

Testimony In SUPPORT of HB 2301

LATE TESTIMONY

We feel that this bill is a reasonable start for Hawaii to start to address the problem of not producing enough food to feed it's population.

It is expected that the Dept of Ag and that the Farm Bureau will see this bill only as a means to hurt large land owners.

This is not the case. The Dept of Ag has failed to stop the reduction of Ag production.

The Dept of Ag is on record as support the development of Ho'opili and the loss of Aloun Farms that represent about a third of the produce that is grown and eaten in Hawaii.

The Farm Bureau will not see this as a Pro AG Bill, but will see it as hindering the conversion of AG land to development.

This bill only serves as a wake up call that unless Dept of Ag can turn the tide on loss of Ag production and raise the level of production.....it will have to stop endorsing the conversion of AG land to other uses.

The Dept of AG has seven years before any penalty is triggered.

IF the Depart of Ag and the Farm Bureau Oppose this bill it will some that neither have any hope that they can turn around the decline of food production in Hawaii.

That should serve as a wake up call that Hawaii is in trouble.

Thank you,

Glenn Martinez
President Hawaii Farmers Union

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