

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

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TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

FEBRUARY 5, 2020
9:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 325



HOUSE BILL NO. 1889
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1889. This measure is limited in effect to Hawaii County and reduces the applicable acreage requirements for building code and permit exemptions for agricultural buildings. The Department of Agriculture offers the following comments.

We are concerned that allowing "...one-story wood-framed or similar agricultural buildings ... not exceed[ing] three thousand square feet..." on an agricultural lot of one acre or greater but not more than two acres, may result in a proliferation of structures that have the appearance and utility of habitable dwellings rather than agricultural buildings and structures not intended or used as a dwelling (Bill, page 9, lines 7-8). The Department is further concerned that enforcement of these types of regulatory oversight is often conducted on a complaint-driven process that often results in the increase of non-compliant structures. We defer, however, to the Hawaii County Planning Department regarding their ability to monitor and enforce the provisions of Section 46-88 and the amendments proposed in this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

