

Whispering Winds Bamboo  
HC1 Box 180  
Hana, HI 96713



[www.whisperingwindsbamboo.com](http://www.whisperingwindsbamboo.com)

TO : Rep. Ken Ito, Chair  
Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources  
Hearing Date: Monday , March 23, 2009 9:35am

Conference Room 325, State Capitol

SUBJECT: Strong Support for SB 1645,SD1 ( SSCR742) Relating to the State Building Code

There is a revolution in green building and sustainable living about to take place across our nation. We feel that Hawaii is uniquely poised to be a leader in that movement. We have all the natural resources to re-define energy supply along with sustainable agriculture and green building.

Bamboo address all of these concerns and is a poster child for smart growth.

**Over 1 billion people already live in bamboo houses around the globe**

. Bamboo has passed rigorous testing in Germany for it's structural capacities. By simply defining the best species it would be fairly simple to establish a bamboo timber code.

We have a plantation of superior clumping non-invasive quality timber that we have selected from research on building with bamboo. Bamboo has survived earthquakes better than any other structures. I could go on and on touting the benefits of bamboo at every phase of it's transition from planting with a one time tilling of the soil, which eliminates future erosion and stabilizes the watershed, to it's short time needed for maturation to usable high quality timber.

We have had significant interest from the public wanting to build a "grown on Maui" home. The Discovery Channel has been to our farm with their desire to promote bamboo as the "next great green product" however, we have had to warn them that we are in a long and expensive process to get our material passed through the bureaucracy.

**By passing SB1645 Hawaii can look forward, not only to being the leaders in the green building movement, we will also create new jobs and many value added industries from bamboo. Please support our independence from mainland imports . Let us not wait until 2011 move the date to 2010!!!!**

**Thank you,  
Jashana Kippert**