

nishihara1 - Dale

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 7:49 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: kanealii@il.hawaii.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 2/12/2011 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for AGL/WLH 2/12/2011 2:45:00 PM SB1511

LATE

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diane Kanealii
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kanealii@il.hawaii.net
Submitted on: 2/11/2011

Comments:

These fish farms have not been done successfully anywhere in the world without ecological damage. How can you consider giving these companies longer leases without looking at the LONG term effects on the tourist industry, damage to the ecosystem, violations of cultural rights and the fact that the local people do not want this in Hawaii's waters at all. The pristine water of HI is one of the best resources we have. It needs to be protected not exploited.

nishihara1 - Dale

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 9:55 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: aipohaku@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 2/12/2011 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for AGL/WLH 2/12/2011 2:45:00 PM SB1511

LATE

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Vince Kana`i Dodge
Organization: `Ai Pohaku
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: aipohaku@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/11/2011

Comments:
Aloha committee,
The kai belongs to everyone. 35 year leases are already too long.
mahalo,
vk



EAST OAHU COUNTY FARM BUREAU
45-260 WAIKALUA ROAD S 101 KANEHOHE, HI 96744

LATE

February 11, 2011

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture
State Capitol Building, 415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senators Dela Cruz and Nishihara and Members of the Committees:

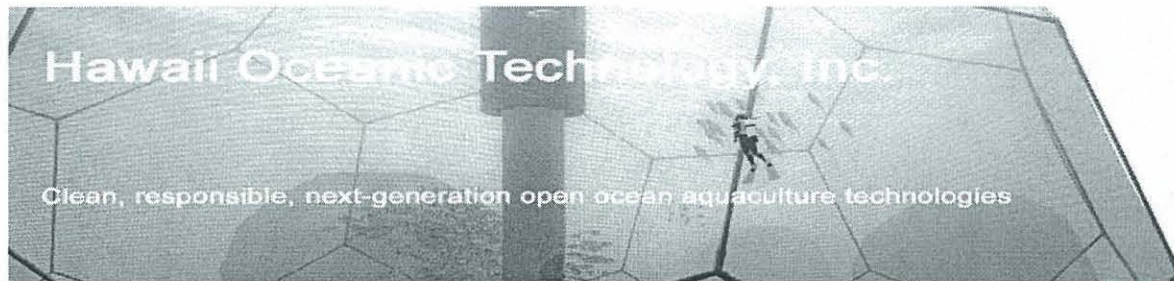
I am sending this testimony to express the **strong support** of the East Oahu County Farm Bureau for **SB 1511**, "Relating to Aquaculture." Aquaculture is one of the largest and fastest-growing sectors of Hawaii's diversified agriculture industry. Aquaculture and aquaponics farms tend to have substantial infrastructure requirements such as wells, tanks, raceways, pipes, and support structures which in turn require a substantial investment. In order to make this investment, aquafarmers need to have access to long-term loan capital, and need to know that they will be allowed to remain in place long enough to justify not only the financial investment, but the investment of personal time, labor, and ingenuity that is necessary to succeed in a challenging endeavor.

SB 1511 would increase the maximum lease terms for aquaculture and aquaponics farms, which would encourage investment in farm facilities and allow farmers greater access to Federal loan guarantees. It would allow established farms in good standing the right of first refusal, reducing the risk that farmers who have invested much of their lives in building successful businesses will see their life's labors taken away when their original leases expire. It also encourages more efficient use of resources by specifically permitting supportive activities such as the use of aquaculture effluents to produce secondary crops. We therefore support SB 1511, and encourage its passage.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Frederick M. Mencher
for Grant Hamachi, President



February 11, 2010

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair

Senator Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair

LATE

HEARING SADDATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011

TIME: 2:45pm

PLACE: Conference Room 225, State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of SB 1511 - Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Chairs Dela Cruz and Nishihara, Vice Chairs Solomon and Kahele, and Committee Members,

Hawaii Oceanic Technology, Inc. strongly supports SB 1511. The USDA Rural Development loan programs offer Federal loans up to 40 years for rural business development, but require a remaining lease term to be at least 50% longer than the loan term, i.e., at least 60 years remaining on a lease term for a 40 year loan. This change is noted and accommodated in SB1511 by increasing the direct aquaculture lease term to 65 years.

As the aquaculture industry evolves and as the global marketplace demands more seafood, the aquaculture industry needs the flexibility to maximize its potential. SB1511 allows aquaculture leases to permit such loans and receive project financing commensurate with other types of commercial activities.

Though DLNR has expressed concerns about the right of first refusal for tenants in good standing, we see this as absolutely critical for the long-term development of a viable aquaculture industry in Hawaii for our future sustainable seafood production. Aquaculture requires high up-front investment and long-term growth to be viable. Without the opportunity to be able to renew leases, as allowed for terrestrial agriculture, future aquaculture investment and industry expansion will be constrained. Currently DLNR can terminate problematic tenants or to even change the State's allowable purpose for a subject property, but does not currently afford DLNR the opportunity to retain tenants in good standing on their existing leased property beyond their initial lease term. The right of first refusal will provide this option such that Hawaii can keep and support its good aquaculture farmers encourage their continued contribution to the economy. SB1511 supports this important industry goal and helps support a more sustainable seafood future for Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Bill Spencer, President/CEO