

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



WENDY GADY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

TESTIMONY OF WENDY L. GADY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
TOURISM

March 3, 2026

1:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

**GM 606 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of
Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Gubernatorial
Nominee, DAVID HINAZUMI, for a term to expire 06-30-2028**

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

I am pleased to offer my strong support for **Dave Hinazumi** in his service on the Board of Directors of the **Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC)**.

Mr. Hinazumi brings a depth of legal and practical experience that is directly aligned with the ADC's mission and operational needs. As an attorney with substantial experience in land development, construction, infrastructure projects, and complex lease review, he understands both the technical and strategic dimensions of managing public lands and agricultural assets.

His work in land development has required navigating regulatory frameworks, coordinating with engineers and planners, addressing environmental and permitting requirements, and structuring agreements that balance public interest with project feasibility. This background is particularly valuable to ADC as it works to improve agricultural infrastructure, modernize facilities, and ensure that its lands are productive, sustainable, and accessible to farmers and ranchers.

In the area of construction and infrastructure, Mr. Hinazumi has been involved in projects that demand careful risk allocation, contract negotiation, and cost control. He understands how to identify potential liabilities early, establish clear performance standards, and ensure accountability throughout the life cycle of a project. These skills are critical to safeguarding public resources and delivering projects on time and within budget.

Additionally, his extensive experience in lease drafting and review is directly relevant to ADC's core operations. Agricultural leases require careful attention to compliance, land stewardship obligations, water use, maintenance responsibilities, and dispute resolution mechanisms. Mr. Hinazumi's ability to structure clear, enforceable agreements helps protect both the State's interests and those of its tenants, fostering stable, long-term agricultural operations.

Perhaps equally important is his ability to bring the best private-sector management practices into the public-sector context. In the private sector, efficiency, performance metrics, risk management, and proactive planning are essential. Mr. Hinazumi understands how to apply these principles thoughtfully within a public framework, enhancing transparency, strengthening internal controls, and promoting disciplined decision-making—while remaining fully mindful of the public trust responsibilities that ADC carries.

His combination of legal expertise, practical project experience, and commitment to good governance makes him exceptionally well suited to serve on the ADC Board. He approaches complex issues with diligence, balance, and a solutions-oriented mindset—qualities that are essential as ADC continues to expand agricultural opportunities and steward important public lands.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable consideration of Dave Hinazumi's continued service on the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKA'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tuesday, March 3, 2026
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

GM 606
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the
Agribusiness Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee,
DAVID HINAZUMI, for a term to expire 06-30-2028.

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

I am writing in support of GM606 appointing Dave Hinazumi to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC).

While Mr. Hinazumi played a significant role in developing a comprehensive strategic plan for Grove Farm Company, a large private landholding and infrastructure management company in Hawai'i. Through that work, he gained substantial experience in long-range land use planning, capital improvement prioritization, infrastructure investment strategy, and aligning operational goals with long-term financial sustainability.

His involvement in Grove Farm's strategic planning process required disciplined analysis of assets, revenue streams, infrastructure needs, and community impact. He understands how to evaluate competing priorities, structure phased development plans and ensure that long-term vision is supported by practical implementation steps. These skills translate directly to the responsibilities of the ADC Board, where thoughtful planning and careful resource allocation are essential.

In addition to his strategic planning experience, Mr. Hinazumi brings meaningful financial planning expertise. He has experience with capital planning, infrastructure

investment evaluation, revenue forecasting, and risk management. His ability to assess projects through both legal and financial frameworks ensures that decisions are grounded in fiscal responsibility and long-term viability.

Importantly, he understands how to connect strategy with financial execution. A well-crafted plan must be supported by disciplined budgeting, oversight, and performance metrics. His experience in the private sector strengthens his ability to help guide ADC in maintaining accountability while advancing its mission to support agriculture and rural economic development.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your support of GM606 and the appointment of Dave Hinazumi to the Agribusiness Development Corporation Board of Directors. His experience in strategic planning, financial oversight, and land and infrastructure management will make him an asset to the Board and to the State of Hawai'i.

COUNTY COUNCIL

Mel Rapozo, Chair
KipuKai Kualii, Vice Chair
Addison Bulosan
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Felicia Cowden
Fern Holland
Arryl Kaneshiro



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk
Lyndon M. Yoshioka, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4188
Facsimile: (808) 241-6349
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Council Services Division
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

March 2, 2026



**TESTIMONY OF ARRYL KANESHIRO
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON**

**GM 606, Gubernatorial Nomination of David Hinazumi to the
Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism**

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

1:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229

Via Videoconference

Dear Chair DeCoite and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of GM 606, Gubernatorial Nomination of David Hinazumi to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation for a term to expire on June 30, 2028. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Kaua'i County Council.

I have had the pleasure of working with David at Grove Farm for 14 years and know firsthand his commitment and dedication to Hawai'i's agricultural community. Through his work at Grove Farm, one of Kaua'i's largest agricultural landowners, he has developed extensive experience in land management, agricultural leasing, water systems, infrastructure, and long-term planning. David understands both the operational realities facing farmers and ranchers and the broader policy considerations necessary to keep agricultural lands productive and viable.

David brings a steady, thoughtful, and solutions-based approach to every challenge. He has consistently demonstrated integrity, sound judgment, and genuine commitment to supporting local agriculture. I am confident he will serve the Agribusiness Development Corporation with distinction and help strengthen Hawai'i's agricultural future. I respectfully urge your favorable consideration of this nomination.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of GM 606. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via email to cokcouncil@kauai.gov.

Sincerely,

ARRYL KANESHIRO

Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

RM:mn

MAYOR DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI

COUNTY OF KAUAI



Testimony of
Derek S.K. Kawakami
Mayor, County of Kaua'i

Before the
Committee on Economic Development
March 3, 2026 at 1:00 PM
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

LATE

In consideration of
GM 606 David Hinazumi
Gubernatorial Nominee for the Agribusiness Development Corporation

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of for the appointment of David Hinazumi to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC). David's unique combination of legal training, financial acumen, deep land management expertise, and lifelong roots on Kaua'i make him an outstanding candidate for this position.

Born and raised on Kaua'i, David has dedicated his career to understanding and shaping the island's land and development landscape. As Senior Vice President at Grove Farm Company, he has spent more than two decades leading complex urban development entitlements, managing agricultural land leases, overseeing large-scale infrastructure projects, and participating in strategic and financial planning at the highest levels of the organization. His direct accountability to Grove Farm's Board of Directors has prepared him well for the governance responsibilities that come with ADC board membership.

David's understanding of agricultural leases and water and road infrastructure is particularly relevant to the ADC's mission of developing and sustaining Hawai'i's agricultural lands. He knows firsthand the practical and legal complexities involved in keeping agricultural operations viable. His affiliations with the Kauai Chamber of Commerce and the Land Use Research Foundation further reflect his commitment to Kaua'i's economic and civic health.

David Hinazumi is a thoughtful, experienced, and community-minded professional who will bring real value to the ADC Board. I recommend him without reservation and am confident he will be an outstanding representative for Kaua'i and the broader agricultural community he has served throughout his career.

I respectfully urge you to **Advise and Consent** to David Hinazumi's nomination and forward to the full Senate for their consideration.

To: Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism

From: Kekaha Agriculture Association

Date: March 3, 2026

Subject: Testimony in Support of GM 606, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Gubernatorial Nominee, DAVID HINAZUMI, for a term to expire 06-30-2028.

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

Thank you for the opportunity to express my strong support for the confirmation of David Hinazumi's appointment to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC).

Given his long tenure as a senior leader with Grove Farm, as well as his work in the community, David is a prominent and respected figure in Kaua'i's agricultural community. The size and diversity of Grove Farm's operation, including surface water systems for both irrigation and potable water, mixed use development, conservation, and agriculture, David's private sector experience covers a broad portfolio of issues that are in many ways a close analogue to ADC's overall scope.

For these reasons, the Kekaha Agriculture Association respectfully requests the Committee to confirm David Hinazumi's appointment to the Board of Directors of the ADC. His experience, judgment, and longstanding commitment to Hawaii's agricultural community will serve the ADC and the state well.

Sincerely,

Joshua Uyehara

President of the Board of Directors
Kekaha Agriculture Association



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e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 3, 2026

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

TESTIMONY ON GM 606

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, gubernatorial nominee, DAVID HINAZUMI, for a term to expire 06-30-2028

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
1:00 PM

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

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 strongly supports the confirmation of David Hinazumi to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Hinazumi brings more than two decades of experience in agricultural land management and development through his leadership at Grove Farm on Kaua'i. As Senior Vice President, he has overseen agricultural land leasing, infrastructure maintenance, water systems, and long-range strategic planning for one of Hawai'i's significant landholding entities.

His experience supervising agricultural land management teams and maintaining critical farm infrastructure, including roads and water systems, directly aligns with ADC's responsibilities in managing and supporting state agricultural lands. In addition, his involvement in land entitlements, project management, and board-level reporting reflects strong governance and fiscal oversight experience.

Mr. Hinazumi's legal background and prior experience as a Deputy Public Defender also provide him with strong analytical skills and a governance-oriented perspective that can further strengthen board discussions.

Agriculture in Hawai'i requires thoughtful stewardship of land and infrastructure, along with strategic planning to ensure long-term viability. Mr. Hinazumi's background in balancing agricultural use with broader land management considerations will be an asset to the ADC Board.

We believe his practical experience, leadership background, and understanding of Hawai'i's agricultural land landscape will contribute positively to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Please accept our strong support for the confirmation of Mr. David Hinazumi to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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

GM606, David Hinazumi
Gubernatorial Nominee to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC)

Senate EDT Hearing – 1:00 pm
Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Testimony By: Larry Jeffs
Position: Support

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

I am Larry Jeffs, owner and operator of Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC. We have more than 40 years of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu. Our family farms grow about 1 million pounds weekly of import replacement produce. I am a volunteer director and chair of the West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). I have been an officer of the Hawaii Farm Bureau for many years.

ADC's purpose, established by HRS163-D, is to provide leadership for developing, financing, improving, or enhancing agribusiness enterprises to increase local production for local consumption while continuing to develop commercial exports of locally produced agricultural products. It facilitates the transition of plantation infrastructure and farmland to other agriculture-related enterprises.

David Hinazumi was first appointed in 2025, representing Kauai County. He has more than 20 years of experience with Grove Farm Company, Incorporated, currently serving as Senior Vice President. In this transition phase of ADC, he lends a steady hand with his expertise in managing land development and infrastructure projects, and his oversight of agricultural land leases and maintenance of road and water infrastructure.

Your favorable consideration of Mr. Hinazumi's nomination to the ADC Board of Directors is appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

GM-606

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 3:12:02 PM

Testimony for EDT on 3/3/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rodney & Karol Haraguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We are in support of Dave Hinazumi to the Board of Directors to the Agriculture Development Corporation. We have known Dave for many years, and he is very supportive of farmers and the agricultural industry. He has worked with the youth leadership programs to encourage agricultural technology and innovation education for the future of farmers and in food processing ideas for the state of Hawaii.

The future of agriculture needs leaders that can advance farming to be a viable and successful endeavor for the next generation. Mahalo for the opportunity to support Dave Hinazumi.

GM-606

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 4:04:38 PM

Testimony for EDT on 3/3/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jerry Ornellas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support

GM-606

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 12:26:51 PM

Testimony for EDT on 3/3/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Megan Blazak	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee,

Hilo County Farm Bureau strongly supports the confirmation of David Hinazumi to the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Mr. Hinazumi brings more than 20 years of experience in agricultural land management and development through his leadership at Grove Farm on Kaua‘i. We believe his practical experience, leadership background, and understanding of Hawai‘i’s agricultural land landscape will contribute positively to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Megan Blazak
Chapter President
Hilo County Farm Bureau