

**nishihara1 - Amanda**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 26, 2014 2:12 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** willsilver@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB111 on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM\*

**SB111**

Submitted on: 2/26/2014

Testimony for AGL/CPN/WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William Navran	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 26, 2014 1:28 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB111 on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM\*

**SB111**

Submitted on: 2/26/2014

Testimony for AGL/CPN/WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 26, 2014 12:57 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** wao-hsl@WeAreOne.cc  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB111 on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM

**SB111**

Submitted on: 2/26/2014

Testimony for AGL/CPN/WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joseph Kohn MD	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: SD 2 would be an improvement on SD1

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 26, 2014 10:17 AM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** vaughnpaul108@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB111 on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM

**SB111**

Submitted on: 2/26/2014

Testimony for AGL/CPN/WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vaughn Paul Manley	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill.

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Dear Senate Committee Members:

I am a Hawaii farmer and I submit this testimony in strong opposition to SB111/SD2.

This bill was cobbled onto a "blank bill" at the last minute, it is ill-considered, and represents an abandonment of the Legislature's responsibility to make public policy decisions.

Currently Hawaii is the only region anywhere in the world that authorizes the use of the name of its specialty agricultural crops on packages containing only 10% genuine content. For example, the name "Kona" may be used on packages of 10% coffee blends without any express indication on the label that 90% of the contents is foreign-grown coffee and without any disclosure of the actual origin of that 90%. The Hawaii Legislature has recognized the damage caused this type of deceptive labeling when it made the following finding of fact: **"EXISTING LABELING REQUIREMENTS FOR KONA COFFEE CAUSES CONSUMER FRAUD AND CONFUSION AND DEGRADES THE 'KONA COFFEE' NAME."** (SCR102, 2007)

But rather than taking a clear step in the direction of reform of labeling for Hawaii agricultural products to conform to basic principles of truth-in-labeling and fair marketing, SB111/SD2 clearly risks a step in the wrong direction. The bill would essentially erase all labeling laws for agricultural products and give a totally free hand to an un-elected bureaucratic board (the Board of Agriculture) to re-write agricultural labeling requirements.

The bill contains no policy directives, no restrictions and no limitations from the Legislature as to what regulations this board may adopt. Nothing in the bill would prevent the board from bowing to pressure from powerful corporate marketers of agriculture products and proceeding to adopt regulations, for example, permitting "10% Hawaiian Chocolate Blends", or "5% Kona Coffee Blends", or "2% Hawaiian Taro" with no disclosure of the actual percentage of genuine contents or disclosure of the origin and percentage of the non-Hawaii-grown contents in the package.

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At the very minimum, SB111/SD2 should be amended to require that all packages of agricultural products which use the name "Hawaii", "Hawaiian" or any Hawaii place name on the label-- (1) contain a minimum of 51% genuine Hawaii-Grown content and --(2) prominent identification of the origin and % of non-Hawaii-grown contents on the label.

The Hawaii Legislature and your Committees need to stand up for Hawaii farmers. The Hawaii Legislature should provide the same types of label and marketing protection for Hawaii farmers as California has provided to its Napa Valley grape growers. Idaho has provided for Idaho potato farmers, Vermont has provided for Vermont maple sugar producers, and Georgia has provided to Vidalia onion farmers.

Please reject SB111/SD2.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Garriss

Aina Ku Hina

Holualoa, Hawai'i Island

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 26, 2014 7:37 AM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** pamelaboyar@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB111 on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM

**SB111**

Submitted on: 2/26/2014

Testimony for AGL/CPN/WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Boyar	Farm Lovers Farmers Markets	Oppose	No

Comments: There are too many holes in this bill on how it would work and how it would be implemented. This would be burdensome on the small farmer

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 10:30 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** peppisascho@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB111 on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM\*

**SB111**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for AGL/CPN/WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Georgie Fong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 11:31 AM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** nancyyamachi@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB111 on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM\*

**SB111**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for AGL/CPN/WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Yamachi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 12:26 PM  
**To:** AGL Testimony  
**Cc:** casedavids@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB111 on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM  
**Attachments:** LTR OPP SB111-SD2 AGL-CPN-WAM 2-25-2014.docx

**SB111**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for AGL/CPN/WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:50AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David S. Case	HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED	Oppose	No

Comments: THIS LETTER SUBSTITUTES AND CORRECTS THE TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR IN HFUU'S EARLIER TESTIMONY. THE TESTIMONY IS IN OPPOSITION TO "SD2" NOT "SD1" David S. Case, HFUU Secretary

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LAT



1768 Kalawi Place  
Wailuku (Maui), Hawaii 96793

February 3, 2014

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara  
Chair Senate Agriculture Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 204

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker  
Chair Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230

Vincent Mina  
President  
Maui

Simon Russell  
Vice-President  
Maui

The Honorable David Y. Ige  
Chair Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 208  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

David Case  
Secretary  
Kona

RE: OPPOSITION TO SB 111 SD2 – WITH COMMENTS  
FEBRUARY 26, 2014 HEARING AT 9:50AM, Conference Room 211

Aloha Chairs Nishihara, Baker and Ige:

Ray Maki  
Treasurer  
Kauai

I am writing on behalf of the Hawaii Farmers Union United (HFUU) in opposition to SB 111, SD2. This legislation arose during the middle of the legislative session apparently to try to move “Made in Hawaii” labeling standards out of the legislature into the Department of Agriculture as a part of the Department’s normal regulatory functions. HFUU appreciates the Bill’s intent to establish general policies for the regulation of labeling for “Made in Hawaii” agricultural products, but it tries to do too much too soon.

Pamela Boyer  
Member  
Oahu

The Bill establishes no standards to guide the Department’s rule making, and it is far from clear how it might affect existing legislative labeling standards. Unlike the process now in place to develop Good Agricultural Practices, this Bill does not provide for any participation or guidance from farmers and farming interests in determining the new standards. It also sets an unrealistic time schedule for the Department to implement the new law and provides no funding or staffing for it to do so. These are perhaps matters best addressed by the Department, but HFUU is concerned that if they are not considered now it will result in confusion, uncertainty and delay in the Department’s ability to implement the law.

David Fisher  
Member  
Maui

That said, HFUU agrees that there should be a well-thought out state legislative policy to protect and promote the vast array of Hawaii’s actual and potential “Origin” products. To that end HFUU initiated a proposal before the 2014 legislative session for an Hawaii Origin Products Act that would put in place a comprehensive regime to protect all of Hawaii’s vast potential for origin products, such a tea, cacao, taro, pineapple and coffee to name a few. We asked to have the proposal withdrawn before it was introduced this session, because we were advised it could not include coffee—Hawaii’s signature origin product. Between now and 2015 we urge your Committees to consider a more deliberate approach to this critical issue. Develop a robust statutory regime such as those already well-established in the states of California, Idaho and Georgia to promote and protect their signature state origin products ranging respectively from wine to potatoes to onions and the family farm economies that depend on them.

Mahalo nui loa,  
HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED

Vincent Mina  
Vincent Mina, President