



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Agriculture
Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

By

Nicholas Comerford, Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SCR 246 SD1 – REQUESTING THAT A WORKING GROUP BE CONVENED TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE REVITALIZING ECONOMY AND AGRICULTURE LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SCR 246 SD1. We support the need to improve agriculture in Hawai'i; the use of a working group to provide recommendations on how to make that happen; and, the use of well-documented farming practices that improve soil health, and that make farming economically viable.

While we support this effort, we also recognize that the pandemic has seriously cut into the personnel capital of a number of the organizations mentioned, affecting their ability to engage with this resolution. So, while we defer to the organizations as to their ability to participate on such a task force, particularly in light of the numerous agriculture task forces being recommended, we welcome our participation in this effort.