

**HB 2409,
HD2, SD1
Testimony**

LINDA LINGLE
Governor



SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DUANE K. OKAMOTO
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 Fax: (808) 973-9613

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

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010
9:30 A.M.
ROOM 211**

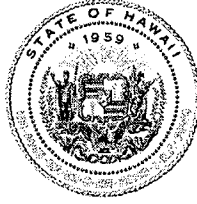
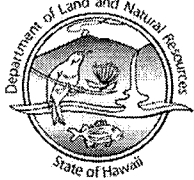
**HOUSE BILL NO. 2409, H.D. 2, S.D. 1
RELATING TO AQUACULTURE**

Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Section 3 of House Bill No. 2409, H.D. 2, S.D. 1.

The department recognizes the important cultural role that taro has in Hawaii as well as the demand for taro in its many forms as a commercial product. We are aware that various taro varieties have differing water and land requirements. However, the department does not possess the expertise to determine which lands are suitable for all of the various types of taro. We also lack the resources to conduct a file review and ground truthing of each potential parcel to determine the site conditions, water sources, infrastructure availability, acreage, site location, and other relevant information. Given our current reduced staffing levels, we don't think it is prudent to take on new projects, which will detract staff from providing core services.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
LAURA H. THIELEN
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Wednesday, March 24, 2010
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2409, HOUSE DRAFT 2, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO AQUACULTURE**

House Bill 2409, House Draft 2, Senate Draft 1: proposes to increase lease terms for aquaculture ventures from 35 to 45 years; provides aquaculture lessees in good standing the right of first refusal; allows for supportive aquaculture activities; includes taro in the definition of aquaculture; and requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) and the Department of Agriculture (DOA) to review the State's land inventory and identify lands that are available and suitable for taro farming. The Department opposes the provision in this bill that provides aquaculture operations in good standing with a right of first refusal and allows such entities to seek a renewal of a lease that has been issued.

A right of first refusal is essentially an option to extend a lease that can be exercised unilaterally by a lessee. Such options have a chilling effect on other prospective bidders' willingness to bid on the property. Many prospective bidders would be reluctant to invest the substantial time, effort and resources to prepare and submit a bid with the knowledge that the existing lessee can exercise his or her right and nullify the bid at any time. Rights of first refusal provide an unfair benefit to the current lessee by depriving persons awaiting the published termination of the lease a fair opportunity to compete for the use of those lands at public auction. That inherent inequity ensures lower bids and consequently less revenue to the State.

A right of first refusal clearly goes against all the provisions for fairness in the leasing of state land in Chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), and inappropriately impinges on the Board's discretionary authority to control the use of State lands. When seeking public lands for private use, potential lessees are well aware of the benefits and drawbacks of leasing State lands as opposed to conducting their activities on private lands. First and foremost is the knowledge

LAURA H. THIELEN
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RUSSELL Y. TSUJI
FIRST DEPUTY

KEN C. KAWAHARA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

that those lands are public assets that must serve primarily the interests of the general public and the public trust purposes, and secondarily the needs of a private user.

The safeguards and terms for leasing public lands are codified in Chapter 171, HRS, to ensure transparency and fairness in the disposition of State assets. Paramount in that process is the need to ensure and maintain the State's ability to use its land resources when and as needed to meet all of the State's obligations and priorities as well as the greater public needs of all of Hawaii's residents. Fundamental to that responsibility is the preservation and protection of the discretionary authority of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) to consider and determine the most appropriate use of State land at any given time, including when and if an ongoing use should continue. The Board's ability to fulfill its fiduciary obligations to promote all five public trust purposes equally should never be compromised by any erosion of this authority.

The Department also opposes the addition of the provision requiring it and the DOA to review the State's land inventory and identify lands that are available and suitable for taro farming. The Department simply does not have the expertise and staffing necessary to undertake the additional duties that would be required under this bill. Taro farming is a highly specialized agricultural discipline that involves considerable knowledge of a multitude of species of taro and their respective cultivation requirements. Familiarity with that information is critical to the identification of land conditions that would be suitable for taro farming. The Department lacks that expertise and is ill suited for this task.

The Department could support an amended version of this bill that does not include any renewal rights that may override the Department's discretionary authority and fiduciary obligation to issue leases to appropriate lessees, nor the provision requiring the Department and DOA to review the State's land inventory to identify lands that are available and suitable for taro farming.

From: JSCorbin@aol.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jskorbin@aol.com
Subject: Testimony HB 2409 HD 2, SD1
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:33:19 PM

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010
Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice-Chair

DATE: Wednesday March 24, 2010
TIME: 9:30 am
PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of HB2409 HD2,SD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice-Chair Tsutsui, and Committee Members,

My name is John Corbin. I was formerly Manager of the State Aquaculture Development Program in the Department of Agriculture and have worked with the aquaculture industry in Hawaii for over 30 years. I support what HB 2409 HD 2, SD1 is trying to do and strongly recommend the Committee on Ways and Means pass this bill. However, I would also recommend the effective date be changed to July 1, 2010.

My experience with the application of Section 171-59 HRS is, land-based and ocean aquaculture farmers would benefit from a longer term 45 year lease with respect to time to grow their businesses and having more options with respect to financing, particularly federal loans. In addition, allowing complimentary activities, such as taro, aquaponics, water reuse technologies and renewable energy technologies, that enhance farm profitability and growth potential is consistent with the State's desire to encourage this industry to diversify the economy on all islands. Finally, giving aquaculture farmers the opportunity of first refusal to further extend a lease is a policy issue, however allowing this option for successful farmers would help maintain a viable , long term industry resulting in greater long-term food self sufficiency for all the people of Hawaii.

In summary, I believe this is a positive bill that promotes a supportive business environment for aquaculture development, while not costing the State any money in these difficult times. I urge the WAM Committee to support this bill and make it effective July 1, 2010, so that aquaculture companies may take appropriate action in the near future. Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,
John Corbin

John S Corbin MS, CFP, AICP
President
Aquaculture Planning & Advocacy LLC
Email: jscorbin@aol.com
808 239-8316
47-215 Iuiu St
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744



EAST OAHU COUNTY FARM BUREAU

45-260 WAIKALUA ROAD S 101 KANEOHE, HI 96744

March 22, 2010

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol Building, 415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Kim and Members of the Committee:

I am sending this testimony to express the strong support of the East Oahu County Farm Bureau for HB 2409 HD2 SD1, "Relating to Aquaculture." Aquaculture is one of the largest and fastest-growing sectors of Hawaii's diversified agriculture industry. Aquaculture and aquaponics farms tend to have substantial infrastructure requirements such as wells, tanks, raceways, pipes, and support structures which in turn require a substantial investment. In order to make this investment, aquafarmers need to have access to long-term loan capital, and need to know that they will be allowed to remain in place long enough to justify not only the financial investment, but the investment of personal time, labor, and ingenuity that is necessary to succeed in a challenging endeavor.

HB 2409 HD2 SD1 would increase the maximum lease terms for aquaculture and aquaponics farms, which would encourage investment in farm facilities and allow farmers greater access to Federal loan guarantees. It would allow established farms in good standing the right of first refusal, reducing the risk that farmers who have invested much of their lives in building successful businesses will see their life's labors taken away when their original leases expire. It also encourages more efficient use of resources by specifically permitting supportive activities such as the use of aquaculture effluents to produce secondary crops. We therefore support HB 2409 HD2 SD1, and encourage its passage.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Frederick M. Mencher
for Grant Hamachi, President



(808) 386.4489 , jtabrah@hawaiiantel.net
876 Curtis St. #3905, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui Vice-Chair

DATE: Wednesday March 24, 2010

TIME: 9:30 am

PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of HB2409 HD2 SD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Dear Chair Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair Tsutsui, and Committee Members:

Pacific Aquaculture and Biotechnology LLC strongly supports HB2409 HD2 SD1 as written because:

1. increased lease terms of 45 years encourages increased investment in expensive aquaculture infrastructure and equipment that requires long-term financing
2. lessees in good standing should have the right of first refusal to renew aquaculture leases such that their years of financial and personal investment in the aquaculture farming operation are allowed to be passed on to subsequent generations and hence sustainable farming practices would be continued;
3. support of complimentary aquaculture activities, such as aquaponics which would reuse aquaculture effluent water to grow additional plant products or the generation of renewable energy, would allow the lessee to improve the overall financial viability of the operation, and
4. it would help stimulate and diversify our economy by encouraging increased investment in land-based, coastal, and ocean aquaculture ventures in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Joseph Tabrah
President



Food & Water Watch • 1616 P St. NW, Suite 300 • Washington, DC 20036
www.foodandwaterwatch.org • T: +1.202.683.2500 • F: +1.202.683.2501

The Senate
The Twenty-Fifth Legislature Regular Session of 2010

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

Date: March 23, 2010

Time: 9:30am

Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

Submitted via email: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

On March 23, 2010

RE: Opposition to HB 2409, HD2, SD1 Relating To Aquaculture

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Committee Members,

Food & Water Watch respectfully submits the following comments regarding HB 2409, HD2, SD1 relating to aquaculture. FWW is a non-profit organization that works with grassroots groups to create an economically and environmentally viable future. Our Fish Program promotes safer and more sustainable seafood for consumers, while helping to protect the environment and support the long term well being of coastal and fishing communities. Our work extends to Hawai'i, where we have 947 supporters, and growing. Our staff includes a Maui resident, who works as our Hawai'i outreach coordinator. Through our work with environmental and cultural groups in Hawai'i, we have witnessed widespread concern about state policies relating to aquaculture.

FWW submitted comments on HB 2409 to the Committee on Agriculture for the February 5, 2010 hearing. In those comments, we highlighted the environmental and cultural impacts of this legislation. For the purposes of the WAM committee, we will focus on economic issues in the following comments.

We recognize the importance of bolstering Hawai'i's economy and food supply with sustainable aquaculture production. We also recognize the environmental and economic pitfalls associated with open ocean aquaculture. In order to avoid the high costs associated with regulating long-term aquaculture leases in the open ocean, and also to avoid negative social, cultural, and environmental ramifications, we recommend that open water commercial finfish mariculture be excluded from the definition of aquaculture in this Bill.

High costs and regulatory burdens associated with open water finfish mariculture

Both investing in and regulating open water mariculture has proven to be extremely costly. The state has been very generous to aquaculture companies thus far, via the tax incentives of Act 221, which provide up to 100 percent (80 percent for investments made after April 2009) returns on cash investments for Qualified High Tech Companies, including aquaculture facilities. In other words, over the course of five years, aquaculture companies can receive credit against Hawai'i state taxes in the amount they have invested in their privately owned operations.¹

¹ Act 221, SLH 2001 and S.B. 199, SD1 HD1 CD2, July 2009.



Due to the tax credits and the very low level at lease payments are set, the State is not receiving direct economic benefit from these operations. Operations are only required to pay \$1,400-\$2,100 a year or 1 percent of revenue, whichever is greater, to the state for their ocean leases.²

Despite these low lease rates, and ongoing financial support, both of the ocean fish farms currently existing in Hawai'i have been delinquent in rent payments.³ Even after \$1.8 million in funding from NOAA, all the money given out through tax technology credits, nearly \$10 million from investors, and a product that has retailed at \$17 a pound for fillets, Kona Blue Water Farms, one of two existing open water mariculture facilities in Hawai'i, has still not achieved profitability.⁴

The State is not receiving widespread or indirect economic benefit from open ocean fish farming either. For example, the two existing operations plan to employ only 39 people by 2013, despite that they hope to produce a collective 6 million pounds of fish.⁵ When all the subsidies that the companies have either benefitted from directly or indirectly are taken into account – not including the benefits of the High Tech tax incentives – each of these jobs has cost taxpayers over \$84,000.⁶

Furthermore, it has become clear that regulating ocean fish farms has been a large and difficult task for the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). DLNR is required by Act 176 Section 12, Session Laws of Hawaii 1999 to provide the Hawaii legislature with yearly reports on the status of aquaculture operations in the state and an outlook for the coming years. This report is typically dated in December, and available prior to legislative sessions. As of March 23, the 2010 report has not yet been delivered. Perhaps this is not a surprise, considering that the Department of Agriculture's Aquaculture Program has been cut by 75%, from eight to two staff. It is highly objectionable that the legislature would move forward with new legislation regarding open ocean fish farming when they have not yet been able to review a recent report from DLNR on the industry's status, the agency's ability to regulate the current industry, or any future growth in the industry.

The need to remove "right of first refusal"

The "right of first refusal" given to "aquaculture operations in good standing" must not be given to any open water mariculture companies. Previously, DLNR has advised that this be removed. In testimony on this bill dated February 18, 2010, DLNR Chair Laura Thielen wrote, "The inclusion of a right of first refusal to a lessee in good standing for lease renewals is especially objectionable because it would constitute a de facto extension of the lease for unspecified consecutive terms that could continue into perpetuity."

² State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources submittals GL S-5721, January 8, 2010 at 4; and State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources submittals GL S-5654, February 9, 2007.

³ Ibid

⁴ See Food & Water Watch. Fishy Farms, Oct 2007 at 7; and Kona Blue Water Farms, LLC. "Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment for a Modification to Net Pen Designs within the Existing Production Capacity and Farm Lease Area for Kona Blue's Offshore Open Ocean Fish Farm Unualoha Point, Kona, Hawaii." April 2009 at 3.

⁵ Aquaculture Planning & Advocacy LLC. Final Environmental Assessment Proposed Expansion of Hukilau Foods Offshore Fish Farm, Mamala Bay, Oahu, Hawai'i. Prepared for Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, Department of Land and Natural Resources. 24 July 2009 at 8 and 22; Kona Blue Water Farms, LLC Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment for a Modification to Net Pen Designs within the Existing Capacity and Farm Lease Area for Kona Blue's Offshore Open Ocean Fish Farm off Unualoha Point, Kona, Hawai'i prepared for Land Division, Department of Land and Natural Resources. Dated April 21, 2009 at 22 and 23;

⁶ See Food & Water Watch. Fishy Farms, Oct 2007 at 9 for calculations.



Food & Water Watch • 1616 P St. NW, Suite 300 • Washington, DC 20036
www.foodandwaterwatch.org • T: +1.202.683.2500 • F: +1.202.683.2501

This must not be included in final legislation, or allowed to override discretionary authority of the DLNR chair to issue leases. Furthermore, the fact that “good standing” is not clearly defined is highly problematic. It should be made clear that any operation that has failed to comply with any requests (either legally binding or not) of the DLNR, or currently facing opposition from community members should not be considered “in good standing.”

Economic benefits of aquaponics

While the widespread economic benefits of open ocean mariculture are questionable, aquaponics provides a more economically and environmentally sustainable alternative to produce more fish and more jobs for Hawaii. In an analysis of an open ocean fish farming company and an aquaponic company that we published in January 2010, FWW found that aquaponics could produce 11 times as many jobs, far more revenue, and twice the amount of fish as an open ocean fish farm, plus 43 million pounds of produce.⁷ And because these systems are more scalable, and can be placed virtually anywhere, they are a viable business initiative for a wider range of entrepreneurs.

Aquaponics, land-based recirculating aquaculture, and traditional coastal fish ponds (*loko i`a*) are examples of fish farming, already in practice across the islands, that are more in line with the cultural traditions, environmental values and economic goals of Hawai`i.

Conclusion and Recommendations

In conclusion, we recommend that HB 2409 be revised to exclude open water finfish mariculture from the definition of aquaculture. In doing so, more viable forms of aquaculture, such as aquaponics, traditional fish farms, and other land-based recirculating systems, will be able to prosper – providing more jobs and local food security – while the state will be spared the economic burden of regulating open ocean fish farms – a less profitable and more environmentally and socially troubling type of operation.

We urge that open ocean aquaculture operations absolutely not be given the first right of refusal.

Thank you for considering our testimony.

Sincerely,

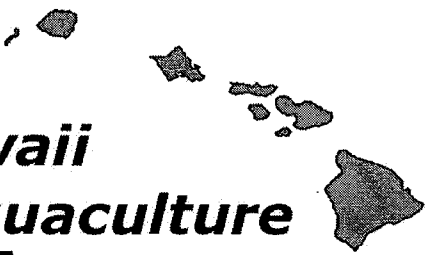
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marianne Cufone".

Marianne Cufone, Esq.
Director, Fish Program
202.683.2511

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justine Williams".

Justine Williams
Research/Policy Analyst, Fish Program
202.683.2485

⁷ Food & Water Watch. “How to Produce \$20 Million Worth of Fish: Ocean Fish Farming vs. Recirculating Aquaculture Systems,” Jan 2010.



Hawaii Aquaculture Association

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Senator Shan S. Tsutsui Vice-Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Wednesday March 24, 2010

TIME: 9:30 am

PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of HB2409 HD2 SD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Chair Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair Tsutsui, and Committee Members,

The Hawaii Aquaculture Association strongly supports HB2409 HD2 SD1 as written.
This bill would:

1. increase lease terms for aquaculture to 45 years, thereby encouraging increased investment in expensive aquaculture infrastructure and equipment requiring long-term financing, and encourage a multi-generational commitment to aquaculture farming
2. provide lessees in good standing the right of first refusal such that their years of financial investment in the aquaculture farming operation are not put on the auction block and potentially lost to a higher bidder who would not have the intimate knowledge of the site nor the experience gained in the aquaculture farming operation, and may not have the commitment or experience of the lessee who has already demonstrated such commitment and experience;
3. allow additional supportive aquaculture activities such as aquaponics, which would reuse aquaculture effluent water to grow additional plant products thereby

- improving the overall financial viability of the operation, or the generation of renewable energy, which could improve the long-term economic viability and sustainability of the operation; and
4. help stimulate and diversify our economy by encouraging increased investment in land-based, coastal, and ocean aquaculture ventures in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this important bill.

Sincerely,
Ron Weidenbach
HAA President

HAWAII FISH COMPANY

Post Office Box 1039
Waiialua, HI 96791, USA
Cell Phones: 808-429-3187, 429-3147
E-mail: hawaiiifish@gmail.com

City Bank 2000 TIGR Award
US SBA 2000 Tibbitts Award
US SBA 2001 Small Business Award
Special Congressional Recognition 2001

The Senate
The Twenty-Fifth Legislature
Regular Session of 2010

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donna Mercado, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice-Chair

Notice of Decision Making

Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010
Time: 9:30 am
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Re: Testimony In Strong Support of HB2409 HD2 SD1—Relating to Aquaculture

I am an aquaculture farmer committed to providing fresh products for the local community. An increase in lease terms for aquaculture to 45 years would allow my business to secure the larger long-term financial loans necessary to build up my infrastructure, to buy the necessary equipment, and to hire workers. Also, for a family-run operation, as many of the farms in Hawaii are, such an increase would allow our children, the next generation, to continue the legacy of fulfilling Hawaii's need for locally-grown crops.

I believe that a farmer who has consistently demonstrated good management and practices and who has expended great time and investment towards developing his/her farm, should have the right of first refusal, rather than having the farm potentially lost to a future higher bidder without the expertise and personal commitment to the land.

In addition, allowing additional supportive aquaculture activities to recycle the water for other crops, such as aquaponics, just makes good common sense.

Aquaculture farming requires much investment and commitment, and HB2409HD2 SD1-Relating to Aquaculture would make more viable an agricultural venture so well suited for Hawaii and her people.

Mahalo,

Estralita Pasalo Weidenbach, Co-Owner

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Bill [bspencer@hioceanictech.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 7:15 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: HB2409 Being Heard 3/24/2010 Ways and Means 9:30AM Room 211 - STRONG SUPPORT

March 23, 2010

Dear Chair Mercado and Committee Members,

I am the CEO of Hawaii Oceanic Technology, Inc. one of the newest mariculture companies permitted by the BLNR to operate a tuna farm in deep ocean waters off of North Kohala on the Big Island.

I strongly support the provision extending lease terms for mariculture and land based aquaculture. A 45 year lease term will help our industry qualify for Federal Dept. of Agriculture loans. It will help attract investment and improve the opportunity for aquaculture companies to achieve a return on their investment, which benefits the State with increased tax revenues and jobs for its citizens.

HB2409 will help Hawaii maintain it's reputation as the Silicon Valley of open ocean mariculture. It is consistent with State law that makes Hawaii the only State in the U.S. with a permitting and regulatory framework in support of open ocean mariculture.

You will be hearing opposing points of view from so called environmental activists who are trying to stop my company and others from doing open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii. They are being bankrolled by an Washington, DC anti aquaculture lobby organization called Food and Water Watch. Food and Water Watch is using their web site to bombard your committee with opposing testimony. They are paying activists in Hawaii to spread falsehoods about our industry. This heavily funded Washington DC based entity, is trying to stop open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii to further their agenda in Washington, where the U.S. government is trying to develop policy modeled after what you and other Hawaii legislators have supported for the last ten years in Hawaii. Do not be swayed by lies being perpetrated by this organization and their local paid activists.

HB2409 is good for Hawaii, it will help my company create more than 40 high paying direct and indirect jobs on the Big Island, and generate tax revenues and lease revenues for the State that could far exceed several million dollars per year.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of this measure.

Sincerely,

Bill Spencer
CEO
Hawaii Oceanic Technology, Inc.
425 South St., #2902
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-225-3579



Pacific Aquaculture and Biotechnology LLC

73-4460 Queen Kaahumanu Highway Suite 108

Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Phone: 808 334-9737 Email: Jtabrah@pabllc.biz

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Senator Shan S. Tsutsui Vice-Chair

DATE: Wednesday March 24, 2010

TIME: 9:30 am

PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of HB2409 HD2 SD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Dear Chair Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair Tsutsui, and Committee Members:

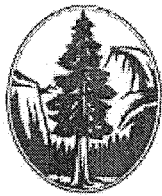
Pacific Aquaculture and Biotechnology LLC strongly supports HB2409 HD2 SD1 as written because:

1. increased lease terms of 45 years encourages increased investment in expensive aquaculture infrastructure and equipment that requires long-term financing
2. lessees in good standing should have the right of first refusal to renew aquaculture leases such that their years of financial and personal investment in the aquaculture farming operation are allowed to be passed on to subsequent generations and hence sustainable farming practices would be continued;
3. support of complimentary aquaculture activities, such as aquaponics which would reuse aquaculture effluent water to grow additional plant products or the generation of renewable energy, would allow the lessee to improve the overall financial viability of the operation, and
4. it would help stimulate and diversify our economy by encouraging increased investment in land-based, coastal, and ocean aquaculture ventures in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Joseph Tabrah
President



**SIERRA
CLUB**
FOUNDED 1892

Hawaii Chapter
Maui Group
P.O. Box 791180
Paia, HI 96779

SIERRA CLUB
MAUI GROUP



March 23, 2010

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, and members,
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010
Time: 9:30am
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 Beretania Street Honolulu HI

RE: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION [AS WRITTEN] TO HB 2409 –
RELATING TO AQUACULTURE

Aloha kakou,

My opposition to this bill as written has foundation in my understanding that Open Ocean Aquaculture has not lived up to its expectations or promise, has cost the state revenues rather than providing significant economic benefits, and has numerous unresolved issues and negative impacts. I refer you to detailed analysis contained in the Food & Water Watch study, "Hawaii Backgrounder," which I shall submit to each of the WAM Committee members by e-mail to your offices. This report is carefully annotated and footnoted.

I previously submitted comments on HB 2409-Relating to Aquaculture last month when the proposed measure was in House committees. I also testified in person when this agenda item had a joint hearing with AGR and WLO. The bill advanced, despite dozens and dozens of letters in opposition.

No testimony in opposition was submitted when this bill was heard by the Senate WTL Committee, as the bill was resurrected at the last minute after it appeared it would not be heard. The text was amended significantly at that hearing, and now has much more to do with taro cultivation as one of the definitions of aquaculture.

Reasons to Exclude Open Ocean Aquaculture from this Bill

There is a growing awareness that Open Ocean Aquaculture (OOA) has been problematic worldwide, with spread of disease and parasites, plundering of baitfish stocks, and pollution of ocean ecosystems.

OOA (also known as mariculture) in Hawaii has failed to provide significant economic returns, has compromised cultural rights and practices, and has jeopardized resources. It's time to stop pouring money into this hole in the ocean, and supporting private ventures in unsustainable practices.

Legislation has been introduced this session to pause and gain better control of this reckless thrust forward towards more mariculture production. HB 2958, introduced by Rep. Hanahano, sought a moratorium on mariculture expansion. HR 245 (HCR 326), introduced by Rep. Carroll, requests a moratorium on new permits for mariculture finfish operations. SB 2486, introduced by Sen. Galuteria, advocated that full Environmental Impact Statements be prepared for mariculture operation.

DLNR's Aquaculture Report to the Legislature is Absent

The Department of Land and Natural Resources is required by law (Act 176, Section 12, Session Laws of Hawaii 1999) to provide the legislature with yearly reports on the status of aquaculture operations throughout the state, and the outlook for the future. To date, DLNR has been delinquent in providing that document.

State resources are insufficient to monitor and review environmental studies and broad impacts of open ocean aquaculture operations. The Department of Agriculture's Aquaculture Program has been cut by 75%, from eight staff positions to two. There appear to be serious communication gaps within offices and divisions of DLNR, specifically OCCL, DAR, and Land, with respect to aquaculture oversight.

Ambiguous Language in Bill

As written, this bill proposes to extend favorable lease terms of up to 65 years for, "existing operations that have a favorable track record of ten or more years." Who would determine what criteria constitute a favorable track record?

Likewise, “Aquaculture operations in good standing would have a first right of refusal and may seek to renew a lease....” Who determines good standing, and by what criteria?

The bill states, “Aquaculture operations, during the lease term, may engage in supportive activities that are related to aquaculture.” There is no definition of “supportive activities,” thus this is extremely vague, ambiguous, and could surely lead to arbitrary and capricious interpretations.

Right of First Refusal

In testimony on this bill date 2-18-10, DLNR Chair Laura Thielen wrote, “The inclusion of a right of first refusal to a lessee in good standing for lease renewals is especially objectionable because it would constitute a de facto extension of the lease for unspecified consecutive terms that could continue into perpetuity.”

This provision, as written, should not override discretionary authority of the DLNR Chair to issue leases, and should be removed or amended.

Specific Amendment to Exclude Open Ocean Aquaculture

The definition of “Aquaculture” (page 3, Line 15) should be amended to exclude open ocean aquaculture, for numerous reasons stated above. Draft language could state: **“Open water commercial mariculture finfish operations shall not be included.”**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to HB 2409, and in favor of a precautionary approach in protecting Hawaii’s environmental and cultural resources.

Sincerely,

Robert Parsons
Conservation Chair—Sierra Club Maui
600 Kaupakalua Road
Haiku, HI 96708
808-572-4120
robparsons@earthlink.net

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: penny levin [pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 11:38 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: HB2409 SD1_WAM_24March2010_Rm211 9:30AM

Aloha Honorable Committee members;

Regarding HB2409 SD1 Relating to Aquaculture, I support the intent of this bill with the following recommendations.

There are too many unresolved questions and problems regarding the impacts of aquaculture farms in Hawaii's waters to extend existing leases from 35 to 45 years, including the matter of proper handling of waste streams from such farms as with the Cynotech project on Kauai. The exception to this should be in the rehabilitation of the many traditional fishponds around the state. Such examples are already in place, are proven sustainable systems and take years of collaborative partnerships to revive.

I am in full support of that portion of the bill that will require DLNR and DOA review their land inventories for use in taro production. This is an important first step in bringing taro lands back into production; something that would create additional jobs, state revenues, community-based enterprises and increase family and community stability. Lease rent rates are also a significant stumbling block to putting taro farmers back on the land in a sustainable manner - they must be reasonable and affordable. Agriculture lands rental rates are sometimes as low as \$30/acre and as high as \$2-3,000/acre annually, particularly where rates are based on adjacent developed land values. Small family farms often pay the higher rents. I also note that the transfer of ag lands from DLNR to DOA has languished for more than five years and remains unfinished. This survey of state lands suitable for taro farming needs to be completed in a timely manner.

In order to make this review of lands implementable and effective, I recommend the following amendments and completion of the inventory within a timeframe of 2 years:

- (c) develop a consistent and affordable lease rent rate schedule specific to taro farmed lands by 2012;
- (d) set a cap on lease rents at no more than \$100 per acre, irregardless of adjacent land use values; and
- (e) review existing qualifying criteria for farm leases and develop a consistent, accessible criteria for taro farmers to qualify for taro land leases by 2012; and
- (f) develop a mechanism by which the taro lands list, opportunities for lease of these lands, qualifying criteria, and agency supports are

consistently, accurately and easily available to taro farmers
organizations and individual interested in growing taro by 2012.

The above amendments should also be done in consultation with the Taro Security and Purity Task Force to support a reasonable and effective outcome.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Penny Levin
Taro farmer
Taro Security and Purity Task Force member
Wailuku, Maui

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Senator Shan S. Tsutsui Vice-Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Wednesday March 24, 2010

TIME: 9:30 am

PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of HB2409 HD2 SD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Chair Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair Tsutsui, and Committee Members.

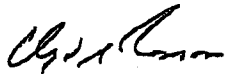
My name is Clyde Tamaru and I am an aquaculture specialist with the Department of Molecular Biosciences and Bioengineering, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Although a faculty member of the University of Hawaii I am providing testimony as a private citizen and am not representing the University of Hawaii. However, I am able to provide meaningful testimony on behalf of the aquaculture industry having been an aquaculture specialist within Hawaii for over 15 years.

I strongly support passage of HB 2409 HD2 SD1 as it provides the kinds of incentives necessary for farmers and investors to make the long-term investments needed for aquaculture enterprises to truly become a major player in Hawaii's diversified agricultural portfolio. The passage of HB2409 HD2 SD1 at minimum brings parity of aquaculture enterprises with those of traditional land based agriculture enterprises.

Passage of the bill will have a farther reaching impact as diversified agriculture and aquaculture have been recognized in Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan as being knowledge- and innovation-based industries that are also high tech and therefore requires the kind of support being expressed in this bill and a necessary step if it is to become the important components of building a sustainable economy.

Passage of the bill is a strategic action that clearly demonstrates the kind of legislative leadership that will be necessary for our State to meet our sustainability goals and for this reason I support passage of HB2409 HD2 SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity for hearing my testimony.



Aquaculture Specialist

From: Mapuana Peterson
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:30:00 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

These factory farms are costing Hawaii more than they are worth. Because of this I urge you to amend HB 2409 to exclude mariculture from the definition of aquaculture.

This bill would extend the leases of these operations up to 45 years, enabling them to receive more government funding. While sustainable, land-based recirculating systems should be eligible for funding - factory fish farms in our oceans should not.

Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Mapuana Peterson
175 Banyan Dr.
Hilo, HI 96720
808-756-1442

From: [Michele Nihipali](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:30:22 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Michele Nihipali
54-074 A Kam Hwy
Hauula, HI 96717

From: [tyrah Davis](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:30:28 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

tyrah Davis
2211 Ala Wai Blvd.
honolulu, HI 96815

From: Aliaska Brozen
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:30:53 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Aliaska Brozen
3100 A Mapu Pl.
Kihei, HI 96753-9451
808 891 9203

From: [f kinowilton](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:36:36 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

Not just the cost, but the product is bad. Parasites, crowding and other unnatural affects make food not worthy of the table.

These factory farms are costing Hawaii more than they are worth. Because of this I urge you to amend HB 2409 to exclude mariculture from the definition of aquaculture.

This bill would extend the leases of these operations up to 45 years, enabling them to receive more government funding. While sustainable, land-based recirculating systems should be eligible for funding - factory fish farms in our oceans should not.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

f kinowilton
1135 makawao
292
makawao, HI 96768

From: [Brent Schlea](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:39:46 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

These factory farms are costing Hawaii more than they are worth. Because of this I urge you to amend HB 2409 to exclude mariculture from the definition of aquaculture.

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Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Brent Schlea
190 Hui F. Rd
Lahaina, HI 96761
8083851996

From: [kathy Pearson](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:33:36 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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This bill would extend the leases of these operations up to 45 years, enabling them to receive more government funding. While sustainable, land-based recirculating systems should be eligible for funding - factory fish farms in our oceans should not.

Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

kathy Pearson
P.O. Box 2095
Kamuela, HI 96743

From: [Doug Phillips](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:40:05 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Doug Phillips
PO Box 44910
Kamuela, HI 96743
18088821692

From: [Haydn Huntley](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:46:21 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Haydn Huntley
P.O. Box 910
Haiku, HI 96708

From: [David Lewiston](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:42:15 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

David Lewiston
715 S Kihei
Kihei, HI 96753
8088790156

kim5 - Deborah

From: Mitchell Evans [me@dmesys.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:42 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Mitchell Evans
44-704 Hoouli Street
A
Honokaa, HI 96727
775 9512

From: [lee.durban](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:52:04 PM

You will allow private industries to annihilate the public resources again and again? This is not a preserve and protect action as our constitution would instruct.

KILL HB 2409
Mahalo,

lee.durban
1978 leleiona st
puhi, HI 96766

From: [Joan Levy](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:58:08 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Joan Levy
POB 160
Kapaa, HI 96746
8088225488

kim5 - Deborah

From: donald harp [dhpuukoa@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:05 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

donald harp
po box 384731
po box 384731
WAIKOLOA, HI 96738
8082183277

kim5 - Deborah

From: Alison Hartle [ahartle@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:03 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Alison Hartle
2646 Pamoia Rd
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808)295-3861

kim5 - Deborah

From: Karen Chun [Karen@redwoodgames.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:12 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Karen Chun
87 Lae St.
Paia, HI 96779

kim5 - Deborah

From: michael grammer [emohyaw@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:13 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

michael grammer
493 pio dr
wailuku, HI 96793

kim5 - Deborah

From: Joan Levy [joan@joanlevy.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:37 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Joan Levy
POB 160
Kapaa, HI 96746
8088225488

kim5 - Deborah

From: Brad Parsons [mauibrad@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:56 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Brad Parsons
P.O. Box 223374
Princeville, HI 96722

kim5 - Deborah

From: Regina Roy [radiance369@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:19 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

These factory farms are costing Hawaii more than they are worth. Because of this I urge you to amend HB 2409 to exclude mariculture from the definition of aquaculture.

This bill would extend the leases of these operations up to 45 years, enabling them to receive more government funding. While sustainable, land-based recirculating systems should be eligible for funding - factory fish farms in our oceans should not.

Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Regina Roy
140 Uwapo RD
#35-201
Kihei, HI 96753
808-891-1224

kim5 - Deborah

From: Fern Holland [fernnygirl@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:01 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Fern Holland
4664B Apopo Rd
Kapa'a, HI 96746
8088230619

kim5 - Deborah

From: Claudia Herfurt [claudia@kauaistyle.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:23 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Claudia Herfurt
P.O. Box 1261
Hanalei, HI 96714

kim5 - Deborah

From: Markus Broyles [markus.broyles@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:29 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Markus Broyles
48-5536 Waipio road
Kukuihaele, HI 96727

kim5 - Deborah

From: Gwen Ilaban [gfilaban@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:37 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Gwen Ilaban
76-6182 Alii Drive
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

kim5 - Deborah

From: Rafael Ramirez [rafarumba@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:34 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Rafael Ramirez
P.O.Box 1446
Kealakekua, HI 96750

kim5 - Deborah

From: Teresa Abay-Abay [tcabay@hawaiiintel.net]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:34 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Teresa Abay-Abay
PO BOX 12067
Lahaina, HI 96761
808--66-9-54 x88

kim5 - Deborah

From: Cori Bishop [animeluvr666@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 4:52 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Cori Bishop
2555 Dole Street
Room 219B
Honolulu, HI 96822
8089571438

kim5 - Deborah

From: Camila Chaudron [cchaudron08@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:57 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Camila Chaudron
2727 Manoa Road
Honolulu, HI 96822
8083581639

kim5 - Deborah

From: Liane Konn [konn1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:08 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Liane Konn
2474 Kapiolani Blvd
Apt 1703
Honolulu, HI 96826
808-949-3081

kim5 - Deborah

From: Randee Golden [rgdfly@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:20 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Randee Golden
POB 1450
Kapaau, HI 96755
808-889-0011

kim5 - Deborah

From: Victor Brandt [victor@brandts.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:23 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Victor Brandt
4211 Waialae Ave. Suite 8090
Honolulu
Honolulu, HI 96816
808-561-4700

kim5 - Deborah

From: MELODY HALLIGAN [cause4paws2@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:27 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

MELODY HALLIGAN
210 Provosty Drive
Slidell, HI 70461
985-726-0532

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: linda minamoto [seplin2003@netzero.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 7:27 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

linda minamoto
910 ahana st
802
honolulu, HI 96814

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Pamela Boyar [pamela@sfgohawaii.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 7:12 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Pamela Boyar
Box 1712
Kailua, HI 96734

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: daniel Azar [danielazar@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 7:30 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

daniel Azar
P.O Box 779
Honaunau, HI 96726
808-557-3026

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Randall McKinnon [bingoboy96817@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 6:50 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Randall McKinnon
1465 Aala Street
Honolulu, HI 96817
808-524-1570

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Robert Gibson [robjgibson@opendoor.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 7:38 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Robert Gibson
915A Kupulau Dr
Kihei, HI 96753

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Linda Fickes [drfickes@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 7:58 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Linda Fickes
824 Hahaione St.
Honolulu, HI 96825

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: lynn azar [lynn_m_azar@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 7:32 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

lynn azar
P.O Box 779
Honaunau, HI 96726
8083289802

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Yasuko Hacking [health@aloha.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 8:43 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Yasuko Hacking
69-1000 Kolea Kai Cir
Unit 9G
Waikoloa, HI 96738-6724
808-886-1031

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: eliel starbright [elielstarbright@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 8:48 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

eliel starbright
5306 kahala st
kapaa, HI 96746
808-651-9225

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Ronald Fujiyoshi [Ronsan2224@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 8:51 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Ronald Fujiyoshi
1196 W. Kowailani St.
Hilo, HI 96720
808-959-9775

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Anne Staggemeier [trianne@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 7:58 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

I am well aware of the economic hardships our state has felt over the last couple years. Our Hawai'ian ancestors understood the need to preserve the balance in nature. Be pono.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

These factory farms are costing Hawaii more than they are worth. Because of this I urge you to amend HB 2409 to exclude mariculture from the definition of aquaculture.

This bill would extend the leases of these operations up to 45 years, enabling them to receive more government funding. While sustainable, land-based recirculating systems should be eligible for funding - factory fish farms in our oceans should not.

Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Anne Staggemeier
91-1201 Keone'ula Blvd., #2C1
#2C1
Ewa Beach, HI 96706-6237

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Bonnie Winkler [lynna2828@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 8:43 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Bonnie Winkler
5112 Kapiolani Loop
P.O. Box 223300
princeville, HI 96722

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Bonnie Bonse [bcbonse@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 9:06 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Bonnie Bonse
182 S. makaleha Pl
Makawao, HI 96768
808-572-1865

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: christine carter [jungleofjoy@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 9:55 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

christine carter
po box 790038

paia, HI 96779

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Gavin Dillard [gavco@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 9:58 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases. We do not need to be loading the ocean up with any more crap than we already have done. I am very much against this! Ho'oponopono.

Mahalo,

Gavin Dillard
POB 1039
Haiku, HI 96708
808-573-1936

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Tetsuzan Benny Ron [tetsuzanbennyron@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 10:08 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Testimony In Support of HB2409 HD2 SDI- Relating to Aquaculture
Attachments: HB2409tetsimonyTBR_24mar10.pdf

THE SENATE

THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Senator Shan S. Tsutsui Vice-Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Wednesday March 24, 2010

TIME: 9:30 am

PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair Tsutsui, and Committee Members,

RE: Testimony In Support of HB2409 HD2 SDI- Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha,

Please accept my support to HB2409 HD2 SD1 as written for the following reasons:

1. This bill will encourage future investments and commitment by farmers who hold good record in food production by increasing the lease terms for aquaculture to 45 years.
2. This bill will encourage the following generation of a farmer with good record to continue with the family values and commitment to aquaculture and by that to help bring about future food security and food safety to the State of Hawai'i, which currently imports 90% of its seafood.

3. This bill will give the professional aquaculturists, who are lessees the right of first refusal to make sure that their hardship and many years of financial investment in the aquaculture avoid the auction block and lost to a higher bidder, regardless her/his experience in aquaculture.
4. This bill will help encourage professional farmer to invest in new areas of aquaculture and go with the latest technology for growing food for the community in Hawai'i and by that to bring future food security and food safety to the State of Hawai'i, which currently imports 90% of its seafood.

Mahalo,

Dr. Tetsuzan Benny Ron

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Sarah Reinhardt [saruna71@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 9:49 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Sarah Reinhardt
Hcr3 box 13011
keaaau, HI 96749

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Joshua Broberg [baliwo@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 9:50 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Joshua Broberg
hcr3 box 13011
keaaau, HI 96749

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Evelyn Brakopp [evelyn_brakopp@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:48 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Evelyn Brakopp
667 Ilikai Street
Kailua, HI 96734

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: tom oiye [toiye@guerrantir.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 5:58 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

tom oiye
59-562 ka'ala road
kamuela, HI 96743
808 8821417

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Tamar Hodel [Tamar@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 7:19 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Tamar Hodel
2024 Citron St. #401
Honolulu, HI 96826
808 942 2993

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: David Giantomasi [dgiant13@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 12:01 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

David Giantomasi
73-1304 Awakea St.
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Warren Blum [dive4mantas@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 4:48 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Warren Blum
1993 S. Kihei Rd. #21-283
Kihei, HI 96753

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Jeff Sacher [jsacher@kona.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 5:09 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Jeff Sacher
PO Box 44910
Kamuela, HI 96743
8089369983

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Hesh Goldstein [heshgoldstein@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 5:17 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Hesh Goldstein
P.O. Box 240783
Honolulu, HI 96824-0783
(808) 258-1177

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Cha Smith [conch@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 5:19 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: HB2409 MUST exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Cha Smith
4117 Black Point Road
Honolulu, HI 96816

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Jay Ogden [ojay25@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 6:09 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Jay Ogden
3015 Herman St.
Honolulu, HI 96816
(808)737-8633

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Emily Severson [emily_severson@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 6:49 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Emily Severson
43 Palena PL
Kula, HI 96790

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: kris kane [ahaaina@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 7:06 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

kris kane
88 mamao pl.
haiku, HI 96708

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Thomas Tizard [tizard8@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 10:58 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Thomas Tizard
591-A Keolu Drive
Kailua, HI 96734
808-261-6626

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Virginia Bennett [vbennett@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 11:21 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Virginia Bennett
1201 Wilder Ave
Honolulu, HI 96822
808 956 4165

23 March 2010

To: Committee on Agriculture

Re: HB 2409, HD 2, SD 1

Aloha Kakou,

My name is David Takaki and I am a resident of Hawaii. Although I am not presently engaged in mariculture or aquaculture operations, I have tracked and kept current with research and programs in Hawaii and elsewhere since the days of Tap Pryor. That is, since the late sixties - early seventies.

I have also been active with various environmental nongovernmental organizations over the decades.

My support of Hawaiian First Nation issues and rights also goes back to the late sixties. I do not see my support for this bill to be antithetical to the concerns and interests of "First Nation People" in our state. Some of you are more familiar with the moniker 'Native Hawaiian'. For this presentation I prefer the more direct, historically descriptive Canadian term.

I state this so that you understand the personal context within which I present today's testimony. Since I am not physically present to testify, I believe my personal bias and ethos is relevant and germane to committee members whom I trust will peruse this testimony.

I support the intent and passage of House Bill 2409 as amended and before the Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

It reflects an astute understanding of the limitations of HRS Section 171-59

In further support of House Bill 2409 I would like to address issues and concerns that may be benefited by this legislation.

The University of Hawai'i at Manoa is one of the original Sea Grant Colleges. In 1988 the University established the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology, commonly known as SOEST. Hawai'i is a world-class locus for ocean related research. Graduates and researchers from SOEST have fanned out across our planet and have had a strong influence on ocean sciences and technology. And therein lies the rub. Like graduates from other departments and colleges at Manoa, our investment in people leaves Hawai'i in the economic diaspora that has sent our best and brightest to benefit other states and countries.

I know of a young man, a Native Hawaiian from Moloka'i who has recently returned from Chile where he worked in mariculture because of no opportunity in

Hawai'i. I know of another Native Hawaiian from Keanae on Maui, a veteran who is now a doctoral candidate at Scripps in San Diego who would like nothing better than to return to Hawai'i to work and help build a world class mariculture industry with Native Hawaiian involvement. And then there is another Hawai'i native, this time Japanese American, who recently returned from South East Asia who is looking for opportunity in mariculture. Unfortunately this dearth of opportunity in the mariculture sector is what sent him away to begin with.

Shall I tell you about the young Native Hawaiian woman at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo who is studying microalgae culture. Will she too leave home to find opportunity?

Yes, the Hilo campus is also involved in Mariculture research and development, as is Hawai'i Pacific University.

Our state continues to do research that serves to benefit other states and countries. What's the sense in this if we don't support development in Hawai'i?

Currently, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is engaged in developing regulations for offshore mariculture in US waters 200 to 3 miles offshore. If Hawai'i remains in neutral, the industry might develop 3+ miles offshore with untethered technologies being developed in Hawai'i, Massachusetts, and Puerto Rico (ironically, with expatriate SOEST graduates' participation). If this occurs, expect commercial entities to obtain leases under the structure of a foreign C corporation, say from Nevada, where there is no corporate tax. Product would then transship thru Hawai'i, and aside from sales in our state, the only direct revenue benefit we will get will be taxing the profits of a transshipment subsidiary. We will again have shot ourselves in the foot.

There is more at stake in the passage of this bill than simply facilitating federal loan guarantees.

Mahalo nui loa.

Dave Takaki
dtakaki@hawaii.rr.com
1515 Alapa'i Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Pam palencia [kachina@mauigateway.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 7:50 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

These factory farms are costing Hawaii more than they are worth. Because of this I urge you to amend HB 2409 to exclude mariculture from the definition of aquaculture.

This bill would extend the leases of these operations up to 45 years, enabling them to receive more government funding. While sustainable, land-based recirculating systems should be eligible for funding - factory fish farms in our oceans should not.

Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Pam palencia
3318A Kaha Dr.
KIHEI, HI 96753

From: Lois Cain [loiskc@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 8:47 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: HB2409 HD2 SD1 WAM Testimony

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui Vice-Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Wednesday March 24, 2010

TIME: 9:30 am

PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

Testimony in Support of HB2409 HD2 SD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

This is a bill whose time has come! With increasing frequency and urgency there is a new TV program, documentary film, newspaper or magazine article warning us about the sustainability of the world food supply. Fish stocks are dwindling in our oceans, we're polluting our land, sea and air. In Hawaii there is concern for survival should our supply lines be interrupted due to either natural or manmade disaster.

We NEED to focus on these issues and this bill is a first step.

1. Aquaculture farmers who have invested years of blood, sweat, tears and cash need to have the longest leases possible leases. Frankly, I think 45 years is too short as families tend to carry on traditions through generations.
2. Aquaculture farmers need to know that they can't be arbitrarily kicked off their farms when a landlord decides to sell to a developer or anyone else. This provision at least somewhat mitigates my concern expressed above but with land prices continually climbing, even this might be very difficult since very few individual farmers of any kind get rich by farming in Hawaii. At least this is a start in the right direction.
3. Support for any food-producing ventures can't come soon enough. Aquaponics is rapidly growing on the Big Island and Oahu. It's efficient, produces little or no waste and higher yields of both fish and crops when done properly. It deserves all the help it can get.
4. Preserving land for food and promoting environmentally save methods of both aquatic and land farming should be a top priority of the legislature. Waiting until 2020 is foolish in my opinion, but it's better than nothing if that's the only way to pass this bill.

There are already too many people for the roadways to handle and we are dependent upon the rest of the world for everything. Yet developers are constantly trying to steal more land for development. Please save the land. Support the farmers and the sooner, the better!!

Please pass this bill in support of aquaculture. In time this industry with huge growth potential may not only feed the people of Hawaii but the sadly depleted state coffers as well.

Thank you,
Lois Cain

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Philip Thomas [pt@philipt.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 10:24 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

These factory farms are costing Hawaii more than they are worth. Because of this I urge you to amend HB 2409 to exclude mariculture from the definition of aquaculture.

This bill would extend the leases of these operations up to 45 years, enabling them to receive more government funding. While sustainable, land-based recirculating systems should be eligible for funding - factory fish farms in our oceans should not.

Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Philip Thomas
P.O. Box 1272
Puunene, HI 96784

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Star Mullins [starmullins@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 10:24 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Star Mullins
PO Box 651
Mountain View, HI 96771

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Marilyn Mick [marilynmick@pobox.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 9:58 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Marilyn Mick
PO Box 15158
HONOLULU, HI 96830
808 479-7764

kim5 - Deborah

From: Meredith Begin [mbegin@umich.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 11:44 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Meredith Begin
3350 18th St NW
Washington, DC 20010

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Alexander Lau [anderlau@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 10:59 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

I would like to express my voice as a citizen and exhort you to amend the bill HB 2409 to exclude mariculture from the definition of aquaculture. Private interests want it, but the people and environment don't need it.

Alexander Lau
2527 Tantalus Drive
Honolulu, HI 96813

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: tia pearson [tia.pearson@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 11:02 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

These factory farms are costing Hawaii more than they are worth. Because of this I urge you to amend HB 2409 to exclude mariculture from the definition of aquaculture.

This bill would extend the leases of these operations up to 45 years, enabling them to receive more government funding. While sustainable, land-based recirculating systems should be eligible for funding - factory fish farms in our oceans should not.

Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

tia pearson
po box 861697
wahiawa, HI 96786

TO: THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui Vice-Chair

DATE: Wednesday March 24, 2010
TIME: 9:30 am
PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

FROM: Bruce S. Anderson, Ph.D.

RE: Testimony Supporting HB2409 HD2 SD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Chair Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Committee Members,

This testimony is in **support** of HB2409 HD2 SD1 as it will help to stimulate and diversify our economy by encouraging increased investment in land-based, coastal, and ocean aquaculture ventures in Hawaii. More specifically, the bill would:

1. Increase lease terms for aquaculture to 45 years thereby encouraging increased investment in expensive aquaculture infrastructure and equipment requiring long-term financing, and encourage multi-generational commitment to aquaculture farming;
2. Provide lessees in good standing the right of first refusal such that their years of financial investment in the aquaculture farming operation are not put on the auction block and potentially lost to a higher bidder who may not have the commitment or experience of the lessee who has already demonstrated such commitment and experience; and
3. Allow additional supportive aquaculture activities, such as aquaponics, which would reuse aquaculture effluent water to grow additional plant products thereby improving the overall financial viability of the operation, or the generation of renewable energy, which could improve the long-term sustainability of the operation.

Aquaculture and aquaponics are relatively new and rapidly growing industries in Hawaii. They have the potential to meet a significant portion of the need for fresh food and produce while helping to stimulate and diversify our economy. Considerable investment and commitment is required to build the necessary facilities to support these operations. These measures are necessary to give farmers and investors the opportunity to recoup their investments and to take a long-term view in their development and operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

kim5 - Deborah

From: David Cohen [aquaticdave@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 12:42 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Testimony in support of HB2409 HD2 SD1 - Aquaculture, 3/23/2010
Attachments: Testomony for HB2409 HD2 SD1 03.24.2010.doc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

TO: THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui Vice-Chair

DATE: Wednesday March 24, 2010
TIME: 9:30 am
PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

FROM: David L. Cohen
RE: **Testimony Supporting HB2409 HD2 SD1- Relating to Aquaculture**

Aloha Chair Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Committee Members,
Please register my strong support of HB2409 HD2 SD1.

This Bill encourages increased investment in aquaculture and the economy by allowing for longer lease terms.

It provides strong investment incentive by providing lessees in good standing with the right of first refusal.

This Bill would help stimulate and diversify our economy by encouraging increased investment in land-based, coastal, and ocean aquaculture ventures in Hawaii.

Thank you for considering my testimony in strong support of this important bill.

Sincerely,

David L. Cohen, Owner
Aquatic Innovations

kim5 - Deborah

From: Lopaka York [Bigkahunacoffeeestate@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 11:53 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Additionally, it would be imprudent to allow the extension of leases for these operations when the Department of Land and Natural Resources has failed to report to the legislature on the status of the ocean factory fish farm industry as it is required by law to do.

Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Lopaka York
73-1311 Awakea st
Kailua kona, HI 96740

kim5 - Deborah

From: Joan Goulden [joancsj@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 12:17 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Joan Goulden
1735 Ala Aolani Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
808 836-8575

kim5 - Deborah

From: Cindy Lance [cindyLouwho@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 12:18 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Cindy Lance
2711 Anuenue St.
Honolulu, HI 96822-1604

From: [Gordon LaBedz](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 1:40:23 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Gordon LaBedz
PO Box 808
Waimea, HI 96796

From: [anita cook](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 2:25:07 PM

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

anita cook
box 543
koloa, HI 96756

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Nina Monasevitch [oceanmana@hawaiiintel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 2:58 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Nina Monasevitch
4457 Laukini Rd.
Lihue, HI 96766
808-246-4457

kim2 - Jo Ann

From: Margaret Sueoka [feathers03@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 2:47 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Amend HB2409 to exclude mariculture.

Factory fish farms have had a demonstrable negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and impeding cultural practices. In return, they have not increased our food independence or showed significant financial returns to the state. After all the grants and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Again, I urge you to amend HB2409 to exclude commercial mariculture from the definition of aquaculture operations eligible for extended leases.

Mahalo,

Margaret Sueoka
6295 Olohena Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746
808.652.5260