SB 2478
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Testimony Presented Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 27, 2006

by

Dr. Andrew G. Hashimoto, Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
Testimony for
Senate Bill 2478

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Presented before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Twenty-third Legislature
State of Hawai‘i
February 27, 2006

by

Dr. Andrew G. Hashimoto, Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and Members of the Committee:

I am pleased to contribute the expertise of the College of Tropical Agriculture and
Human Resources (CTAHR) and the University of Hawai‘i to provide input to the
decision-making process on Senate Bill 2478, which appropriates $1 million for Hawaii
Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF) to conduct agricultural research and market
development.

I support SB2478. Both agricultural research and market development are essential to the
success of diversified agriculture in Hawai‘i. The knowledge gained through research
efforts helps producers boost their yields through informed choices about which crops
and varieties to plant, when and where to plant them, how to protect them from pests, and
how to optimize postharvest quality. Market development complements research by
expanding the base of consumers that know and value Hawai‘i’s agricultural products.
Bigger yields and broader markets mean increased profits and a greater contribution to
Hawai‘i’s economy.

The Farm Bureau is an important voice for farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural
producers. HFBF works closely with CTAHR and other collaborators, including the
Hawaii Agriculture Resource Center (HARC), the Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture,
and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center.
Together, these organizations and agencies cooperate on research projects to improve the
production of Hawai‘i crops. We complement each other’s efforts, minimizing overlap
and assuring the broadest range of research assistance to the agricultural community. The
funds described in SB2478 will be managed by the HFBF to facilitate commodities
research and create new local, national, and international marketing opportunities for our
agricultural goods.

For these reasons, I support SB2478. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.