

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

GLENN K. MURANAKA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
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**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS
AND AGRICULTURE**

**MARCH 22, 2019
9:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 309**

**HOUSE CONCURRRENT RESOLUTION 107
RELATING TO REQUERING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM AND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO MAKE
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING A STATEWIDE PROGRAM TO ADDRESS
AGRICULTURAL THEFT**

Chairpersons McKelvey and Creagan and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HCR 107, requesting the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and the Department of Agriculture to make recommendations regarding a statewide program to address agricultural theft. The Department supports the intent of the resolution and offers comments.

The Department of Agriculture has already entered into a two-year contract with the Hawaii county prosecutor's office for one investigator to conduct agricultural theft and agricultural vandalism investigations. This has been very valuable and productive project with the limited staff performing investigations and outreach with farmers, law enforcement, and farmers markets. We encourage the cooperation and participation of other county law enforcement and prosecutors' offices to provide a consistent and effective effort in pursuing the prosecution of agricultural related crimes. It is important to note that SB759 SD2 HD1 and HB1503 HD2 SD1 offer additional resources to support the pilot project efforts in the County of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 6:21:32 AM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Ka Ohana O Na Pua	Support	No

Comments:

If ALL farmers could live on thier land, problem 90% solved.

HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 5:29:29 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
erich schneider	kiralani farms	Support	No

Comments:

Farm theft is an issue regarding safety of the people living on a farm, surrounding traffic participants and ultimately consumers.

Theft at day and night is a security issue for the residents being involved in confrontations of any kind.

Disturbed thieves driving away erratically with high speed, can hit pedestrians or other traffic participants (or in our case our mailbox), and food not safe for example for raw/uncooked consumption can be dangerous to consumers.

My suggestion would be to eliminate cash transactions between farmers/people selling produce and buyers.

Every farmer could get a mobile app with a registration number. With the means of the mobile app any delivery to a restaurant, store or etc. would be registered via electronic goods receipt with quantity and value, and payment would on,y be made electronically via the app, which would conclude the transaction.

if restaurants and stores would not be allowed to pay cash for produce, and would only accept delivery from registered farmers, or any authorized/registered sellers, any transaction would be auditibale, for consumer safety and theft.

This would eliminate any direct or indirect safety and security issues as listed above from non-registered people selling farm products against cash. This could also reduce the criminal support structure for people living on the islands sustaining their lifestyle with farm theft.

thank you for reading, if you are interested I will be available to answer specific questions regarding process and application design.

eric schneider

HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/21/2019 7:23:29 AM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Genevieve N Neumann	Lokoea Farms	Support	No

Comments:

HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 4:51:37 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Ranney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 5:08:30 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Timothy Johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 5:25:18 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 5:37:44 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jo Kimm	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 6:08:13 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Stover	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

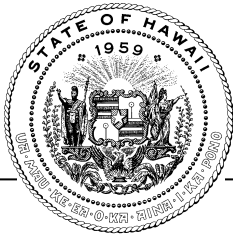
HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 9:28:47 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

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GOVERNOR

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Statement of
RODNEY FUNAKOSHI
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS AND
AGRICULTURE**

Friday, March 22, 2019
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

LATE

in consideration of
HCR 107 / HR 101
**RELATING TO REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM AND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO
MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING A STATWIDE PROGRAM TO
ADDRESS AGRICULTURAL THEFT.**

Chairs McKelvey and Creagan, Vice Chairs Kitagawa and DeCoite, and Members of the House Committees on Economic Development & Business and Agriculture.

The Office of Planning offers **comments** on HCR 107 and HR 101 which request the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism and Department of Agriculture to make recommendations regarding a Statewide program to address agricultural theft.

While we certainly share the concerns and are aware of the debilitating impacts of agricultural theft on farmers, neither the Office of Planning nor the Department of Business, Economic Development has any related programs or enforcement capability to contribute to resolution of this issue. We respectfully defer to and fully support the Department of Agriculture in their efforts to address agricultural theft.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



LATE

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March 22, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HCR 107/HR 101
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
AND TOURISM AND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO MAKE
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING A STATEWIDE PROGRAM TO ADDRESS
AGRICULTURAL THEFT

Room 309
9:30 AM

Aloha Chairs McKlevey and Creagan, Vice Chairs Kitagawa and DeCoite, and Members of the Committese:

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 HCR 107 and HR 101, requesting that DBEDT and HDOA make recommendations regarding a program to address agricultural theft.

Agricultural theft and vandalism are persistent problems facing agriculture. Weather, drought, pests, weeds, disease, activists, unstable markets, transportation, labor issues, and a changing climate all contribute to uncertainty for farmers and ranchers. Few businesses face such challenges, yet we are charged with producing food, fiber, fuel and flowers for the 99% of non-farmers. Add in the constant threat and impacts of trespass, theft, and vandalism, and it's a wonder farms and ranches remain viable.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/21/2019 2:59:35 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tama Brandeburg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a small, independent farmer requesting your support of HCR107.

Mahalo,

Tama Brandeburg

LATE

HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/21/2019 3:43:13 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
A Kathleen Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Honorable State of Hawai'i Legislators,

Farmers are some of the 'meek & mild' amongst us. It is unconscionable that they suffer so much vanalism and theft. Please come to their aid!!

April Lee

Hawi, HI

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LATE

HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/21/2019 8:56:49 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR-107

Submitted on: 3/22/2019 8:57:57 AM

Testimony for EDB on 3/22/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Burgh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: