



**The Senate
Office of the President**

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

September 6, 2016

Via Electronic Transmission: luc@dbedt.hawaii.gov

Edmund Aczon, Chair
and Members of the Commission

Daniel E. Orodener
Executive Officer

Land Use Commission
State Office Tower
Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building
235 South Beretania Street, Room 406
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: September 7, 2016 Agenda Item IV: DR 16-56 Robinson Family Partners IAL (Kauai)
Petition for Declaratory Order to Designate Important Agricultural Lands (IAL)

Please accept my apologies for this late submittal (less than 48 hours), in support of the above-referenced petition.

I am aware that the Robinson Family Partners have been exceptional stewards of their lands being considered to be designated as IAL, and while the entire lands proposed for IAL designation may not entirely comply with applicable statutory requirements, I am aware that this body may grant IAL designation to the entire proposed designation if the standards and criteria for the entire requested IAL designation meets the objectives and policies for IAL. See, Article XI, section 3 of the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 205-42 and 43 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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In the present case it is clear that lands have historically and are currently used for agricultural purposes, there is apparently sufficient water to allow the current agricultural practices to flourish, and the IAL designation is consistent with development plans for Kauai County as I am aware that the Kauai County Planning Department is also in support of the instant proposal.

Thank you for your time and consideration and if there are any questions with regard to the foregoing, please do not hesitate to contact myself or this office.

Sincerely,



RONALD D. KOUCHI
Senate President

cc: Benjamin M. Matsubara, Esq.
Curtis T. Tabata, Esq.
Counsel for Robinson Family Partners