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Subject: Submitted testimony for GM718 on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM  
Date: Monday, April 20, 2015 11:34:32 PM

**LATE**

**GM718**

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Bardellini	Datainc.com	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Honorable Committee Members Datainc.com and I as CEO are in support of Simon Russell's confirmation of Governor Ige's appointment representing Maui County on the state Board of Agriculture. His focus on Organic farming solutions using the most altruistic methods to achieve our agricultural, economic, and community goals fills a role of growing importance and necessity. We are honored to have a representative of Simon Russell's caliber and look forward to his contributions toward future policy. We respectfully request that you confirm the appointment of Simon Russell to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. Aloha. Brian Bardellini

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**GM718**

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Gardner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have met with Mr. Russell and find him to be a truly well-experienced individual and an outstanding supporter of sustainable farming in Hawaii.

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**April 20, 2015**

**Testimony in Support of Hawaii GM718  
Simon Russel for Board of Agriculture**

I am writing insupport of Simon Russel to be appointed to the Hawaii State Board of Agriculture. I have know Simon for over two years and have been working with him in his capacity of Vice President of the Hawaii Farmers Union United (HFUU). I have found him to be a big thinker while also able to focus on actions and moving things forward in a constructive way. I think he will make a great contribution to the State Board of Agriculture.

There is an opportunities for a renaissance in agriculture around diversification, import substitution, and a focus on the nutritional and health benefits that come from eating food that is more fresh, and made with soil amendmets created locally. Simon is well tuned in to both the opportunities and challenges.

In addition to my work with the HFUU, I helped facilitate the Maui Ag Design Conference funded by Maui County in 2010. My background includes the honor of launching and operating the State and Federal tax-payer funded Small Business Development Center (SBDC) on Maui between 1990 to 2009 which helped over 3,000 businesses raise money or increase revenues over \$100 million. Prior to moving to Hawaii in 1989, I served as the Director for Industrial Development for Queens County in NYC, served as a management consultant to financial service companies, and operated the NYU Business School's Urban Business Assistance Corp.

I encourage you to support the nomination of Simon Russel.

Aloha

David B. Fisher

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**GM718**

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Faith Ewbank	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have had the pleasure of working with Simon Russell over the past year and can say with no doubt that this individual is qualified and this is an ideal capacity for him. This is a healthy choice for Hawai'i. He is a conscientious family man who wears his community in his heart. As my opinions are straight forward, truthful and sometimes harsh, I must admit I find absolutely no faults in this mans ability to see clearly, bridge relationships and offer cooperativeness in all he does. Thank you for your consideration and thank you for listening to my thoughts on the matter. Mahalo Nui, Faith Chase

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**GM718**

Submitted on: 4/21/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Alapaki Luke	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**GM718**

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Miranda Camp	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please appoint Simon Russell to the Board of Agriculture as he will be a great asset to the board. He cares about the island and it's people and farmers and is very knowledgeable.

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**GM718**

Submitted on: 4/21/2015

Testimony for AGL on Apr 21, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie Austin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support Simon Russel!

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