to support current and future agricultural product transportation methods and needs.

HFB policy supports a viable interisland transportation system to meet the needs of our farmers and ranchers. Hawaii's intrastate transportation system is critical to Hawaii's agriculture. Improvements to the system are necessary for the current and future success of agriculture, including Biosecurity concerns.

The Hawaii Department of Agriculture's "2015 Agricultural Baseline Summary" reports the State has 913,261 acres in production of which 41,818 are on O'ahu. This means the major agricultural acreage is on the neighbor islands making them even more dependent on ports and harbors as part of their supply chain.

This study will also be a useful tool in allowing for data-driven decision-making relating to agricultural product transportation. The Hawai'i Farm Bureau is prepared to assist with providing input to the Working Group for the study.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Senator Chris Lee, Chair
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND
ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

SB2815

RELATING TO INFRASTRUCTURE

Thursday, February 8, 2024, 3:00 PM
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Chairs Lee and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Inouye and Richards, and Members of the Committees,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports SB2815** which establishes a working group to conduct a comprehensive study to assess the State's port and harbor system and the potential viability of each location in that system to support current and future agricultural product transportation methods and needs.

Our ports are our lifelines between the islands and with the continent. When there is a delay of any length at the ports and harbors, the unfortunate implications can be felt throughout the system. It is especially crucial that we ensure the continued viability of these transportation systems with agriculture in mind. These transportation systems are important both for getting products to customers, but also for moving livestock to different islands for processing, finishing, or genetic diversity. Hawaii's cattlemen are always seeking improvement in their practices, and input into the assessment of the port and harbor system could open potential for improvement in infrastructure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four county-level Cattlemen's Associations. Our member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of over 750 thousand acres of land in Hawaii, or 20% of the State's total land mass. We represent the interests of Hawaii's cattle producers.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director





THE SENATE
KA 'AHA KENEKOA
THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Senator Chris Lee, Chair
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 3:00 PM
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

RE: SB2815 RELATING TO INFRASTRUCTURE

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 350 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) **SUPPORTS Senate Bill 2815.**

We understand the importance of establishing a working group to assess the current status of our state's ports and harbor. This will allow us to decide how we can better implement our BioSecurity program with our transportation facilities. This will also help to support the Clift Tsuji act and help agriculture in our State.

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