

SCR137/SR73

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO DEFINE "BEST USE" OF LANDS UNDER LEASES FOR AGRICULTURE, BASE AGRICULTURAL LEASE RENTS ON THE VALUE OF THE LAND FOR THE INTENDED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ACTIVITY, GRANT RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL TO RENEW OR EXTEND AN AGRICULTURAL LEASE OF TWENTY YEARS OR MORE TO THE LESSEE PRIOR TO THE DISPOSITION OF THE LEASE AT PUBLIC AUCTION, AND TRANSFER EXPEDITIOUSLY ALL OF ITS MANAGED LANDS LEASED OR UNDER REVOCABLE PERMIT FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Friday March 21, 2014 1:00 p.m. Room 225

SCR 137/ SR 73

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO DEFINE "BEST USE" OF LANDS UNDER LEASES FOR AGRICULTURE, BASE AGRICULTURAL LEASE RENTS ON THE VALUE OF THE LAND FOR THE INTENDED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ACTIVITY, GRANT RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL TO RENEW OR EXTEND AN AGRICULTURAL LEASE OF TWENTY YEARS OR MORE TO THE LESSEE PRIOR TO THE DISPOSITION OF THE LEASE AT PUBLIC AUCTION, AND TRANSFER EXPEDITIOUSLY ALL OF ITS MANAGED LANDS LEASED OR UNDER REVOCABLE PERMIT FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Chair Solomon, Nishihara, Vice Chairs and Members of the Committees:

My name is Jason Moniz and I am president of the Hamakua County Farm Bureau. The district of Hamakua contains some of the deepest soils and best agriculture lands in the State. The district is serviced by the Lower Hamakua Ditch, an irrigation system capable of irrigating the largest amount of farm and pastoral land in the State. Hamakua is home to the State's largest dairy. More beef cattle are sold in Hamakua than any other district in the State and the largest beef harvest and processing plant is located in Hamakua. Hamakua is also home of the historically important Waipio Valley and its unique and productive kalo farms.

The Hamakua County Farm Bureau strongly supports SCR 137/SR 73.

Hamakua County Farm Bureau appreciates the Senate's support for long term affordable leases for our farmers and ranchers. With this type of support our farmers and ranchers can participate in the production of local food necessary to achieve Hawaii's long term food security.

By providing for a right of first refusal to renew or extend agricultural leases this resolution will be providing incentive for farmers and ranchers to continue investing and making improvements throughout the life of a lease. As it currently stands farmers and ranchers have no incentive to invest in improvements towards the end of leases only to have to bid on their improvements and basically pay for them a second time in order to successfully renew or extend a lease. This action will insure State lands and resources are well taken care of throughout the life of a lease.

Hamakua County Farm Bureau also agrees that in order to promote the long term stability of agriculture and to insure long term food security that those State leases and RPs currently zoned for agriculture and particularly those currently in farming and ranching should be expeditiously moved to the management of the Department of Agriculture.

Thank you for these resolutions, your efforts to promote agriculture and for considering Hamakua County Farm Bureau's testimony.

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To: [WTLTestimony](#)
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Date: Thursday, March 20, 2014 11:12:49 AM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/20/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
fred hofer	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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SCR137

Submitted on: 3/20/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Kong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Shameful misuse of bought off "power". Aloha 'Aina.

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SCR137

Submitted on: 3/20/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stacie Francis	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Thursday, March 20, 2014 10:05:08 AM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/20/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith	McCandless Ranch	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Thursday, March 20, 2014 9:30:15 AM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/20/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Weidenbach	Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association	Support	No

Comments: This resolution correctly identifies and offers appropriate resolutions to the current problematic situation that exists with DLNR managed lands used for agricultural purposes. As such, the HAAA strongly supports this measure.

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SCR137

Submitted on: 3/20/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Luana Beck	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Thursday, March 20, 2014 9:03:46 AM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/20/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 11:46:27 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandra Herndon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this legislation for the same reasons I oppose SR73- this is more subterfuge to lock in valuable ag lands for the Chemical Seed Companies, who will rape the land, pillage the health and well being of surrounding communities and plunder the state revenue coffers with their "research" tax breaks. The introducers of this measure are consistently on the side of Big Pharm & their profits, regardless of the well being of their constituents. Hawai'i's people deserve better!

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SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandra Herndon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this legislation for the same reasons I oppose SR73- this is more subterfuge to lock in valuable ag lands for the Chemical Seed Companies, who will rape the land, pillage the health and well being of surrounding communities and plunder the state revenue coffers with their "research" tax breaks. The introducers of this measure are consistently on the side of Big Pharm & their profits, regardless of the well being of their constituents. Hawai'i's people deserve better!

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SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
claudia rice	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 7:51:05 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Dinner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Reschan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR137 on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 5:44:27 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joanna Wheelers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I firmly oppose this clear attempt to this is intended to lock in leased lands to the GMO companies who have proven to be terrible polluters and who have shown no respect for the Aina nor the people who inhabit it.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR137 on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 2:47:53 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bud & Katy Gibson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Agriculture is hard enough to be successful at in Hawaii. The Department of Ag should be the one to oversee the ag leases.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR137 on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 2:14:11 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol Hart	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is clearly intended to protect the agrichemical companies and the landowners who are abusing the land. I live in Kekaha, another ground zero for pesticide contamination of great proportions, and we the people need protection from the constant shower of restricted use pesticides raining on our communities, schools, and hospital. Their practices are not pono with the land, water, air. Please do not pass this bill!

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Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 1:23:48 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alex Franco	Maui Cattle Company	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 12:53:13 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Strongly Oppose.

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Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 12:03:59 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Bryan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 10:52:45 AM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dathan Bicoy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Unger	McCandless Ranch	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR137 on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 7:09:36 AM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jimmy Gomes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: foodsovereigntynow@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR137 on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM
Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 10:56:17 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mitsuko Hayakawa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly OPPOSE this bill. It may potentially lock in leases to agricultural practices that would not be of the best interest to our environment.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR137 on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM
Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 9:39:17 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Representatives of the Citizens Of Hawaii, I am writing today to strongly oppose the possibility of our Native land being permanently leased to Monsanto. As you know there is widespread and valid concern that Monsanto is experimenting with un proven pesticides combinations and has not addressed basic concerns with Pesticide Disclosure. I am sure you are also aware of the Shaka Movement in Maui County, currently underway with gathering Hawaii voters signatures that if approved, put the citizens of Hawaii in the position of choosing whether there should be a complete Moratorium on GMO "crops", untill they can be proven by independent scientists to be safe. Monsanto can wait till the Citizens who elected you have their say in November. Learn how to say NO to Monsanto please, no matter how much they have funded your campaigns. They can't take back their money if you actually have the backbone to stand up to them. What do they actually contribute to the Islands? They may employ some people but if the Hemp Bill is approved, they will lose their employees cause they will have a healthier option for farming than working with experimental, dangerous poisons. No one want to work in a haz mat suit in the hot Hawaiian sun. Please put Monsanto on hold. A better future is coming without Biotech poisons. How many acres do they currently lease? What are they paying for the use of this Land? How much insurance do they have to clean up the poisoned land they leave behind? Has anyone figured out the cost of their environmental damage, to the air, soil, water and reefs, to the pollinators, the keiki and the pristine ecosystem of the Hawaiian Islands. Do Not be used, deceived or coerced by these multinational Corporations. All they care about is the ability to do what they want with no regulations whatsoever. We are all their guinea pigs. They do Not have this State's best interest in mind. We can all see it, why can't you? Mahalo,

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Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 9:36:54 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judie Hoepfner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill and ask that you not be swayed by corporate greed. Mahalo

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SCR137

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brendan Balthazar	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is about time that a bill like this is passed. Brendan Balthazar

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Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 6:29:29 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Parsons	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: STRONGLY OPPOSE.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR137 on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM
Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 4:38:11 PM

SCR137

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hawaii's Agricultural Partnerships	4 Ag Hawaii Non Profit 501 [c] [3]	Support	No

Comments: 4 Ag Hawaii, Inc. strongly supports this measure ~ please help our family ranchers they work hard to help feed us great local beef

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Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David S. De Luz, Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SCR137

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for WTL/AGL on Mar 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Cabral	Individual	Support	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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