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March 2, 2012

HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON SB 2207, SD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS

Room 211 9:30 AM

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, 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 <u>supports</u> SB 2207, SD1 that provides fair compensation when leased public land for agricultural or pastoral uses is withdrawn, condemned or taken for public purpose.

During the AFBF Convention held recently in Honolulu, the President of American Farm Bureau Federation told nearly 7,000 farmers and ranchers from across the country, we are the 1% providing for the 99%. This clearly articulates the reality of agriculture today. Highly productive farmers and ranchers are able to provide for many, providing opportunities for people to pursue career choices without having to worry where their food comes from. These farmers and ranchers also support not only their families but provide employment and support other businesses in the community.

Premature and unexpected loss of leases severely impact the viability of our farmers and ranchers. Investments in infrastructure, supplies and labor are lost. Continuation of farming or ranching will require further investments that may challenge a farmer or rancher carrying loans that were used for existing infrastructure and supplies.

We respectfully request your strong support of this measure in the name of increased sustainability and self sufficiency.

I can be reached at (808) 848-2074 if you have any questions. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

To: WAM Testimony

Cc: <u>glennmartinez@hawaii.rr.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for SB2207 on 3/2/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Thursday, March 01, 2012 9:24:01 PM

Testimony for WAM 3/2/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2207

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Glenn Martinez
Organization: Individual

E-mail: glennmartinez@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 3/1/2012

Comments:

Hawaii Ramres Union SUPPORTs and the testimony labeled SB2207 is t=for the current SB2207 SD1