



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Economic Development
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By

Della Teraoka

Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Community Colleges
University of Hawai'i

HB 1426 HD1 – RELATING TO VALUE-ADDED PRODUCTS

Chair Holt, Vice Chair Lamosao, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i Community Colleges are in support of HB 1426 HD1, which establishes under the Agribusiness Development Corporation a “food and product innovation network” providing access to facilities, resources, expertise and education to capitalize on the “Made in Hawai'i” brand and supporting the strengthening and diversification of the local agriculture economy.

Synergies between network members can expand access statewide, and leverage resources while avoiding unnecessary duplication in support of innovation and business development.

Further clarification of “open-access food” would support better alignment of Network members and their responsibilities within the network.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of HB 1426 HD1, as long as its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1426 HD1.