

Honolulu, Hawaii
February 14, 2014

RE: H.B. No. 2466
H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2014
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture, to which was referred H.B. No. 2466 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish use and development standards for farm dwellings and employee housing units on agricultural land.

Specifically, the measure:

- (1) Limits the use of farm dwellings and employee housing units to farmers and their immediate family members;
- (2) Limits the use of employee housing units to employees and their immediate family members; and
- (3) Establishes standards relating to land area use, square footage, subdivisions, cluster development, and building of farm dwellings and employee housing units.

The Department of Agriculture, Office of Planning, Institute for Human Services, Sierra Club of Hawaii, and one individual submitted testimony in support of the measure. The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation and Hawaii Association of Realtors submitted testimony in opposition to the measure.



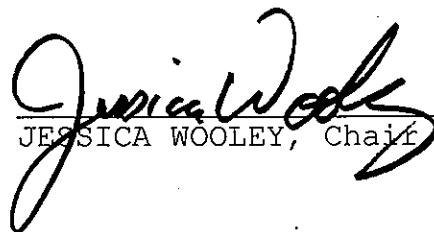
Your Committee finds that allowing higher-valued, nonagricultural uses on agricultural land contributes to the cycle of increasing land values and agricultural disinvestment, which ultimately makes land unaffordable for farming operations. Your Committee believes that, by ensuring that the people living in farm dwellings and employee housing units actively and currently work on agricultural land upon which the structures are situated, this measure will discourage the nonagricultural residential use of agricultural lands that increase the value of agricultural land.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the square footage limitation for farm dwellings and employing housing units to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2466, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2466, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Housing.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Agriculture,



JESSICA WOOLEY, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-seventh Legislature

HSCR 449-14

Record of Votes of the Committee on Agriculture

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2466	Committee Referral: AGR, HSG	Date: 2/6/2014		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
AGR Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. WOOLEY, Jessica (C)	/			
2. ONISHI, Richard H.K. (VC)	/			
3. AWANA, Karen		/		
4. BROWER, Tom	/			
5. CACHOLA, Romy M.		/		
6. CHOY, Isaac W.	/			
7. OHNO, Takashi	/			
8. TOKIOKA, James Kunane		/		
9. TSUJI, Clift		/		
10. MATSUMOTO, Lauren Kealohilani	/			
11. WARD, Gene	/			
TOTAL (11)	7	4		
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u></u>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				