



Hawaii Farm Bureau
F E D E R A T I O N

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TESTIMONY

RE: HB 1230 RELATING TO BUILDING PERMITS

Chair Tsuji, Chair Chang and Members of the Committees:

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation on behalf of our commercial farm and ranch families and organizations strongly supports HB1230 reducing the permitting requirements for nonresidential structures on farms and ranches.

Buildings are needed for farms and ranches, whether for storage or greenhouses to grow plants. Many of our farmers and ranchers have faced difficulties obtaining building permits with cost prohibitive requirements. Residential standards are imposed. We expect the buildings to be safe. Electrical or plumbing standards should be complied ...but it should be based on use – not residential standards. We want to make sure our buildings are safe so our insurance rates will not increase. At the same time, the requirements should recognize the use.

This is a good example of a measure that will not cost the State nor the County money. It will require the will to make it work.

We respectfully request your assistance in passing this measure. If there are any questions, please contact Warren Watanabe at 2819718. Thank you.