



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Agriculture
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By

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And

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And

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HB 1345 HD1 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 1345 HD1, which appropriates funds for the operation, repair, maintenance, and improvement of the East Kaua'i Water Users' Cooperative irrigation systems.

This irrigation system has been maintained by the volunteer efforts of the East Kaua'i Water Users' Cooperative – farmers and clients of the extension services provided by the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Maintenance of this system and of all the irrigation systems throughout the state is essential to the livelihood of our farmers, and to food security in Hawai'i. Many of these systems are in precarious condition, and efforts of the Department of Agriculture, the Cooperative, and other water users who voluntarily contribute to their repair must be supported.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support Kaua'i farmers for passage of HB 1345 HD1.