

HB775 HD2

Measure Title: RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

Report Title: Department of Agriculture; Chicken Eggs; Certification

Description: Repeals the requirement that the DOA must: (1) grant permission prior to the removal of eggs from any dock or landing; and (2) certify that eggs contained in a shipment are properly marked. Requires importation and other documents to be furnished to the DOA before imported eggs are offered for sale. Provides that a violation of section 147-75, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be considered an unfair and deceptive act or practice for which a person may bring an action. (HB775 HD2)

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: AEN, CPH

Introducer(s): CREAGAN

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



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SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION,
& HEALTH**

APRIL 4, 2017
9:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

HOUSE BILL NO. 775 HD 2
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Baker and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 775 HD 2, which proposes to repeal the requirements that the department must grant permission prior to the removal of eggs from any dock or landing, and issuing a certificate by the department attesting that the eggs in a shipment are properly marked before the eggs are offered for sale. The bill also proposes any violation to be considered an unfair method of competition and unfair or deceptive act or practice under Chapter 481A, HRS. The department strongly supports this bill.

The department recognizes the importance of imported eggs being individually marked as to origin to differentiate it from locally produced eggs in order to protect our fragile local egg industry. The department currently must utilize valuable staff resources to issue over 150 certificates each month. The proposed amendments will not affect the department's authority and ability to enforce mislabeled or unmarked imported eggs as to origin. This bill will allow the department better allocate staff resources in other activities to monitor the egg industry and will strengthen the enforcement for individuals who label unmarked mainland eggs as "Island."

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

