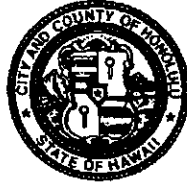


DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
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PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



DAVID K. TANOUE
DIRECTOR

JIRO A. SUMADA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 3, 2012

The Honorable Clift Tsuji, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Agriculture
The Honorable Angus L. K. McKelvey, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Economic
Revitalization & Business
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Tsuji and McKelvey, Committee Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 2151
Relating to Agricultural-Based Commercial Operations

The Department of Planning and Permitting **opposes** House Bill No. 2151, which would allow agricultural-based commercial operations within the State Agricultural District. The proposal is too broad and the requirement that vendors primarily use raw Hawaii agricultural materials is very difficult to monitor and thus, unenforceable. In addition, the proposal would open up lands that have the greatest crop production ratings for commercial operations that include the retailing of imported logo products and the sale and service of food products produced out-of-state. As there is no language to limit the amount of non-Hawaii based raw materials used or sold, the commercial operators could primarily market or use out-of-state materials. Moreover, the bill would allow commercial operators to establish operations on any farm lot thereby competing with farmers who supplement their income with onsite sales of products grown on the premises and could drive up the price of good quality farm land.

Existing provisions of Chapter 205, HRS, already allow agricultural-based commercial operations as accessory to a working farm, and thus, protects farm land primarily for food production.

Please file House Bill No. 2151. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David K. Tanoue", is written over a horizontal line.

David K. Tanoue, Director
Department of Planning and Permitting

DT:jmf
hb2151-AgBasedCommerOps-ry.doc



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

February 2, 2012

Testimony to the House Committee on Agriculture and the
House Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business

Hearing Date: Friday, February 3, 2012
8:00 a.m., Conference Room 312

To: Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair
Rep. Rep. Angus L. K. McKelvey, Chair
Members of the Committee on Agriculture and the
Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business

RE: Support of House Bill No. 2151 – Relating to Agricultural Based Commercial Operations

I am Kapu C. Smith, Senior Land Asset Manager for Kamehameha Schools' Kawaihoa Plantation in Waialua, Oahu. I am here to testify in support of HB 2151 because it will have an immediate impact on the farmers' ability to improve their economic feasibility and thus continue to farm. Under the current land use, agricultural based commercial operations are not described as one of the permissible uses. As a result, this has increased permitting, limited the farmers' economic opportunities and placed them at a disadvantage with neighboring landowners. This means that their products can be sold across the street by others but not by the farmer on their own farm lot.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2151.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 5:44 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: farmfreshhawaii@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2151 on 2/3/2012 8:00:00 AM

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Testimony for AGR/ERB 2/3/2012 8:00:00 AM HB2151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Juanita Kawamoto Brown
Organization: Individual
E-mail: farmfreshhawaii@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

The need to successfully support agribusiness is fulfilled for farmers with the introduction of this bill. The requirements and policies set forth allow proper use of agricultural lands and their purpose to serve our community.

Mahalo for your considerations for this bill and allowing me to testify.