



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Water and Land
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By

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And

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Provost

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HB 1668 – RELATING TO SOIL CLASSIFICATIONS

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Branco, and members of the House Committee on Water and Land:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 1668 relating to soil classifications.

As a Soil Scientist and past surveyor in the National Cooperative Soil Survey, and having soil surveyed the foothills of Mount Rainier and the Skagit River Valley in Washington, Dean Comerford has understood the importance and use of soils information in land use planning and agriculture. The Web Soil Survey (<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm>) provides digitized soil maps and interpretive information. In addition, the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources has an on-going research project in the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management that is evaluating crop suitability for current and climate change environments for a limited variety of crops across the state. These resources may be of use.

The University of Hawai'i supports this bill and thank you for the opportunity to testify.