



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

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LATE
Testimony

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
February 4, 2009, 9:00 A.M.

(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY COMMENTING ON HB 889

Chair Tsuji, Chair Manahan, and members of the Committees:

The Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter, with 5500 dues paying members statewide, submits the following comments on HB 889, making farmer's markets a permitted use in an agricultural park.

The Sierra Club is concerned about the lack of a definition of the phrase "farmer's market" and the potential shenanigans that could occur with such an open term. An individual could potentially claim a large-scale commercial operation, with permanent fixtures, plumbing, electricity, air conditioning, etc., fits within the definition of a farmer's market. It is presumed the intent of this bill is to suggest a more rural and temporary facility, such as the stalls assembled and broken down on a weekly basis at Kapiolani Community College, downtown, etc. To this end, we suggest language reflecting that a farmer's market is an open-air market for farm products with stalls that can be easily transported elsewhere.

We also note the misspelling on page 2, line 14.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.