

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



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

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

JANUARY 31, 2018
8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 2017
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LANDS

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2017, relating to agricultural lands. The bill amends the definition of "agricultural land" to include land that is four acres or less and generates at least \$100,000 per year profit. The Department has concerns with this bill and offers comments.

The Department recognizes the concerns of farmers regarding trespass by individuals on their farms. However, based on the 2012, Census of Agriculture Hawaii (Table 65 – Summary by Market Value of Agricultural Product Sold, pages 90-91), of the total 7,000 farms statewide, there were 4,311 farms with one to nine acres, with income (not profit) of \$1,000 to \$99,999 from the sale of agricultural products, and there were only 101 farms of one to nine acres with income (not profit) from the sale of agricultural products valued at over \$100,000. The Department is unaware of any farms that will meet this definition of "agricultural land".

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



HB-2017

Submitted on: 1/26/2018 3:43:21 PM

Testimony for AGR on 1/31/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John R. Gordines	Hawaii Floriculture & Nursery Ass.	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2017

Submitted on: 1/27/2018 3:19:24 PM

Testimony for AGR on 1/31/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Love	Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers	Support	No

Comments:

In principle the concept of this bill is fine but why the \$100,000? Many of the members of Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers and other commodity groups in South Kona have larger than 4 acre farms and incomes much much less than \$100,000. Often they suffer terrible from tresspsing and ag theft. We support the bill but feel it would be much stronger if the dollar figure ws changed to accurately reflect what small farmers can make from 4 acres.

HB-2017

Submitted on: 1/28/2018 4:44:42 PM

Testimony for AGR on 1/31/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ihilani Coffee	Ihilani Coffee Company	Comments	No

Comments:

Requiring \$100,000 in profit for parcels of this size is absurd.

HB-2017

Submitted on: 1/27/2018 11:41:35 AM

Testimony for AGR on 1/31/2018 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

LATE

HB-2017

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 3:45:32 PM
Testimony for AGR on 1/31/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shane Muramaru	Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, Hawaii County	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-2017

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 9:17:22 PM

Testimony for AGR on 1/31/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments: