

**SB 2946**

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



GEORGE I. ATTA, FAICP  
DIRECTOR

ARTHUR D. CHALLACOMBE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 10, 2016

The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Hawaii State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Shimabukuro and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill No. 2946  
Relating to Indigenous Hawaiian Architecture

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) **opposes** Senate Bill No. 2946, which would require the counties to adopt building code ordinances that allow residential and other structures reflecting indigenous Hawaiian architecture to be constructed on farms.

Honolulu's building code already includes provisions for indigenous Hawaiian architecture. It is broader in scope as it is not limited to farm worker housing. Over 30 years ago, we accommodated roofs with thatching materials in our building code. More comprehensively in 2012, we adopted a new article in the building code, devoted just to indigenous Hawaiian architecture.

We also note that references to indigenous Hawaiian architecture are not a "permitted use" per se, but a type of building design. Farm worker housing is already listed as permitted under Chapter 205, HRS. Therefore, it is not appropriate to add indigenous architecture as a "permitted use."

In short, we believe Senate Bill No. 2946 is unnecessary. Please hold this measure.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George I. Atta".

George I. Atta, FAICP  
Director

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

February 10, 2016  
1:15 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 016

**SENATE BILL NO. 2946  
RELATING TO INDIGENOUS HAWAIIAN ARCHITECTURE**

Chairperson Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2946 that would authorize indigenous Hawaiian architecture on Agricultural District land to be used for farm worker housing. The Department of Agriculture agrees there is a need for more housing options but respectfully opposes this measure in its current form.

With respect to the proposed new section to Chapter 46, if the indigenous Hawaiian architecture structure or any other dwelling on agricultural land qualifies as a farm dwelling or employee housing as defined in Section 205-4.5(a)(4), there is no need for the language on page 2, lines 19-21: "...on land that is used for farming operations as defined in section 165-2, including for use as residential structures for farm workers." If the indigenous Hawaii architecture structures are not meant to qualify as farm dwellings or employee housing as provided for in Section 205-4.5(a)(4), we oppose the inclusion of the aforementioned language.

The Department of Agriculture opposes the proposed amendments to sections 205-2(d) (page 4 lines 15-16) and 205-4.5(a) (page 20, lines 3-4) that would allow indigenous Hawaiian architectural structures as permitted uses on all Agricultural District land and need not qualify as farm dwellings or employee housing as provided for in Section 205-4.5(a)(4),

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our testimony.



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [blawaiianlvr@icloud.com](mailto:blawaiianlvr@icloud.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2946 on Feb 10, 2016 13:15PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 10:40:08 PM

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**SB2946**

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for HWN on Feb 10, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

Comments: We FULLY SUPPORT this bill. As Kanaka Maoli, we were quite alright with our cultural Hale designs. It is time we put an end to forcing Kanaka Maoli to assimilate into Western Culture, which includes our lives Bing conditions.

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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**Cc:** [sylviacabralmaui@gmail.com](mailto:sylviacabralmaui@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2946 on Feb 10, 2016 13:15PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 08, 2016 3:19:47 PM

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**SB2946**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for HWN on Feb 10, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

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

Comments: This is a very important crucial bill not only for homeless but also for ag farmers. The antiquated law only requiring one house and one farm house per 2 + acres is ridiculous. Farm workers are paid minimum wage and offering them housing would be such a great advantage for both the workers and the owners. The county/state habit of evicting "hippie huis" is tragic. Those huis should be "grandfathered" at least. Some of those residents have lived on those large country parcels since the 60s & 70s. Now 60 & 70 with the health problems that come with age, the county of Maui is putting hundreds of elders out of housing and onto the cement where they will surely die of displacement. Please change these laws now.

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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