

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor

**JOSH GREEN**  
Lt. Governor



**PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER**  
Acting Chairperson  
Board of Agriculture

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

**TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**FEBRUARY 1, 2019  
8:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1101  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1101 which establishes an 11-member Agricultural Housing Task Force in the Office of Planning. The Task Force is to identify barriers to construction of on-farm housing units within agricultural districts by studying existing relevant State and county laws, ordinances, rules, and processes; make recommendations; and propose a “master use application process to be applied throughout the State”. There is an appropriation. The Department of Agriculture offers comments and otherwise defers to the Office of Planning and to the counties, who have the primary responsibility for permitting habitable structures on agricultural land.

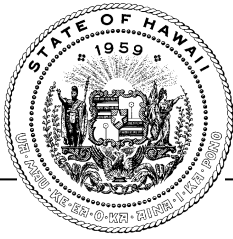
The outcome expected from the Task Force is recommendations to streamline the processes to authorize the construction of safe and sanitary housing units for residential use on farms that are engaged in agricultural production within agricultural districts. The Department prefers that the existing statutory language found in Chapter 205 describing “employee housing” (Section 205-4.5(a)(4)) that is related to farming and animal husbandry be used in place of “housing units for residential use on farms” to prevent any misunderstanding.



In response to previous legislation, the Department searched for evidence of the lack of affordable housing for farm workers needed by working farms to attract and retain employees and to operate farms in an economical manner on the Big Island. Available statistics show that the majority of hired farm laborers in Hawaii worked on Big Island farms and are the lowest paid farm laborers among the four counties.

- Statewide farm labor statistics (2007 and 2012 Census of Agriculture – Hawaii County Data; Table 7, pages 238 and 215, respectively) show increases in the number of farms with hired labor (1,783 to 1,977) and the total number of hired laborers (11,523 to 12,492). The statewide total number of farms was 7,521 in 2007 and 7,000 in 2012, so about 25% of Hawaii's farms hired at least one farm laborer during both census periods.
- From 2007 to 2012, there was a 62% increase in the number of farms with one hired laborer. The Big Island accounted for the largest increase in farms with one farm laborer. Statewide, farms with 2, 3-4, and 5-9 hired laborers showed declines of 16% to 2%. One possible explanation for the increase in farms with one hired laborer is that farms with multiple hired laborers reduced their work force but kept at least one laborer.
- In 2012, the Big Island accounted for more than 50% of the statewide total of farms with hired labor, and the number of hired laborers. However, the total payroll for hired farm labor on the Big Island was 25% of the statewide total payroll for hired farm labor.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PLANNING

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Statement of  
**RODNEY FUNAKOSHI**  
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**  
Friday, February 1, 2019  
8:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of  
**HB 1101**  
**RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.**

Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture.

The Office of Planning (OP) offers comments on HB 1101, which establishes an agricultural housing task force within OP to review State and county rules and processes for the construction of housing units within agricultural districts to identify barriers to construction of worker housing units on farms within agricultural districts. An unspecified appropriation is also proposed.

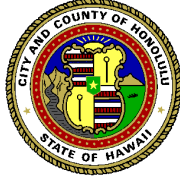
At this time, OP is uncertain as to what specific problems are being encountered at the county level relative to processing and approving farmworker housing units. We are, however, certainly willing to explore with the counties how regulations and procedures can be improved to promote safe and affordable farmworker housing. Finally, we could consider this proposal provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 202 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 768-5009 • FAX: (808) 768-5011 • INTERNET: [www.honolulu.gov/council](http://www.honolulu.gov/council)

**LATE**



**Kymerly Marcos Pine**

**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1 2019, 8:30 AM**

**TO: THE HONORABLE RICHARD P. CREAGAN, CHAIR  
THE HONORABLE TLYNN DECOITE, VICE CHAIR  
AND MEMBERS OF HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**FROM: CITY COUNCIL MEMBER KYMBERLY MARCOS PINE**

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF HB1101 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

My name is Kymerly Marcos Pine and I am submitting testimony as a member of the Honolulu City Council representing District 1 which covers portions of Ewa Villages and Ewa Beach, Kapolei, Makakilo, Kalaeloa, Honokai Hale, Ko Olina, Nanakuli, Ma'ili, Wai'anae, Makaha, Kea'au, Makua.

I am in strong support of this measure to “establish an agricultural housing task force to analyze and provide recommendations that would streamline existing laws, rules, and processes to authorize the construction of safe and sanitary on-farm housing units for residential use within agricultural districts, on farms that are engaged in agricultural production.”

In Hawaii, there are more than 7,000 farm operations managing more than 1.1 million areas statewide, more than 30 percent of our available land usage, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 2017 State Agriculture Overview. Farm workers in Hawaii earn little more than \$12 an hour, according to [indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com).

In City Council District 1, we have a plethora of agricultural operations and land up and down the Leeward Coast and West Oahu. Since my time in the State Legislature, more than a decade ago, we have worked to achieve agricultural self-sufficiency, expand production and improve food sustainability. Our farm workers are critical to these efforts.

Finding reliable, committed employees for long-term and short-term farm work is a challenge given the wage scale and Oahu's cost of living. We must make it easier for farm operators to build affordable, safe, and clean on-farm housing units. There is so much land that is zoned agricultural, we need uniform rules for building housing. Right now, existing ordinances for building on-farm housing differ from county to county and it is difficult to navigate the federal, state and county regulations.

I hear from farmers in my district who consistently ask us to make it easier for them to build on-farm housing for their workers. Not only does it improve operational efficiency, it creates a community of committed employees who don't have to worry about how to find a house in a place like Hawaii.

There is no state in America with a greater gap between the cost of living and the wages our workers earn. We are currently short more than 20,000 housing units on Oahu for families earning less than 60 percent of the Area Median Income. The single-family home price on Oahu hovers around \$800,000, yet 17 of the 20 largest professions in Hawaii pay an average salary of less than \$38,000 a year.

The price of paradise is forcing too many hardworking families to struggle to secure affordable housing. I urge my colleagues to pass this measure and look forward to working with state and federal lawmakers to improve access to quality, affordable housing for our agricultural workers.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759  
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921  
e-mail [info@hfbf.org](mailto:info@hfbf.org); [www.hfbf.org](http://www.hfbf.org)

February 1, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**TESTIMONY ON HB 1101**  
RELATING AGRICULTURE

Room 312  
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

**The Hawaii Farm Bureau supports the intent of HB 1101**, which establishes the agricultural housing task force within the office of planning to study existing county and state laws, rules, and processes for construction of housing units within agricultural districts to identify barriers to construction, make recommendations, and propose one master use application process to be applied throughout the State.

HFB recognizes the need for agricultural workforce housing and believes that affordable housing is necessary to attract farm workers. This has been a major shortfall as we try to address labor needs for expanding agriculture. Agricultural employee housing does not just come under the jurisdiction of the State and County but under the Department of Labor. Farmers wishing to provide worker housing face their own challenges with extensive federal rules enforced by the Department of Labor, the State, and Counties. A streamlined process would encourage more farmers to develop farmworker housing.

We request that the bill clarifies that the intent of the task force is to address agricultural workforce housing and not residential housing on agricultural land. We suggest inserting the qualifying language in Section 2 (a) (2) into Section 2 (a) (1) and removing the reference to residential from Section 1.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau respectfully request that we are included as a member of the Agricultural Housing Task Force. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



**MAUI**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
VOICE OF BUSINESS

**LATE**

**HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 312  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2019 AT 8:30 A.M.**

To The Honorable Richard P. Creagan, Chair;  
The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair; and  
Members of the Committee Agriculture;

**TESTIMONY ON HB 1101 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Aloha, my name is Pamela Tumpap and I am the President of the Maui Chamber of Commerce, with approximately 650 members. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments in support of HB 1101 to establish an agriculture housing task force regarding housing units in agricultural districts.

Agriculture is very important to our community, so we support looking for ways to further sustain the industry and if the creation of a task force will help do this, we are in favor of it.

In addition, Hawaii has a critical shortage of affordable housing and rental units while the agriculture industry has significant challenges in finding farm workers and affordable housing for their workers. Therefore, creating farm worker housing on farm land could help to alleviate some of our backlog for affordable housing and reduce some of the broader community housing needs while also supporting the agriculture industry and providing an incentive for loyal farm workers. We also realize this bill may also help to support and sustain farms by offering the potential for unique ag tourism experiences.

Mahalo for your consideration of our testimony

Sincerely,

*Pamela Tumpap*

Pamela Tumpap  
President



**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 3:24:00 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
irene plunkett	HFUU	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Hawaii Legislatures, I support HB1101, I hope that this letter finds my way to those that have an ear to hear and take ACTION, and that my concern and my vote is YES YES YES, to this very important BILL. I would have loved to be ther in person to testify, but as a farmer on Maui and a proud member of HFUU, I need to be on my farm to work and harvest my crops to take it to market. I hope that you hear the my voice as a female Hawaiian Farmer for 25 years. As a farmer you need to live on your land. There is so much that is invested in my farm, time money and energy. On the mainland farmers live on their land. Why is it that non farmers are making farming decisions for farmers who do it as a living. Animals need your attention, they are family and need to be care for. Tremendous amounts of money is invested in live stock. Crop lost is at a ll time high with vandalism and crops stolen right from their trees. Farmers take a hit, at all angles and farming in Hawaii can be very challenging. I hope as our Legislatures that we vote in, that you hear what we say, a heart to understand what we need and why we need it. We must take this Bill to the next level and move it along so that we can make Hawaii food sovereign. We must be able to take care of ourselves, school children, family, neighbors and community. I humbly ask that you support this VERY VERY IMPORTANT BILL.

Malama Pono and Mahalo for your time, Irene Plunkett-Mina

**LATE**

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 5:06:39 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Winslow	Hawaii Farmers Union	Support	No

Comments:



Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
Friday, February 1, 2019 — 8:30 a.m. — Room 312

**Ulupono Initiative Supports HB 1101, Relating to Agriculture**

Dear Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay, and I am Managing Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better management of waste and fresh water. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

**Ulupono supports HB 1101**, which establishes an agricultural housing task force within the Office of Planning, because it aligns with our goal of more locally produced food.

A lack of on-site housing for agricultural workers has helped to exacerbate Hawai'i's agricultural workforce shortage. Without a housing benefit, jobs in the agricultural field are often not as competitive compared to other sectors of the economy. Plus, being on-site will give farmers more time for operations, the ability to monitor growing challenges on the farm, and have a stronger presence to reduce agricultural theft.

We believe this task force is a good first step toward finding a solution to the complex issue of agricultural workforce housing.

As Hawai'i's local food issues become increasingly complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that through collaboration, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay  
Managing Partner

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 6:20:38 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:



Board of Directors:

**House Committee on Agriculture**

**Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action Supports HB1101**

Gary L. Hooser  
*President*

Andrea N. Brower  
Ikaika M. Hussey  
*Co-Vice Presidents*

Kim Coco Iwamoto  
*Treasurer*

Bart E. Dame  
*Secretary*

Paul Achitoff

Nancy Aleck

Laura Harrelson

Kaleikoa Ka'eo

Michael Miranda

Walter Ritte Jr.

Pua Rossi-Fukino

Karen Shishido

Leslie Malulani Shizue Miki

Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite and members of the committee,

On behalf of Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) we submit this testimony in support of HB 1101 establishing an Agricultural Housing Task Force whose goal is to make it easier for farmers to create and utilize "on-farm housing" for their farm worker employees.

HAPA is a statewide environmental, social and economic justice organization and engages over 10,000 local residents annually through our work, many of which are passionate about expanding a sustainable food producing agricultural sector for Hawai'i and we believe that a lack of farmworker housing is one of the limitations in creating a vibrant farming future here in the islands.

The difficulty that farmers now face in recruiting farm workers is a well known fact, and the lack of availability of genuine farm worker housing is a key component of this dilemma.

Because each county is unique and each has different laws governing the allowable housing density on agricultural land, and because of the overlap of state and county regulation it makes sense to assemble all of the stakeholders and form a task force such as is being proposed.

The many attempts and failures to get it right on the County and State level, despite the desperate need for farmworker housing, illustrate the need for this task force.

We are asking that that task force apply special focus to the potential for modular housing as a solution, perhaps even creating a special legal designation for them distinct from a typical "home," for a the following reasons:

1. It is more economically realistic for a farm to build 1-4 modular homes for \$20-60,000 each than 1 `ohana unit for \$350,000.
2. Modular homes are less attractive to luxury, gentleman estate-type investors. If small, modular homes are the only type of structure allowed on agricultural land as farmworker dwellings, developers are less likely to want to turn that land into a luxury investment property.
3. When and if that agricultural lands change ownership, the modular homes can be easily moved off property if needed, and there is no permanent loss of that agricultural land.

For success to be achieved, it will be essential however that all parties involved in the planning and land use process, get together with those individuals who are actually operating real farms and who represent each county and the various sectors/types of farming - and discuss options that might help achieve a solution that satisfies the needs of all. It is also essential that the process of developing options and proposing a moving forward plan be a public process conducted with open meetings according to HRS Chapter 92, the Hawaii Sunshine Law.

Thank you for your consideration! I urge you to support HB 1101.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', with a stylized, cursive script.

Anne Frederick,

Executive Director

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 7:37:54 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeri Di Pietro	GMO Free Kaua'i	Support	No

Comments:



**House Committee on Agriculture  
Hawai'i Center for Food Safety strongly supports: HB1101**

Dea Chair Creagan, Vice-Chair DeCoite, and members of the committee,

My name is Autumn Ness and I am the Co-Director of the Hawai'i Center for Food Safety. CFS is a nationwide public interest, sustainable agriculture nonprofit organization whose mission centers on supporting the increase of sustainable local food production, and increasing public transparency in food production. We have over 1 million farmer and consumer members across the country, including nearing 10,000 in Hawai'i.

I am writing in support of HB 1101, as I recognize it as an important step in providing tangible support of our farmers who are advancing the State of Hawai'i local food production goals, while also providing housing solutions.

I would like to stress the importance and my support of a few key elements of this task force.

I ask that the committee strengthen the language about giving special consideration to modular housing as a solution. I strongly believe that modular homes are not just a small part of the solution, but should be the focus of this task force, for a few reasons.

1. It's more economically realistic for a farm to build 1-4 modular homes for \$20-60,000 each than 1 'ohana unit for \$350,000.
2. Modular homes are less attractive to luxury, gentleman estate-type investors. If small, modular homes are the only type of structure allowed on ag. land as farmworker dwellings, developers are less likely to want to turn that land into a luxury investment property.
3. When and if that farm/ag. land changes ownership, the modular homes can be easily moved off property if needed, and there is no permanent loss of that ag land.

However, it is my understanding that, existing building codes and zoning regulations do not always support the building of such modular structures. In my opinion, the bill should specify that the intent of the task force is to create a separate legal designation, as it relates to zoning, homes with a permanent foundation and modular homes without a permanent foundation.





HAWAI'I  
CENTER FOR  
**FOOD SAFETY**

HCFS also supports the proposed make-up of the task force, and I would be happy to answer an questions as to why each proposed representative is an important part of the task force's success.

Mahalo nui loa for your support of HB 1101.

Autumn Ness, Co-Director  
Center for Food Safety, Hawai'i Program

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 1:01:59 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William Greenleaf	Greenleaf Farm	Support	No

Comments:

Housing for workers on Ag Land is a problem as State Laws do not allow...the reality is: Farmers need workers and workers need housing...also farmers need to be able to build a small place to live on their farm when they are in Ag Parks...currently, it's an open house for thieves..

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:38:19 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Helmut Klauer	A'a Li'i Farm	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 11:53:48 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joseph Kohn MD	We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 4:51:26 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha

Obviously, we must make housing affordable for farm workers!

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 5:13:40 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please pass this legislation to help address the issue of agricultural housing shortage in Hawaii. We need more agriculture and we need more housing for workers.

Thanks for your consideration.

Aloha,

Susan Stayton

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 5:15:17 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 6:00:02 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Margaret A Clark	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is an important component of a workable sustainable agriculture system. Typically farm workers are not paid the kind of wages necessary to live in Hawaii!



**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 7:24:00 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 7:33:02 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 7:36:33 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Strongly Support

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 8:23:16 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jenny Ernst	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I am in support of HB1101.

Thank you,

Jenny Ernst

Kauai

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 9:41:56 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Raphiell Nolin	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 10:55:22 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support HB1101 so small farmers can create sufficient housing for farmworkers on their land.

Mahalo,

Laura and the Bettencourt family

Kapa'a, Kauai

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 6:59:23 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 7:08:00 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

To whom this concerns,

I am writing to support HB1101, **to establish an agricultural housing task force** to analyze and provide recommendations that would streamline existing laws, rules, and processes to authorize the construction of safe and sanitary on-farm housing units for residential use within agricultural districts, on farms that are engaged in agricultural production.

Our farms are critical to a sustainable life in Hawaii, and we must be able to provide safe, sanitary, on farm housing for the workers who support these farms with their hard labor.

Thank you,

Maria Maitino

Kilauea, HI



**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 7:26:17 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:07:11 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:30:34 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:32:11 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

The task force created by this bill will find ways to improve agriculture and housing for farm workers, while costing the state almost nothing. It is a good idea.

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:41:31 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:51:54 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
RONALD R RIESS	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

It is ridiculous that I am prohibited from building a house with a kitchen for a permanent worker or even temporary workers on my property. The agricultural property is non productive because I cannot work the property myself. Current laws prohibit agricultural production on agricultural land.

The governments fear of vacation rentals appears to take priority over enabling agricultural land to be productive by providing independent living for worker/workers.

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:52:44 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

On Maui we desparately need affordable farms for families that include healthy farm housing infrastucture. Especially if we are to turn local food production toward island food security.

Please pass HB1101.

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:56:05 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:56:42 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 11:01:18 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 12:13:50 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 12:28:34 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 12:34:06 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gary Hooser	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Committee Chair and Members,

I am testifying today in strong support of HB1101 creating an Agricultural Housing Task Force whose goal is to make it easier for farmers to create and utilize “on-farm housing” for their farm worker employees.

The difficulty that farmers now face in recruiting farm workers is a well known fact, and the lack of availability of genuine farm worker housing is a key component of this dilemma.

Because each county is unique and each has different laws governing the allowable housing density on agricultural land, and because of the overlap of state and county regulation it makes sense to assemble all of the stakeholders and form a task force such as is being proposed.

For success to be achieved, it will be essential however that all parties involved in the planning and land use process, get together with those individuals who are actually operating real farms and who represent each county and the various sectors/types of farming - and discuss options that might help achieve a solution that satisfies the needs of all. It is also essential that the process of developing options and proposing a moving forward plan, be a public process conducted with open meetings according to HRS Chapter 92, the Hawaii Sunshine Law.

Gary Hooser

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 12:52:32 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 1:20:05 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 2:45:08 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Lawmakers,

I strongly support this Bill. It's long overdue,

Mahalo,

Ms. Barbara Barry



**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 4:06:36 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 5:21:44 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill!

**LATE**

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 6:15:53 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 8:58:57 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

As a farmer in Honaunau, helpers often need a place to stay to make them reliable and productive and therefore to make our farming endeavors successful.

Please support this agricultural worker housing Bill so that Hawaii can be more productive and efficient agriculturally and achieve goals such as producing a higher percentage of our own food again!

Yours,

Colehour Bondera

KANALANI OHANA FARM

Honaunau, HI

**LATE**

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 9:02:06 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 9:33:06 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ken Stover	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 9:55:14 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Farmers cannot effectively do their job of feeding us if they cannot be on site to protect their crops from weather-related or human-related threats.

**LATE**

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:29:50 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David S. Case	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write in support of HB1101 to establish a task force to investigate the existence and programs to expand agricultural housing on farm lands. Among other things, removing barriers to such housing and it might enable farmers to maintain workers on their land as a labor benefit without directly increasing wages to an uneconomic level. I don't think, however it is necessary to take two years to complete this task and suggest that the due date for at least a preliminary report be the beginning of the 2020 legislative session.

Respectfully,

David S. Case

(808) 494-9588

casedavids@gmail.com



**LATE**

**HB-1101**

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 5:57:02 AM  
Testimony for AGR on 2/1/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

The possibility for simple farm worker housing is a critical need for food production, ranching and diversified farming on Kaua`i. A task force to study and make recommendations is a valuable first step.

Large commercial farms having simple housing for their seasonal workers would also simplify costs and free-up held housing to the broader residential community.

Felicia Cowden

Kilauea, Kauai

Kauai County Council member