

FW: Testimony for HR177 on 3/30/2009 9:00:00 AM

wooley1-Christopher on behalf of AGRtestimony

Sent: Monday, March 30, 2009 9:53 AM

To: WLOtestimony

LATE TESTIMONY

-----Original Message-----

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 30, 2009 9:46 AM

To: AGRtestimony

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Testimony for HR177 on 3/30/2009 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for AGR/WLO 3/30/2009 9:00:00 AM HR177

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: chris kobayashi

Organization: Individual

Address:

Phone:

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Submitted on: 3/30/2009

Comments:

i support assistance to small farms that provide essential clean and healthy food growing to feed our communities without detrimental harm to our environment.

i question item 6 on page 2, line 34 and ask that it be deleted from this resolution. it is counter productive to encouraging and assisting small sustainable farms.

thank you.

LINDA LINGLE
Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DUANE K. OKAMOTO
Deputy to the Chairperson

LATE TESTIMONY

**TESTIMONY OF SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE
AND
WATER, LAND & OCEAN RESOURCES
MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2009
9:00 A.M.**

**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 177
SUPPORTING SMALL FARMS WHO GROW FOOD CROPS LOCALLY AND WHOSE
GROSS ANNUAL INCOME IS NO LESS THAN \$1,000 AND NO MORE THAN
\$500,000 ANNUALLY**

Chairpersons Tsuji and Ito and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Resolution No. 177. We are strongly opposed to this resolution as it is based on unsupportable assumptions about agriculture and unnecessarily create a rift within the agricultural community; not only between large and small farmers, but also between organic and traditional producers, and producers of different types of agricultural products.

Further, it would eliminate the farmers' right to choose what to grow, and require the Department of Taxation to conduct a potentially costly and complicated study with no funds. The underlying assumption in this resolution is that farming operations grossing more than \$500,000 annually are corporations supported by federal crop subsidies and focused on export markets. This is not accurate. There are a number of farms of this size that are family farms focused on serving the local market.

FW: Testimony for HR177 on 3/30/2009 9:00:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Sent: Monday, March 30, 2009 8:13 AM

To: WLOtestimony

-----Original Message-----

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2009 9:33 PM

To: AGRtestimony

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Testimony for HR177 on 3/30/2009 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for AGR/WLO 3/30/2009 9:00:00 AM HR177

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Penny Levin

Organization: Individual

Address: Wailuku, Hawaii

Phone:

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Submitted on: 3/29/2009

Comments:

Aloha;

I SUPPORT HR177 with one amendment. Remove item (6) line 34, pg 2 relating to the inclusion of the co-existence document as a reference for this resolution. This document does nothing to move us towards healthy, organic, food self-sufficiency. With the exception of papaya, no gmo crops in the State of Hawaii are allowed or permitted for human consumption, making the co-existence document moot. The referenced document also runs counter productive to the effort to support small and organic farmers and the intent of this resolution.

Small farmers are too often excluded from access to agricultural lease lands, from HDOA funding resources and programs. It is small farmers and organic farmers who put food on our tables, in our local open markets, and restaurants, and it is these farmers who will lead us towards food security and self-sufficiency.

I urge the members of the AGR/WLO Committees to SUPPORT this measure.

Mahalo.