

HB508

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

Establishes within the Livestock Revitalization Program a grant program for qualified feed developers. Appropriates funds for the Feed Developer Grant Program, reimbursements to Qualified Producers for feed cost, and a survey of local feed ingredient sources. (HB508 HD1)



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

P O Box 437199 Kamuela HI 96743

Phone (808) 885-5599 • Fax (808) 887-1607

e-mail: HCattlemens@hawaii.rr.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Tuesday March 24, 2015 2:45 p.m. Room 414

HB 508 HD 1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Establishes within the Livestock Revitalization Program of the Department of Agriculture a program to provide grants to qualified feed developers.

Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of the Committee:

My name is Alan Gottlieb, and I am a rancher and the Government Affairs Chairperson for the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 130+ 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 approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council supports HB 508 HD1.

Many Hawaii livestock producers rely on imported grain to sustain their animals and these feed costs are a significant part of their overall expense. While we had a good winter last year, the previous 9 years of drought in Hawaii's largest cattle raising regions made it clear that we need to develop more feed resources here in Hawaii. We continue to hear about pilot projects for feed mills here in Hawaii, and bi-products from bio-energy crops, but these have still not come to fruition.

We support policies to strengthen the cattle industry and allow us to keep more of our Hawaii born calves in Hawaii (currently about 90% of our calves are shipped out of State by boat and airplane for pasture and finishing elsewhere). With the growing demand by restaurants and local consumers for local grown beef presents a golden opportunity for Hawaii beef cattle industry provided conditions in Hawaii are optimal for raising consistent, high quality beef.

Hawaii's cattle industry faces a number of challenges, including high fuel and transportation costs, the rising costs of livestock feed, limited and aging processing facilities, and ongoing drought conditions that disrupt cattle weight gains and interrupt the marketing of consistent high quality beef. For this reason, having a good supplemental feed, grown in Hawaii is essential in many cases.

If we can develop local feeds to feed Hawaii Livestock, this will go a long way in helping all Hawaii Livestock producers and the Hawaii cattle industry to keep more of our calves here in Hawaii for finishing for local markets.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify on this important matter.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Tuesday, March 24, 2015 — 2:45 p.m. — Room 414

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 508 HD 1 with an Amendment and Comments, Relating to Agriculture

Dear Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am general partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally grown food, increase renewable energy, and reduce/recycle waste. Ulupono invests in projects that have the potential to create large-scale, innovative change.

Ulupono strongly supports HB 508 HD 1, which provides grants to qualified feed developers via the Department of Agriculture's Livestock Revitalization Program. Feed costs for livestock production in Hawai'i can comprise 70 percent of production cost, and our concern is that we need to keep our livestock producers in business. We anticipate through grass-fed initiatives and feed research, that the agricultural sector will be able to affordably produce its own feed within a few years. We cannot afford to lose our people – our ranchers, aquaculture and poultry farmers. While the industry works to create more homegrown feed, the subsidy is needed to help sustain the industry.

Furthermore, after conducting an analysis on the provisions for this bill, we believe it will help feed development research by Hawai'i Pacific University, the University of Hawai'i and other universities, as well as for businesses that raise animals that are currently under development.

However, the language as written makes it unclear whether these funds could be used for "feed research." We propose on page 5, line 17, the words "or researching", after the word "manufacturing." This would allow organizations such as the Oceanic Institute to qualify for these funds to research feed, which would then be used to develop that feed.

Ulupono does not take a position on the industrial hemp portion of the bill.

We believe that working together we can help produce more local food, support an economically strong homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



Respectfully,

Kyle Datta
General Partner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, March 20, 2015 5:49:42 PM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/20/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cathy Goeggel | Animal Rights Hawai'i | Oppose | No |

Comments:

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Adam Carlson | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Amy Brinker | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

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| Ann Strong | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

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| autumn ness | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

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| Chris Mentzel | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

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| Dana Keawe | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

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| Dave Kisor | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

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| Edward Aloii | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

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| Elle Cochran | Maui County Council Member | Support | No |

Comments:

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Eloise Engman | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: As the U.S. is the largest importer of hemp products, it's only a matter of time before our country legalizes hemp cultivation; Hawaii has an opportunity to be on the forefront of this new industry, but only if the State Legislature acts now. Mahalo nui loa for your support!

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Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 2:03:20 PM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ember Behrendt | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Aloha Senators, I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB508. As owner of a small farm and horses, and as a mother, I am very concerned for Hawaii's dependency on imports, and I emphatically encourage a sustainable agricultural future. I strongly support the opportunity for farmers to receive the much needed financial support while developing an island livestock feed, as well as an industrial hemp variety that grows in Hawaii. This will open up many avenues of possible income for our farmers while reducing the current 70% dependency on imports. Mahalo, Ember Behrendt

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Felicia Cowden | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I support HB508. We need to diversify our agriculture. This positive step is much appreciated.

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

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| Geoffrey Shaw | Individual | Support | Yes |

Comments: This will be a good use for marginal agricultural lands

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/21/2015

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| Gylian Solay | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I strongly support the passage of HB508

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

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| heidi howard | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| IKE PAYNE | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: It is time that Hawaii begins to think of and look at all types of legalization of industrial hemp and legal marijuana

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

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| Jonathan Yudis | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joy Nelson | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Please support HB508 to allow farmers to grow industrial hemp on our state islands. This is such a sustainable product which has uses in food, shelter, medicine, clothes and many more. It will reduce the need for imports and allow us to go back to our local roots.

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

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| kalei aiwohi | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Katy Rourke | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: It is very important that Maui county diversify it's crops and eliminate the current sugar cane monopoly.

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

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| Leilani Clark | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

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| Leimomi Dierks | Individual | Support | No |

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

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| Michael Dawson | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Please support this Bill as it makes its way through Committee. It will prove to be a huge boon to Hawaiian Agriculture. Mahalo Michael Dawson Kula Maui

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HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

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| Mike Moran | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Please support

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Submitted on: 3/23/2015

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| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
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| Momi Ventura | Individual | Comments Only | No |

Comments: I am testifying that Hemp WILL Have a Positive Impact On Hawaii And The Hawaiian People.I can Speak for Many Hawaiian People, MY FAMILY knows the Unique Qualities Of Hemp and IT'S GREAT Benefits to HAWAII'S Economic Independence From an Enormous Amount Of Imported Goods into Hawaii. Independence Means A Great Many Things for Our Hawaiian People who again know this Plant's Potential..!! MAHALO For The Opportunity To Say Something About Our HAWAII'S Economic Future. Again speaking of the Best Thing Hemp Can Bring To Here within Hawaii; IS PAPER, FOOD AND CLOTHING..!

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Submitted on: 3/22/2015

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| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Patricia Osborne | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Please approve industrial hemp for all farmers in Hawaii. Hemp is a valuable crop that helps clean soil as well as providing more food, fuel and fiber per acre than any other plant. It makes sense, end the ridiculous prohibition on hemp.

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| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
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| Raphiell Nolin | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I strongly support the growing of Industrial hemp in Hawaii. So many uses as human and livestock food, building material, paper, plastics. Uses less water than sugar and requires little fertilizer or pesticides!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: ibbusy247@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 3:02:49 PM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Renee Rudzinski | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Aloha Senators I strongly support HB508 SD1 PROPOSED and the opportunity for farmers to receive the much needed financial support while developing an island livestock feed, as well as an industrial hemp variety that grows in Hawaii. This will open up many avenues of possible income for our farmers while reducing the current 70% dependency on imports. Respectfully yours Renee Rudzinski

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: ricbillman@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 10:07:03 AM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Richard Billman | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I am strongly in support of this bill to give subsidies for animal feed producers. I want to help farmers get the opportunity to develop hemp seed for our climate.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: info@the-mha.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Sunday, March 22, 2015 2:19:13 PM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Richard Rose | Medicinal Hemp Association | Oppose | No |

Comments: Silage is but one use for hempseed, and a very old one. However, it is not even in the top 5 uses for Hemp currently. The only reason Hemp is not being grown in Hawaii is the unreasonable restrictions put on it by state law. Hawaii has the worst Hemp law in the world, one which forbids the Hemp farmer from realizing 95% of his crop's value (no use of tops, certified cultivars only, etc). The best thing the state could do is step aside and let farmers farm. There are plenty of tropical Hemp cultivars ready to be planted this year, there's no reason to waste time and money developing new ones.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: mybizmaui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 9:32:37 AM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Robert Schmidt | Individual | Comments Only | No |

Comments: Please support this bill HB 508 as I feel it is very important that our farmers are able given subsidies to grow animal feed.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Sunday, March 22, 2015 12:55:15 PM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shannon Rudolph | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Strongly support! HEMP means money for Hawai`i! We are missing the boat if we don't get moving on this.

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: shantison@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 7:30:44 AM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| son geiger | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I support bill HB508.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: stacy@stacyvosberg.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 11:54:50 AM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| stacy vosberg | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: sylviacabralmaui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Sunday, March 22, 2015 1:29:51 PM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| sylvia cabral | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: SB 375 HEMP CLEANS LAND OF PESTICIDES. HAWAII NEEDS THIS DUE TO OLD PINEAPPLE LANDS AND MONSANTO

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Cc: tl_huth@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 7:50:40 AM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Terry Huth | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Aloha Senators I strongly support HB508 SD1 proposed version and the opportunity for farmers to receive the much needed financial support while developing an island livestock feed, as well as an industrial hemp variety that grows in Hawaii. This will open up many avenues of possible income for our farmers while reducing the current 70% dependency on imports. Respectfully yours, Terry Huth

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To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: PelesGrrl@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Sunday, March 22, 2015 1:37:01 PM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Trinette Furtado | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [AGL Testimony](#)
Cc: tulsi@mauiishome.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB508 on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 6:15:10 AM

HB508

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for AGL on Mar 24, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tulsi | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I strongly support this bill. I am a registered voter and have lived in Hawaii my whole life. Please also support this bill.

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