



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

2343 Rose Street, Honolulu, HI 96819

Phone: (808) 848-2074; Neighbor Islands: 1-800-482-1272

Fax: (808) 848-1921; e-mail: [info@hfbf.org](mailto:info@hfbf.org)

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

January 28, 2011

11 am

Room 312

**TESTIMONY**

**HB 627 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Hashem, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, on behalf of our commercial farm and ranch families and organizations, supports the intent of HB 627 that would establish a tax credit for qualified agricultural processing facilities that process agricultural products grown within the agricultural district.

Currently, Hawaii's agriculture is overly dependent upon the marketing of fresh products. Increasing agricultural processing activities will diversify farmers' product lines and expand marketability, thereby helping to maintain overall agricultural viability in Hawaii.

However, over the years, the majority of agricultural areas in the State have been included within the Hawaii Enterprise Zone (EZ) Program. Many of the credits proposed in this measure already exist under the Enterprise Zone Program. To better address agriculture's needs, HFBF initiated, and the Legislature passed, measures to amend the qualifying requirements for the EZ program [Act 143 (SLH 2008) and Act 174 (SLH2009)]. In addition, other County benefits are available, such as a three-year exemption from any increase in property taxes resulting from new construction by EZ firms at their EZ sites on the Big Island.

HFBF respectfully proposes that the intent and provisions of this measure be compared with the benefits already provided by the State's Enterprise Zone program (HRS 209E).

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this measure.



P.O. Box 326, Kamuela, HI 96743  
Phone (808) 885-5941 Fax (808) 885-7851  
e-mail [waiiono@wws-ius.com](mailto:waiiono@wws-ius.com)

Testimony of Stephen P. Bowles

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen P. Bowles". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Stephen P. Bowles  
President

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Hearing of Friday January 28, 2011 @ 11:00 AM

HB 627 Pertaining to tax credit for qualified agricultural processing of agricultural land

I am in strong support of HB 627.

I am a consultant to the newly formed Hoe"na Agricultural Park in North Kohala, Hawaii  
We are planning for processing facilities within the agriculturally zoned land which  
maybe considered as Important Agricultural Land .

We deem these type of facilities as essential to agricultural sustainability

! copy sent via Fax

TESTIMONY OF DAVID TARNAS  
BEFORE THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2011  
11:00 AM IN CONFERENCE ROOM 312  
STATE CAPITOL

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF H.B.627, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha.

I am writing in support of HB 627: RELATING TO AGRICULTURE, which will provide agricultural processing facilities located anywhere in the state with the same tax benefits as provided to such facilities located in the State Enterprise Zones.

There are some productive agricultural areas in the State of Hawai'i, such as in Waimea in the South Kohala District of the Island of Hawai'i, which are not in a State Enterprise Zone, but which include large farms and numerous types of agricultural processing facilities. Agricultural industries located in areas such as South Kohala would benefit from this legislation in order to compete fairly with the agricultural processing facilities located in neighboring districts such as Hāmākua and North Kohala, which are designated as State Enterprise Zones.

The agricultural industry in Hawai'i needs support no matter where it is located in the State. Please support this legislation.

Mahalo.

David Tarnas  
65-1230 Mamalahoa Hwy., Suite A21  
Kamuela, HI 96743

---