



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Written Comments to the  
House Committee on Judiciary  
Friday, March 28, 2014 at 2:00 pm

by  
Maria Gallo, Dean  
and

J. Kenneth Grace, Interim Associate Dean for Research  
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### SB 2175 SD2 HD1 – RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL HEMP

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 2175 SD2 HD1, which would authorize the Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa to establish a two-year industrial hemp remediation and biofuel research program.

It is our understanding that under Section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014, also known as Public Law 113-79, institutions of higher education and state departments of agriculture may grow industrial hemp for research purposes, if state law authorizes such research.

So long as funding is available to do so, and such funding does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents' Approved Executive Biennium Budget, we are prepared to fully cooperate with the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture on this project, as described in SB 2175 SD2 HD1.

As friendly amendments, since it does not appear from Section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 that hemp research conducted as described in SB 2175 SD2 HD1 is subject to any permit requirements, we suggest removal of section 2(c), and the second sentence of section 2(d) which reference these unnecessary requirements.

Thank you again for the opportunity to express our support for SB 2175 SD2 HD1.