

West County Farm Bureau
94-403 Ukee Street
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

TESTIMONY

Committee on Finance
Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn Lee, Vice-Chair

LATE TESTIMONY

Thursday March 25, 2010
TIME: 3:30 pm
PLACE: Conference Room 309

RE: SB 2951, SD2, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture

Chair Oshiro, Vice-Chair Lee, and Committee Members,

West County Farm Bureau represents farmers, ranchers and aquaculture farmers from the Waianae Coast, Central Oahu and the North Shore of Oahu. We support the intent of SB 2951, SD2, HD1 to provide for fair compensation when leased public land for agricultural or pastoral uses is withdrawn, condemned, or taken for public purposes. We also support this bill which establishes the Agricultural Inspection and Certification Special Fund, to be used for inspection and certification of agricultural commodities by the Department of Agriculture.

We oppose the language in Section 2d page 3:

- (d) Subsections (a) and (b) shall only apply if the withdrawal or taking that causes any portion of the land to become unusable for the specific use or uses for which it was leased, occurs after at least half of the lease term has elapsed. We respectfully request that Subsection 2d be removed. Farmers and ranchers usually make improvements to the land during the first couple of years of the lease. A farming tenant with 15 -35 year lease would not receive fair compensation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Hawaiian Agriculture.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2010 2:35 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mnakahata@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2951 on 3/25/2010 3:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/25/2010 3:30:00 PM SB2951

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mae Nakahata
Organization: HFBF
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mnakahata@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/25/2010

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation(HFBF) supports the addition of Section 147 (c) (1) which is very important to our farmers in remote locations.

We also support fair compensation for an unanticipated taking involving significant investments by farmers and ranchers on State leased lands.