

# LATE TESTIMONY

har2-Samantha

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 06, 2012 6:30 AM  
**To:** WLOtestimony  
**Cc:** darakawa@lurf.org  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2822 on 2/6/2012 10:20:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/6/2012 10:20:00 AM HB2822

Conference room: 325  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: David Arakawa  
Organization: L  
E-mail: [darakawa@lurf.org](mailto:darakawa@lurf.org)  
Submitted on: 2/6/2012

Comments:



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

2343 Rose Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Phone: (808) 848-2074 • Neighbor-Islands: (800) 482-1272  
Fax: (808) 848-1921 • Email: [info@hfbf.org](mailto:info@hfbf.org)  
[www.hfbf.org](http://www.hfbf.org)

FEBRUARY 6, 2012

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND OCEAN RESOURCES

TESTIMONY ON HB 2822  
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES

Room 325  
10:20 AM

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Chief Operating Officer and Government Affairs Liaison for the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

HFBF STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB 2822, providing funds to DLNR for staffing and operating expenses for the dam safety office.

As we implement Dam Safety requirements across the state, it is critical that premature decommissioning of dams and reservoirs due to excessive costs to landowners does not occur. The state is currently challenged with seeking funds for expanding sources of water so unneeded premature decommissioning of existing structures will not be in the States' interest.

HFBF agrees safety should be a priority concern. We are working with NRCS to work with the dam safety office that the modeling to determine risk classifications of the dams is based on good data. The dam safety office should be encouraged to carry out their tasks based on these new findings. Dams classified as high risk due to incomplete data, that are in reality low risks is not a good use of resources by the State or landowner.

We respectfully request your strong support of this measure. Thank you.