



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

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LATE TESTIMONY

February 7, 2011

TESTIMONY

Re: HB 325 HD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chair Souki and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation on behalf of commercial farm and ranch families and organizations in the State provides the following comments on HB325 appropriating funds for a refrigerated food storage facility at Hilo International Airport.

Facilities to maintain the integrity of products at ports and harbors during transportation is important to the viability of our farmers and ranchers. At the same time, we recognized the importance of protecting ourselves from invasive species (including avoid delays in harbor/port improvement projects due to lack of ability to prevent Invasives). During the last few years, we have seen great uneasiness from the community when YB announced the possibility of discontinuing LCLs. All of this pointed to a need – a joint use facility used for inspections, consolidation, deconsolidation and short term storage for goods awaiting transport. HDOA with HFBB support has been working towards a Federal-State partnership to achieve this end with the support of all of the Counties.

We respectfully request discussion HDOA regarding their Joint Use Facility Plans as this measure moves forward.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter. If there are questions, please contact Warren Watanabe at 2819718. Thank you