

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
**S.B. 2274, RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE LIVING**

**Testimony of Gary Gill**  
**Deputy Director, Environmental Health Administration**

**February 26, 2014**  
**10:30 a.m.**

1 **Department's Position:** COMMENTS.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department has concerns that the short, 30-day time period allotted to it to  
3 submit comments and determine the environmental impact of any sustainable living research permit  
4 application would be cost-prohibitive because of the investment of staff time that would be required to  
5 analyze the application, especially given the variety of state and federal statutes and regulations that may  
6 be applicable.

7 **Purpose and Justification:** This bill sets forth requirements for establishing “sustainable living  
8 research sites” that would apply to sites located within Hawaii and Maui Counties. The Department  
9 appreciates the intent of this bill but has some serious concerns about the short amount of time given to  
10 the Department to assess sustainable living research permit applications, and notes the fairly complex  
11 federal and state environmental statutes and regulations that may be applicable to any sustainable living  
12 research site. **The Department also suggests** adding language to the definition of “sustainable living  
13 research site” on pages 5-6 of the measure to **make it clear that sites are “Subject to state laws and**  
14 **regulations” in addition to federal laws and regulations.**

1 The Department is particularly concerned about the discussion of waiver of its wastewater  
2 regulations on page 8 of the measure related to composting toilets, greywater systems, and individual  
3 wastewater systems on agricultural land, and the measure’s request for potential approval of “self  
4 designed, innovative, or otherwise not yet approved systems.” The language on page 7, line 9 that  
5 requires “copies of all required state permits” to accompany any sustainable living research permit is  
6 inconsistent with the language on page 8, line 5 that requires the Department to review the application to  
7 determine whether to grant a waiver of wastewater requirements. Wastewater systems are manufactured  
8 and tested with specific design standards to prevent system failure and to ensure proper wastewater  
9 treatment that will effectively and efficiently remove disease-causing bacteria. Hawaii Administrative  
10 Rules Chapter 11-62 requires that all wastewater systems be designed by a licensed engineer and  
11 installed by a licensed contractor, not an individual home or property owner. The Department is  
12 concerned about the potential construction of substandard wastewater systems that may inadequately  
13 treat sewage and pose a threat to drinking water, public health, and the environment.

14 In addition, there are a variety of other federal and state statutes and regulations with which a  
15 sustainable living research project may have to comply, since it would be “subject to federal laws and  
16 regulations” and would need to obtain “all required state permits.” It could be required to comply with  
17 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and Water Quality Certification  
18 regulations under the federal Clean Water Act, over which the Department has been delegated authority  
19 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. It could also have to comply with drinking water  
20 regulations governing “public water systems” if the system has at least fifteen service connections or  
21 regularly serves an average of at least twenty-five individuals daily at least sixty days out of the year,  
22 per Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapter 11-20, as well as any applicable provisions of the federal Safe  
23 Drinking Water Act and its associated regulations. The Department has concerns that a project may  
24 start out small, but grow into a regulated public water system (which can include both a privately- or

1 publicly-owned or operated system) after having skipped start-up approvals related to new source, new  
2 system, operator certification, and capacity. Without additional resources and funding, the Department's  
3 Safe Drinking Water Branch will not be able to make a determination as to the proposed drinking water  
4 system's impact on human health if the system falls below the the threshold for a public water system  
5 stated above. Regarding air pollution regulations, the burning of any renewable fuels for electricity or  
6 heating would also be subject to the Department's air permitting requirements.

7 The Department has questions about whether "sustainable living research" will involve the  
8 recycling of building materials, referenced on page 2, line 14, or simply "the reuse of materials  
9 discarded by modern society" mentioned on page 5, line 3. A solid waste facility permit from the  
10 Department's Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch could be triggered depending on whether the research  
11 site intends to accept or process solid waste. In addition, the Department would benefit from  
12 clarification of the term "detrimental environmental impact" because the extent of the impact required  
13 before it would be considered "detrimental" is difficult to determine based on current language. The  
14 Department's assessment of any detrimental impact would likely be based on a variety of factors,  
15 including location, surrounding impacts and land uses, and whether the proper environmental permits  
16 have been issued under its programs.

17 The Department defers to the Department of Agriculture and Office of Planning regarding  
18 determinations of allowable land uses in the State's agricultural and rural districts.

19 Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on this measure.



State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2014  
10:30 A.M.  
Room 211  
SENATE BILL NO. 2274  
RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE LIVING**

Chairperson Ige and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2274. This measure requires the counties of Maui and the Big Island to establish permits for sustainable living research sites on areas less than 15 acres. The Department of Agriculture has concerns.

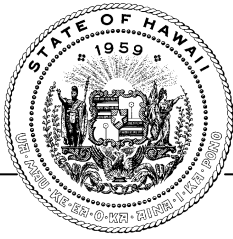
This bill seeks to create a new permit at the county level to establish what appears to be permanent “sustainable living research sites” that promote a live-in environment that emphasizes conservation, waste re-use, organic foods, renewable energy, and shared living. These sites are not to be subject to all county codes, ordinances, rules, or permits. These sites are to be permitted uses within the Agricultural District.

The Department of Agriculture supports efforts to increase food production and promote agricultural education. However, we are uncertain as to the role and magnitude that agricultural activities and uses will have in these “sustainable living research sites”. We are very concerned that these sites may evolve into urban-like areas over time. We recommend the counties, as they develop their ordinances and



rules for sustainable living research site permits, carefully scrutinize land uses and activities proposed in this measure that are not specifically related to agricultural production and activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our testimony.



# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

JESSE K. SOUKI  
DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PLANNING

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Statement of  
**JESSE K. SOUKI**  
Director, Office of Planning  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

Wednesday, February 26, 2014  
10:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of  
**SB 2274**  
**RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE LIVING.**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

SB 2274 adds a chapter to the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) entitled, *Sustainable Living Research Act*, which authorizes counties to issue a permit that designates an area as a sustainable living research site. HRS §§ 205-2 and 205-4.5 are also amended to add sustainable living research sites as permissible uses in the rural and agricultural districts.

We provide the following comments for your consideration:

- There are existing and well-used processes in place to permit uses such as sustainable living research sites in appropriate areas in the rural and agricultural districts such that the bill is not necessary. In particular, the Special Permit process in HRS § 205-6 authorizes county planning commissions to “permit certain unusual and reasonable uses within the agricultural and rural districts other than those for which the district is classified” in

accordance with county special use permit rules and the guidelines set forth in Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) § 15-15-95.

- The counties and the State have not completed the process of identifying important agricultural lands (IAL) to the State of Hawaii. The intent of the IAL law is to “conser[ve] the State's agricultural land resource base and assur[e] the long-term availability of agricultural lands for agricultural use[.]”<sup>1</sup> The IAL law, passed in 2005, implements Article XI, Section 3, of the Hawaii State Constitution, which directs the State to “conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands.”
- Allowing non-agricultural uses in the State Agricultural District may contribute to the impermanence syndrome, whereby agricultural use declines due to farmers’ disinvestment in their farm operations in anticipation of development. This has been observed to occur where competing uses are allowed in areas designed for agricultural uses.<sup>2</sup>

Accordingly, we believe the current county regulatory processes and the provisions of HRS Chapter 205 and HAR Chapter 15-15 adequately address the intent of the proposed bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

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<sup>1</sup> HRS § 205-41.

<sup>2</sup> *Impermanence Syndrome – Have you got it?*, Rutgers, at <http://njsustainingfarms.rutgers.edu/farmlandissues.html> (last visited, Feb. 3, 2014).

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2274 on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 7:16:25 AM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeffrey Bronfman	Haiku Aina Permaculture Initiative	Support	No

Comments: Respected and Esteemed Senators; I am The President of The Aurora Foundation, a private charitable organization committed to catalyzing initiatives designed to bring greater health to the environment and serve local communities (particularly native/indigenous cultures). The Foundation I represent has substantially invested in a series of projects in Hawaii designed to restore the soils, and the original forests on the island of Maui at the same time as they energize initiatives in the area of organic farming; The goal being a sustainable, viable, healthy future for our island communities. I have been an ardent supporter of the sustainable living initiatives being proposed that would allow creative, small scale, farming and land use initiatives to develop in ways that would GREATLY enhance the contributions we can make to improving the quality of life for many, many people, at no cost to the state. As I see it SB2274 would be a way of supporting initiatives (like the one's The Foundation I represent has invested in) that will be bring GREAT GOOD in sectors of the economy and island life of ESSENTIAL IMPORTANCE to Hawaii's future. PLEASE strongly support the passage of this law.

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February 24, 2014

Senate Ways and Means Committee

Meeting: February 26, 2014 10:30 am

RE: SB 2274

Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing today in support of SB2274, "Sustainable Living Research Bill."

As a board officer of the Hawaii Sustainable Community Alliance, I support this bill, as it will

- Promote community development through innovative sustainable research and implementation
- Update zoning and land use codes to reflect community, corporate, and government sustainable living goals and initiatives
- Meet seven out of the nine priority action steps for the year 2020 as defined by the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force

As a resident of Bellyacres Ecovillage and parent volunteer at the adjoining Seaview Performing Arts Center for Education (SPACE), which houses a Saturday farmers' market, charter school satellites for both the Hawaii Academy of Arts and Sciences (HAAS) and Kua O Ka La, and the home of the renowned HICCUP Circus, I support this bill, as it addresses the need to

- Create accessibility to affordable "green" housing
- Increase employment for small businesses and cottage industries that promote sustainability
- Promote employment and self-sufficiency to a new generation of young farmers
- Create innovative waste management solutions through reducing, repairing, reusing, and recycling
- Provide additional water conservation, alternative energy use, and sustainable living options for home owners and ecovillages

And finally, as a mother of six children ranging in age from 21 down to four-year-old twins, I have a great concern about the future quality of life for children in Hawaii. I strongly support SB2274, as I believe it will

- Improve our state disaster preparedness by researching and developing practices to alleviate impacts due to a state of emergency
- Provide additional protection for consumers from the disruptions in transport of supplies to Hawaii islands
- Reduce dependence on imports of food and energy by promoting locally sustainable alternatives

I also fully support amending this bill to include all lots greater than one acre.

Mahalo nui loa for supporting SB2274!

Dena Smith

Secretary, Hawaii Sustainable Community Alliance

HSCA ♦ RR2 Box 4524 Pahoa HI 96778 ♦ 808.965.6595 ♦ [www.hawaiisustainablecommunity.org](http://www.hawaiisustainablecommunity.org)

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**Date:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 6:34:56 AM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Diane Searles	Polestar Gardens	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill

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Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 8:08:31 AM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Sheehan	Haiku Aina permaculture Initiative	Comments Only	No

Comments: Respected and Esteemed Senators; I am The President of The Haiku Aina Permaculture Initiative, a private non-profit organization committed to catalyzing initiatives designed to bring greater health to the environment and serve local communities (particularly native/indigenous cultures). The Foundation I represent has substantially invested in a series of projects in Hawaii designed to restore the soils, and the original forests on the island of Maui at the same time as they energize initiatives in the area of organic farming; The goal being a sustainable, viable, healthy future for our island communities. I have been an ardent supporter of the sustainable living initiatives being proposed that would allow creative, small scale, farming and land use initiatives to develop in ways that would GREATLY enhance the contributions we can make to improving the quality of life for many, many people, at no cost to the state. As I see it SB2274 would be a way of supporting initiatives (like the one's The Foundation I represent has invested in) that will be bring GREAT GOOD in sectors of the economy and island life of ESSENTIAL IMPORTANCE to Hawaii's future. PLEASE strongly support the passage of this law. Sustainable living research will: Increase employment in small sustainable business enterprises Promote the growth of small locally-owned farms that educate and employ a new breed of young farmers Increase real 'affordable' and sustainable green housing achieve multiple community goals through economic activity. implement programs in sustainable development to resolve problems of public transportation, recycling, energy conservation, natural hazard mitigation, and other social issues. Reduce dependence on imports of food and energy by promoting locally sustainable alternatives Alleviate landfill problems by increasing ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle Promote the development of think tanks focusing on sustainable research and development Improve our state disaster preparedness by researching and developing practices to alleviate impacts due to a state of emergency Bring current zoning and land use codes into compliance with local community values

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**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 7:39:08 PM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Conner	Botanical Dimensions	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee, I support SB 2274 for these reasons: there is no logical reason not to pass this. hawaii has homeless people. until there are no homeless people, all bills that support creating homesteads should be supported. I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre. Mahalo for your support of this important bill, Mary Elizabeth Conner

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2274 on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM  
**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 4:15:09 PM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mojo Mustapha	Hedonisia Hawaii Sustainable Community	Support	No

Comments: By allowing both communities and landowners to live more sustainably this bill will encourage new forms of eco-friendly businesses such as our eco-tourist community. Our sustainable community is currently illegal under current law despite the fact that we are a proud tax-paying ecotourist business that gives an affordable option for those who wish to enjoy a more 'back to nature' community experience than the anonymous sterility of a traditional (and highly resource intensive), hotel. The land we live in was once a polluted junkyard for vehicles. Because of our Fair-Trade 'Volun-tourist' program we can give visitors the opportunity to 'work the land' as part of their vacation. EcoTourists from around the world contribute to our tree planting and landscaping work that we are doing on our 4 acres of paradise which has restored this land to natural beauty and now brings a positive tax contribution to the State of Hawaii. By reducing, reusing and recycling building materials for our Eco-Huts we have reduced our need for expensive imports whilst bringing in a new form of tourist . . . the eco-tourist! Please vote in support of this Bill so that we can continue to be a tax-paying environmentally friendly community in Hawaii. Mahalo

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2274 on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM  
**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 2:44:20 PM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ano Hanamana	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The current building code is antithetical to sustainable living, community living, and the island way of life. We need an honorable option for those who have intentionally made a different choice with their life than following the status quo over the cliff. Support this bill and make it legal to live sustainably and in community

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Senate Ways and Means Committee

Meeting: February 26th 10.30am

RE: SB 2274

Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee,

I support SB 2274 for these reasons:

1. I believe this bill will encourage young farmers to grow the food we need to survive, the average age of farmers now is 58 years old.
2. There is a growing interest in growing our own food on the islands.

I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre.

Mahalo for your support of this important bill,

Antoinette Lang



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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
bernadette sabth	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I live in a community where we are growing our own food and living as simply as possible. We try and pass on these new ways of living to those who are interested. We help reduce the need for imported goods and teach others to grow their own food as well. I feel it is important to bring current zoning and land use codes into compliance with local community values. CAN YOU HELP PLEASE. PASS THIS BILL. thank you bernadette sabath puna district

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2274 on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM  
**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 7:22:12 PM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Tucker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB2274! Small-scale sustainable farming needs our support, as it's known and accepted for reasons well stated in the bill's text. This bill will help support their needs to thrive and be a model for the world! Mahalo for your support!

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2274 on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 10:53:47 AM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dana G. Moss	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha All W & M comity members, This legislation is key in expanding our ability to be self sustaining. We are remotely located almost fully dependent on imported goods by ships and air. Please fully support this so we all can learn and practice how to be self efficient and rely on each other. Rather than the outside world for food. This has the ability to create more jobs with in our community's right where we live. Compared to traveling long distances ( 3 hrs Hilo To Kona ) for work, as many people do now. Dana G. Moss Kapaau HI 96755

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2274 on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM  
**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 9:41:51 PM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Deborah Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2274 on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 9:10:31 AM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Erin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 2274 for these reasons: Sustainable communities enrich and support a life of independence and are a positive way of fulfilling and creating a better future and life for all generations. I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre. Mahalo for your support of this important bill, Erin Johnson THANKS

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February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Attn: Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Re: SB2274 (strong support thereof)

Dear Members of the Committee:

For something to be truly sustainable – be it a city, state or home – it must be affordable. In jurisdictions around the world, including Hawaii, governments and taxpayers suffer an enormous and unnecessary expense: the transport and disposal of sewage.

The history of mixing human waste with water is an interesting one, but I won't bore you with details. Suffice it to say that it has led to (1) some of the most horrible disease outbreaks the world has known, and (2) an energy- and money-intensive support infrastructure that includes sewer pipes, treatment plants and all the labor necessary to maintain them.

Through alternative practices like composting and greywater re-use, a paradigm could be established in which sewer and septic systems are totally unnecessary. With a little education and effort, I believe this could even be accomplished in urban areas, saving untold sums of money while reducing the risk of waterborne illness. This cannot, however, be accomplished under current codes. Current codes require owner-builders to establish the infrastructure for wastewater (such as a septic tank or sewer connection) regardless of whether they intend to generate any, thereby destroying the financial incentive to build a more eco-friendly home. The owner then has the incentive to use that infrastructure, thereby adding volume to the sewage system that would otherwise have been avoided.

SB 2274 doesn't even ask to change these codes. All it asks is that people be given a chance to ask for an exemption from them. As energy costs continue to rise, there may come a time when the expense of digging up and replacing miles of decaying sewer infrastructure is too great for a city or county to bear. If that time comes, it would benefit everyone to have locals who can advise on alternative, more efficient means of waste disposal. This can be expected only if a measure like SB 2274 decriminalizes such people.

In addition to supporting SB 2274, I support amending it to include all lots greater than one acre, since the alternatives I mentioned can easily be practiced on even tiny urban lots.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Francis Howell  
Landowner, Hawaii County

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**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 7:58:09 PM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Harriet Burkholder	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for continuing the support of SB2274. We like to talk about sustainable living in Hawaii and this Bill will support looking at and learning from those experts in our communities. We all can benefit: communities will reflect the values of the people, and there will be less dependence on importing food and energy.

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Testimony of John Davis

Senate Ways and Means Committee

Meeting: February 26<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am

RE: SB 2274

Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee,

I support SB 2274 for these reasons:

1. Promote the growth of more locally-owned farms that educate and employ a new breed of young farmers.
2. Reduce landfill costs by increasing ways to reduce, reuse, recycle commercial waste that comprises the majority of the landfill.
3. Improve our state disaster preparedness by researching and developing practices to alleviate impacts following a state of emergency.

I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre.

Mahalo for your support of this important bill,

John Davis



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**Cc:** [kaitlin.backlund@gmail.com](mailto:kaitlin.backlund@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2274 on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM  
**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 7:25:31 PM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaitlin Backlund	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Senate Ways and Means Committee Meeting: February 26th 10.30am  
RE: SB 2274 Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee, I am writing to urge your support for SB 2274, a bill that will add Sustainable Living Research sites as a permitted use on agricultural and rural land in Maui and Hawaii Counties. Sustainable Living Research may include looking at new ways to build affordably, provide alternative energy, conserve and harvest fresh water, conserve and improve topsoil, increase local food production and provide onsite waste treatment and recycling. All of which could further emergency preparedness development. This bill is a step forward in implementing the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and I urge your support. Mahalo, Kaitlin Backlund

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**Date:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 8:30:10 AM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Katarina Culina	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members, Please support SB2274 and amend it to include lots larger than one acre. Mahalo! Katarina Culina P.O. BOX 2142 Pahoa, HI 96778

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
kiani boutin	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: village green society

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
kim pinkerton	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Senate Ways and Means Committee Meeting: February 26th 10.30am  
RE: SB 2274 Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee, I support SB 2274 for these reasons: I am a farmer and the present codes are for residential and designed for a different purpose that farm and rural lifestyle. 2. The codes that are set forth are primarily for something other than efficiency. 3. The present codes are designed to be used for control of people that are professional builders. This is not useful, or helpful, for people living in farm settings. In fact these rules are wasteful and create unnecessary hardship for the average person or for people that build there own homes. I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre. Mahalo for your support of this important bill, Kim Pinkerton

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
LJ Bates III	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in full support of this bill and urge this committee to support as well. This is a crucial step in our ability to create sustainable community structures and systems that are efficient, effective and essential to our future. I strongly urge the passage of this bill.

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lorn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Time has come for this progressive initiative to pass the Senate and move forward into law. A similar bill passed the House last session and I implore you to support this vital bill for our state. Mahalo for your consideration! Lorn DOuglas

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lyn Howe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I support this bill for many reasons and importantly because it will promote the growth of small locally-owned farms that educate and employ a new breed of young farmers and increase real 'affordable' and sustainable green housing. Hawaii is a unique place and we need to support a unique way of approaching the conservation and recycling waste, water and materials. Thank you

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Testimony of Megan Blazak

Senate Ways and Means Committee

Meeting: February 26<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am

RE: SB 2274

Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee,

I support SB 2274 for these reasons:

1. Promote the growth of more locally-owned farms that educate and employ a new breed of young farmers.
2. Research locally sustainable food and energy alternatives to reduce Hawaii's trade imbalance of food and energy.
3. Improve our state disaster preparedness by researching and developing practices to alleviate impacts following a state of emergency.

I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre.

Mahalo for your support of this important bill,

Megan Blazak



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**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 5:20:19 PM

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pulelehua Kimball	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Senate Ways and Means Committee Meeting: February 26th 10.30am  
RE: SB 2274 Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee, I support SB 2274 because it will: -Promote the growth of small locally-owned farms that educate and employ a new breed of young farmers -implement programs in sustainable development to resolve problems of public transportation, recycling, energy conservation, natural hazard mitigation, and other social issues. -Reduce dependence on imports of food and energy by promoting locally sustainable alternatives I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre. Mahalo for your support of this important bill, - Pulelehua Kimball

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Petricci	Individual	Support	No

Comments: WAM Feb. 26th at 10:30 am. rm 211 RE: SB 2274- Relating to Sustainable Living Robert Petricci RE SB2274 Position strong support. Aloha Chair Senator David Ige , Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani and members of the committee, Please “pass a bill permitting SUSTAINABLE LIVING RESEARCH SITES”. Sustainable living research sites could help with the homeless problem generally while increasing employment in small and large agricultural enterprises. By expanding the 'affordable' and sustainable green housing industry, and providing income to many who may not have better options we can begin to address the increasing problem of our residents being priced out of their homes. Researching locally sustainable food and energy alternatives for ways to reduce Hawaii’s trade imbalance of food and energy is in line with the states goal of increased food and energy security. Implementing research programs in sustainable development to help resolve problems of public transportation, recycling, energy conservation, natural hazard mitigation, and other social issues is an idea whose time has come. Please support the establishment of professional “think tanks” focusing on sustainable research and development HB2274 would help bring current zoning and land use codes into balance with local community economic realities and restrictions Thank you for this opportunity to testify. Please support this bill. Robert Petricci

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Soul Dancer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Senate Ways and Means Committee Meeting: February 26th 10.30am  
RE: SB 2274 Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee, I support SB 2274 for these reasons: 1. Saves money. 2. Saves time. 3. Saves resources. I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre. Mahalo for your support of this important bill, Aloha! Soul

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**SB2274**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Timothy Furst	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Senate Ways and Means Committee Meeting: February 26th 10.30am  
RE: SB 2274 Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee, I support SB 2274 because it will promote the development of think tanks focusing on sustainable research and development, increase affordable and sustainable green housing, and bring current zoning and land use codes into compliance with local community values I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre. Thank you for your support of this important bill, Timothy Furst Hawaii County

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**Testimony of Tobi Sznajderman,**

**To: Senate Ways and Means Committee      Feb. 26th at 10:30 am.**

**RE: SB 2274- Relating to Sustainable Living**

**To Chair Senator David Ige , Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani and members of the committee,**

**I strongly urge you to support this bill.**

Sustainable living research sites are an important step in a direction that is not only logical, but also crucial for improving our environment, our health

Sustainability is beneficial in that it helps us to:

- Reduce our dependence on non-renewable energy resources while helping reduce green house gasses.
- Reduce our waste to landfills
- Encourage farming and thereby increase employment opportunities
- Reduce our dependence on automobiles
- Increase our chance to receive federal grants
- Encourage healthy lifestyles

This is just a partial list, but I hope that you can see the benefits of supporting this bill now, not later.

Thank you so much for your consideration,  
Tobi Sznajderman  
Part-time resident of the Island of Hawaii

Senate Ways and Means Committee Meeting:  
February 26th 10.30am  
RE: SB 2274

Aloha Chair Senator David Ige, Vice Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee,

I support SB 2274 for these reasons:

1. By promoting locally sustainable methods of agriculture and energy, we reduce dependence on imports.
2. By promoting ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle, we alleviate landfill problems.
3. Passage of SB 2274 bring current zoning and land use codes into compliance with local community values.

Ecological and sustainable lifestyles are vital to Big Island's future. Much gratitude to the visionaries, pioneers and innovators who realize the need and value of a sustainable lifestyle, by choosing alternative energy, conserving and harvesting fresh water, and conserving and improving topsoil.

I also fully support amending this Bill to include all lots greater than one acre.

Mahalo for your support of this important bill,

Woody Keppel  
Seaview Estates