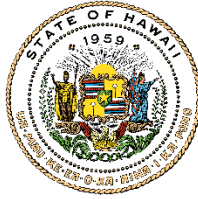


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
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MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tuesday, February 11, 2025
1:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1657
RELATING TO THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Senate Bill 1657 authorizes the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) to acquire by condemnation any real property or interest in real property, including real property already devoted to public use, for the purposes of Chapter 163D, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). Requires the ADC to make a determination that the property is necessary for the corporation's immediate or future use. Prohibits real property acquired by condemnation from being subsequently transferred or taken for any other public use without the consent of the ADC. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers the following comments and suggested amendment.**

The Department does not object to ADC being empowered to acquire real property by condemnation. However, as written, the proposed measure empowers ADC to acquire lands through condemnation, including land already devoted to public use. This provision would seem to include lands held by the Department or set aside to other agencies for public purposes. The Department objects to ADC being given authority to condemn lands held by the Department or set aside via executive order to other agencies and would request that such lands be excluded from ADC's condemnation powers. Accordingly, the Department requests this measure be amended by deleting subsection 7(B) in its entirety.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



WENDY GADY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
HUI HO'OULU AINA MAHIAI

TESTIMONY OF WENDY L. GADY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
TOURISM

February 11, 2025

1:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

SENATE BILL NO. 1657
RELATING TO THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of Senate Bill No. 1657 relating to the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC). ADC supports this measure, which authorizes it to acquire by condemnation any real property or interest in real property, including real property already devoted to public use, for the purposes of Chapter 163D, HRS. Requires ADC to make a determination that the property is necessary for the corporation's immediate or future use and prohibits real property acquired by condemnation from being subsequently transferred or taken for any other public use without the consent of ADC.

Land and water is the basis for agriculture and is a necessary component for the industry to achieve thrivability. ADC supports the idea of acquiring property through the condemnation process pursuant to Chapter 101, HRS

because it will provide another tool to promote agriculture and economic development. Properties that may be acquired by ADC through condemnation include vacant farmland, irrigation infrastructure, and facilities that could potentially foster agricultural development for the public's benefit.

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.