

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
Lt. Governor



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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**FEBRUARY 14, 2018
8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2426 PROPOSED HD1
RELATING TO THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2426 Proposed HD1, which appropriates funds for the acquisition of high value farm land in west Kauai identified as Tax Map Key: (4) 1-2-006:009 The Department of Agriculture supports this bill.

The Department supports the effort of the Agribusiness Development Corporation and the State in preserving agricultural lands for production. By dedicating resources to support acquisition of agricultural land, the State increases its local production and supports future sustainability for our communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our testimony.



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
Lt. Governor



JAMES J. NAKATANI
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Wednesday, February 14, 2018
8:30 a.m.

HOUSE BILL NO. 2426
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

My name is James Nakatani, Executive Director of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (“ADC”). The ADC supports House Bill No. 2426 which appropriates funds for the acquisition of high value farm land in west Kauai owned by Kikiaola Land Company, identified as Tax Map Key: (4) 1-2-006:009.

West Kauai’s dry climate and high sunlight has been known for producing very high-quality crops. Keeping high value agricultural lands in agriculture should be considered as a high priority because of the potential benefits it presents for Hawaii’s agriculture industry. Since land is a critical component in enhancing the State’s food security, obtaining agricultural lands may significantly increase the available agricultural land on Kauai for food production and may offer many possibilities to boost the economic viability of the west Kauai community.

Should we be tasked with acquiring these lands, multiple prerequisite steps will be followed prior to beginning negotiations with the land owner. These steps may

include but are not limited to survey and boundaries, mapping and preparation of legal description, securing title evidence, and environmental assessments. Once we complete our due diligence, an appraisal will be conducted to determine the fair market value of the property. Our practice has been acquiring land based on the appraised value or asking price, whichever is less.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and for your consideration of this bill.

HB-2426

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 9:52:18 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/14/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	Yes

Comments:



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February 14, 2018

LATE

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 2426, PROPOSED HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 312
8:30 am

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

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau is in support of HB 2426, Proposed HD1, which authorizes the director of finance to issue general obligation bonds and appropriates funds for the acquisition of certain farm lands in west Kauai by the agribusiness development corporation.

HFB believes that in order for agriculture to flourish in Hawaii and reach their full potential, land availability and long-term leases at affordable and predictable lease rental rates are critical. The acquisition by the ADC of farm land in west Kauai will significantly increase the available agricultural land under the State's control and will provide farmers with long-term leases that will enhance the economic viability of Hawaii's agriculture industry.

We believe this is an opportunity to further support and expand the state's ability to provide agricultural lands for farmers, which is consistent with the State's goal of increasing self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.