

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Tuesday, June 30, 2020
10:15AM
State Capitol Auditorium**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2035, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO NON-AGRICULTURAL PARK LANDS**

House Bill 2035, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 proposes to: (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to transfer to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) specified non-agricultural park lands by a specified deadline; (2) Require lessees to develop and implement a watershed partnership plan and dedicate fifty percent of meat production for local consumption by December 23, 2023; (3) Require DOA to report on the percentage of local meat production marketed within the State; and (4) Amend the definition of “agricultural activities” used in Chapter 166E, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). **The Department strongly opposes this measure.**

Pursuant to Act 90, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2003, now codified as Chapter 166E, HRS, the Department has already transferred more than 18,000 acres of agricultural land to DOA, and additional transfers are in process – consisting of nearly all the agricultural crop land, such as former sugar cane land, held by the Department. The Department has generally excluded large-acre pasture leases from these transfers because of the high natural resource value of certain pasture lands. Some pasture lands are remnant native forests that have never been plowed and contain native and endangered plants and wildlife. They adjoin or are near forest reserves and, as a result, have great potential for reforestation, and/or are important in providing access to other public lands for management, traditional gathering, and public recreation including hunting and trails. The attached maps show the proximity of large tracts of pasture lands to forest reserves on Hawaii Island, and provide details on native ecosystems, potential for restoration and endangered species. The attached flyer entitled “Importance of Pasture Lands to DLNR’s Mission” provides additional information. The Department’s pasture lessees have nevertheless requested the Department to transfer their leases to DOA for management because DOA appears to have greater flexibility under its governing statutes and rules, to amend, extend, and issue new leases by negotiation and at favorable rents.

Rather than a wholesale transfer of non-agricultural park lands proposed by this measure, Act 90 required each transfer to be individually reviewed and approved by both the Board of Land and

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Natural Resources (BLNR) and the Board of Agriculture. Since then, numerous properties that the Department has offered to transfer have been rejected by DOA for various reasons including topography, lack of agricultural features like irrigation, inaccessibility, irregular parcel sizes, or non-compliant tenants that DOA did not have the capacity to manage. Contrary to the language and intent of Act 90, this measure is special legislation intended to permanently transfer specific lands under the façade of a “pilot project”, without the discretion of the Department and DOA or input from the public. This measure would compel DOA to manage over 45,000 acres that it has not necessarily requested or analyzed to be appropriate for agricultural use, and which the Department has considerable interest in retaining to protect multiple public trust resources.

The eleven parcels listed contain over 45,000 acres that contain multiple resources beyond agriculture that the Department manages for the overall public benefit. For example, Tax Map Key (TMK) (3) 9-8-001:010 in Kapapala contains over 10,000 acres of native forest healthy enough to maintain populations of endangered birds such as the ‘akiapola‘au, nēnē, and ‘io as well as the ma‘aloa (*Neraudia ovata*), an endangered tree only known from Hawai‘i island. That TMK also contains the historic Na Ala Hele Ainapō Trail, which is on the National Register of Historic Places as the traditional route to the summit of Mauna Loa, where offerings to Pele could be made. This TMK provides the only access from the highway to this trail, which offers a cabin reservable by the public and is lined with historic structures such as ahu and rock shelters used by ancient Hawaiians. Finally, the Department has negotiated with the lessee to offer 28,000 acres of public game bird hunting in that and adjacent parcels proposed to be transferred by the House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 of the measure. The Department, with its Na Ala Hele, Historic Preservation, Forestry, Wildlife, and Hunting programs, is clearly the most appropriate entity to manage this public land for all of the resources it offers to the community, while continuing to allow agricultural use.

The parcels on the northern slope of Mauna Kea (3) 4-4-014:002 and (3) 4-3-010:008 comprise over 12,000 acres and are adjacent to the Puu Mali Carbon Forest Project, which, since 2004 has converted former pasture to forest and is projected to withdraw an estimated 98,000 metric tons of carbon from the atmosphere when reforested. The parcels listed are in the koa belt where a seedbank still remains. Neighboring parcels display the impressive koa forests that once covered these parcels, and could flourish once again, since this elevation does not have many of the weeds that plague other reforestation projects. The Puu Mali Carbon Forest Project is a demonstration public-private-partnership which aims to show how reforestation can be profitable and provide a model for these lessees and other adjacent landowners who may want to diversify their production by partnering with the Department.

This measure attempts to address the issue of resource management by requiring lessees to develop and implement a watershed partnership plan without any Department oversight or cost share requirement. However, this is not a viable surrogate for continued management by the Department that prioritizes forest and watershed protection. Positive advancement in carbon sequestration challenges, wildlife management, wildfire protection and forest health concerns can be best managed by the Department through mutually beneficial practices with ranching, wildlife protection, and native forest restoration. Mandating the transfer of these lands to DOA for pasture purposes will severely undermine the potential for reforestation and other natural resource protection uses of the land.

Pursuant to Section 171-26, HRS, the Department is bound to preserve public rights-of-way to game management areas, public hunting areas, and public forests and forest reserves prior to leasing public lands. Under Section 171-11, HRS, DOA is required to comply with Chapter 171, HRS, when issuing leases on lands set aside to it. One of the requirements of Section 171-11, HRS, is that DOA seek the approval of BLNR to leases on lands it holds by set-aside. However, DOA does not seek BLNR approval of the leases it issues so there is little opportunity for the Department to ensure that DOA leases preserve public rights-of-way as required by Section 171-26, HRS. Keeping the lands under the Department will ensure that agricultural, natural resource protection and public recreation interests are all protected.

There was some testimony before the House Finance Committee by the supporters of a similar land transfer bill that ranch lands are just as effective as storing carbon as Hawaii's native forests are. But this is not the case. Hawaii's native wet and mesic forests store an average of 124 metric tons of carbon per acre. There are around 800,000 acres of native wet and mesic forest in Hawaii. Hawaii's invasive wet and mesic grasslands store an average of 70 metric tons of carbon per acre. There are around 300,000 acres of invasive wet and mesic grasslands in Hawaii. When Hawaii's native forests are converted to grasslands, they lose about half of their stored carbon – a loss of 54 metric tons of carbon per acre.¹ Reforesting grasslands is the largest carbon sequestration opportunity for Hawaii to reach the goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 (Act 15, SLH 2018). The Department is inventorying lands that are not used for pasture, such as Waiea, and planning combination grazing and reforestation projects. The Department also offers voluntary incentive programs for ranchers to reforest lands, and is developing standards for carbon credit projects that could further diversify revenues for ranchers. The proposed transfer of lands proposed by the present measure would sever the Department's direct role in overseeing these stewardship options.

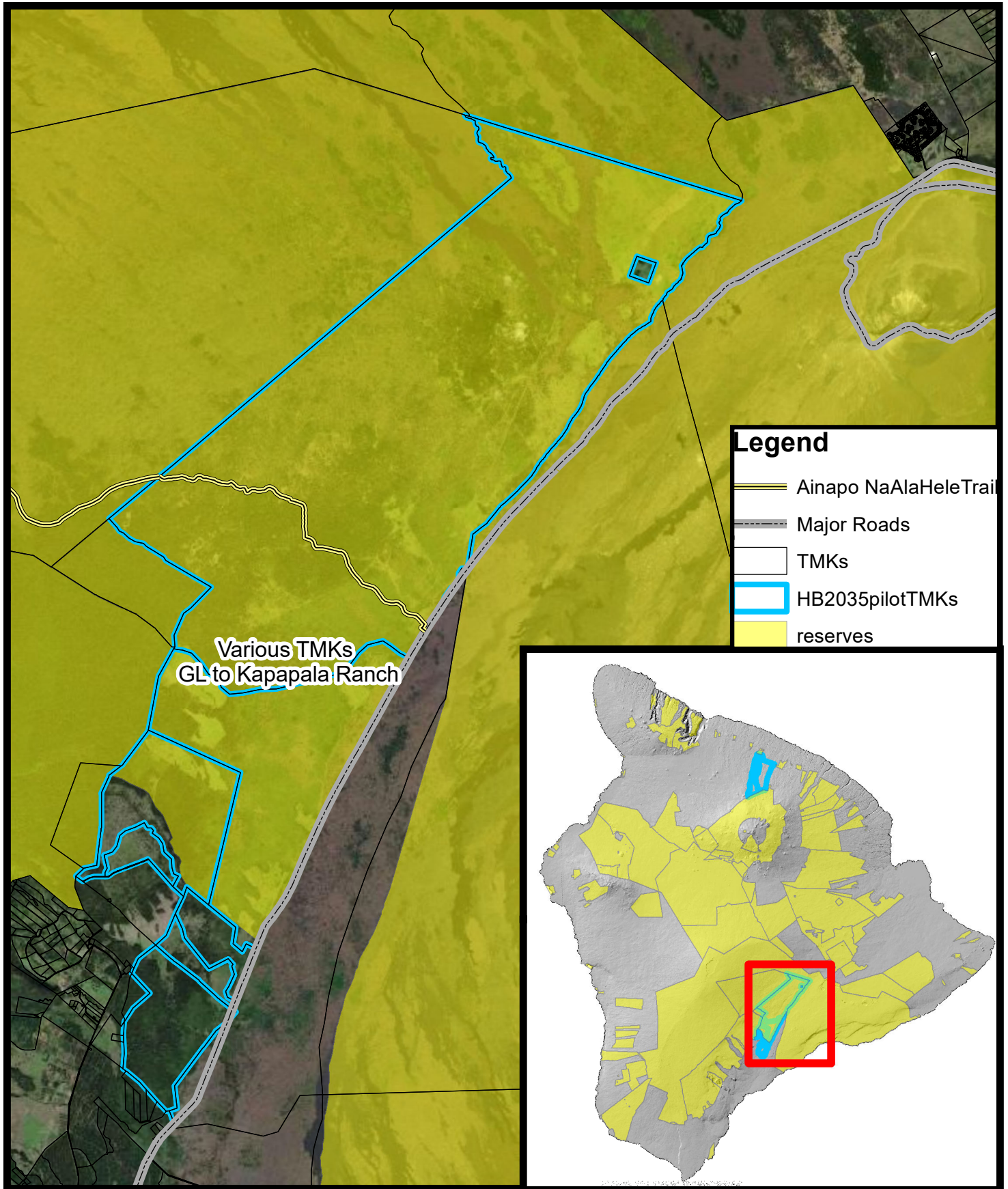
Finally, the Department opposes subsection (d) in SECTION 3 of this measure, which requires the return of lands to the Department's inventory upon a determination by DOA that such lands are no longer suitable or necessary for agricultural use. This provision would allow lands to be returned to the Department with environmental or other hazardous conditions created while under the management of DOA and lessee, which would require the Department to conduct remediation at its own expense. DOA should be fully responsible remediate and restore the lands returned to the Department in a condition suitable for the Department's proposed use of those returned lands.

For these reasons, the Department respectfully urges the Legislature not to pass this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

¹ Baseline and Projected Future Carbon Storage and Carbon Fluxes in Ecosystems of Hawai'i Editors: Paul C. Selman, Christian P. Giardina, James D. Jacobi, and Zhiliang Zhu U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1834, 2017.

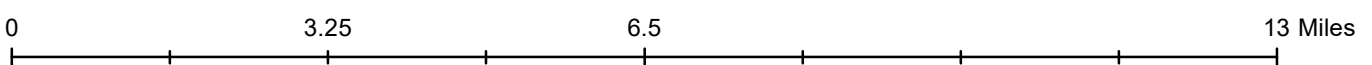
HB2035 Pilot TMKs: Kapapala



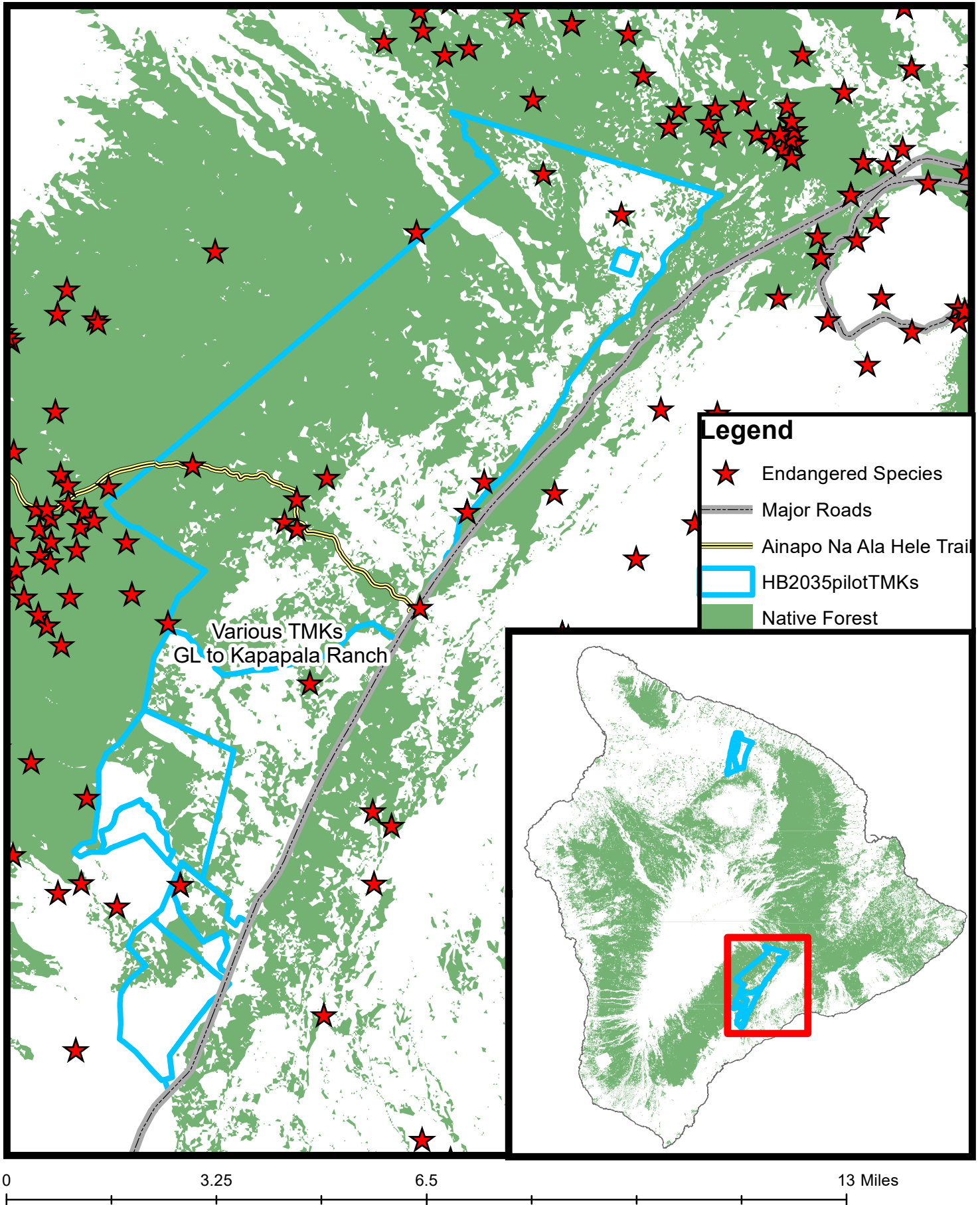
Legend

- Ainapo NaAlaHeleTrail
- Major Roads
- TMKs
- HB2035pilotTMKs
- reserves

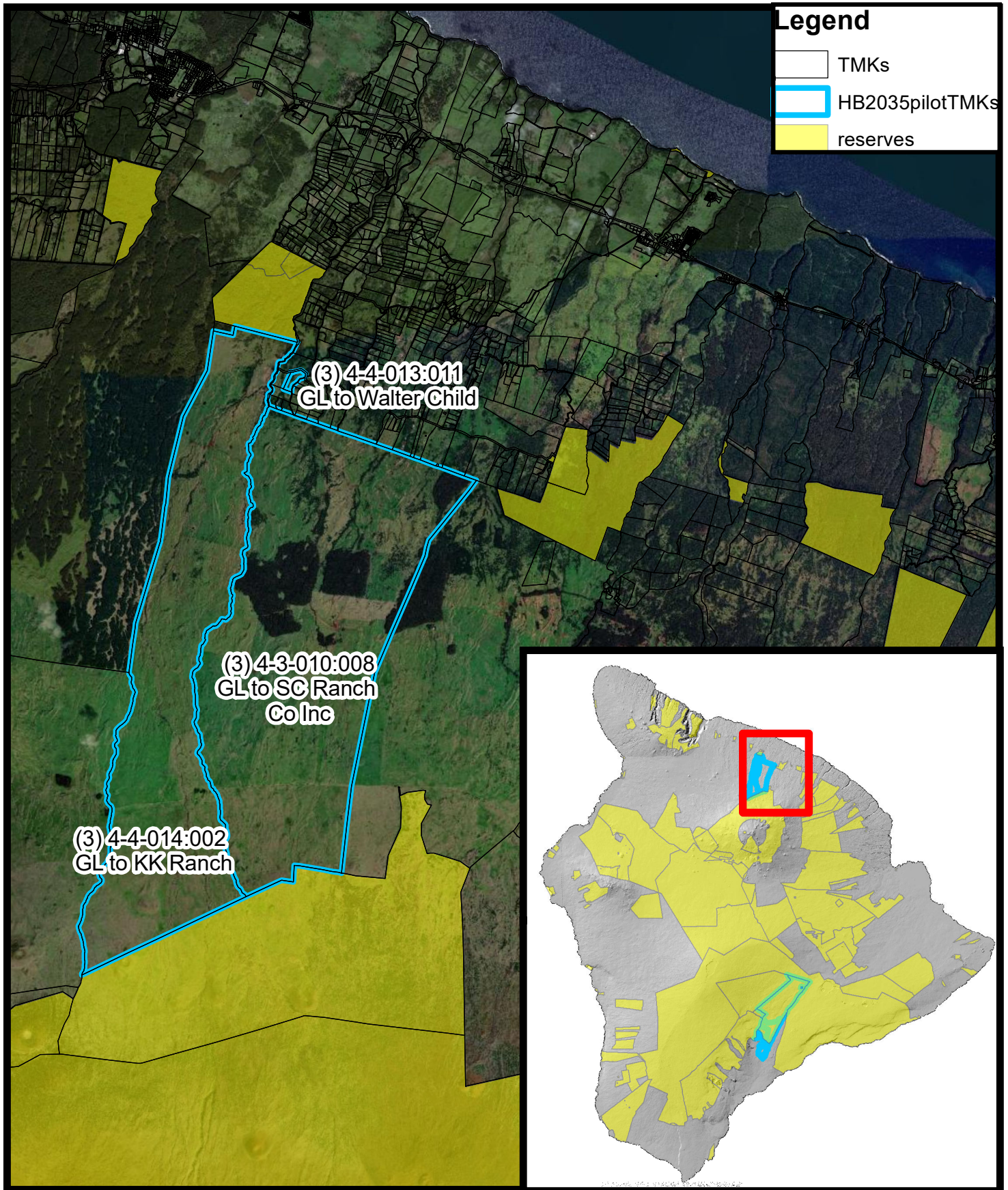
Various TMKs
GL to Kapapala Ranch



HB2035 Pilot TMKs: Kapapala

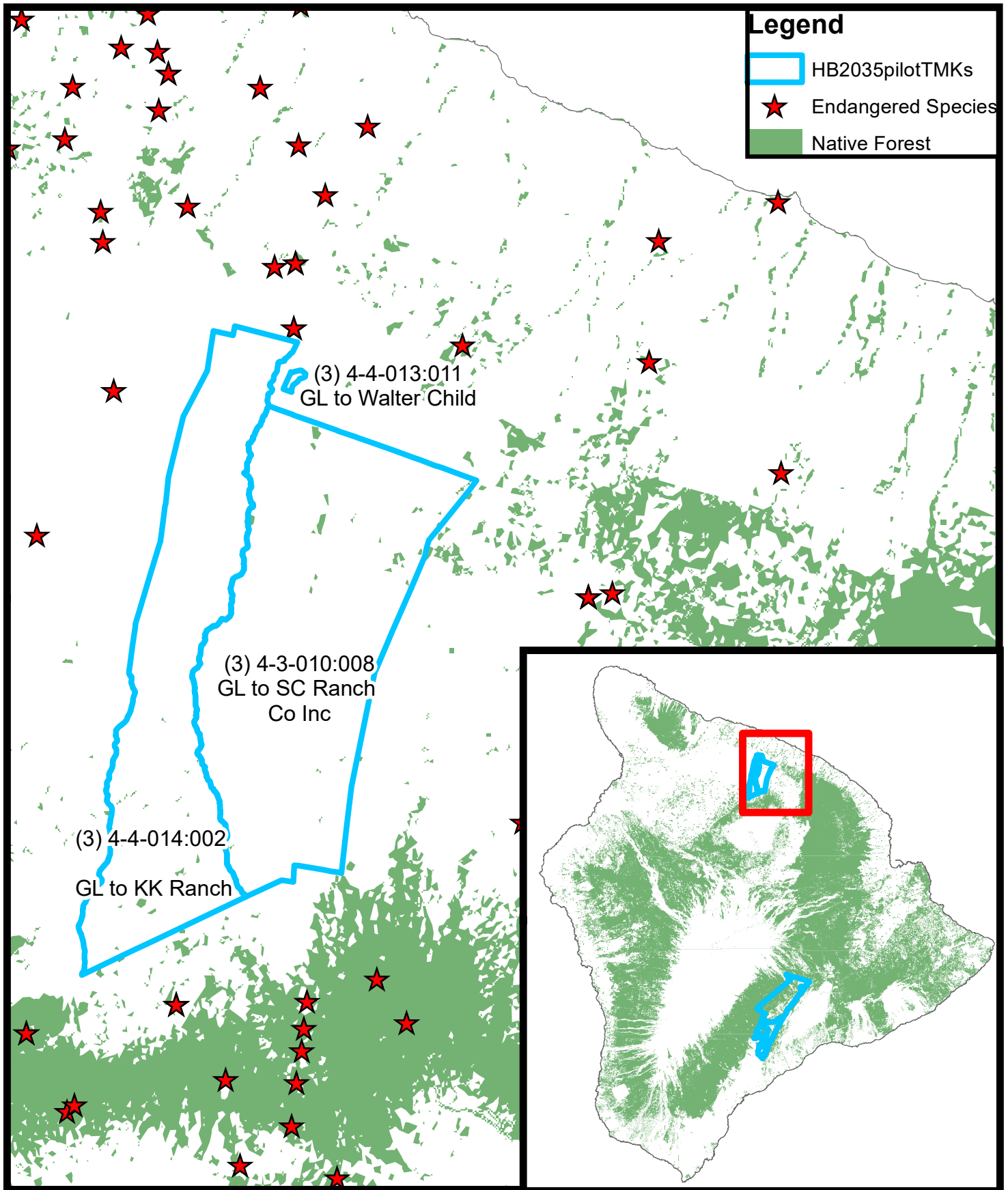


HB2035 Pilot TMKs: Puu Mali

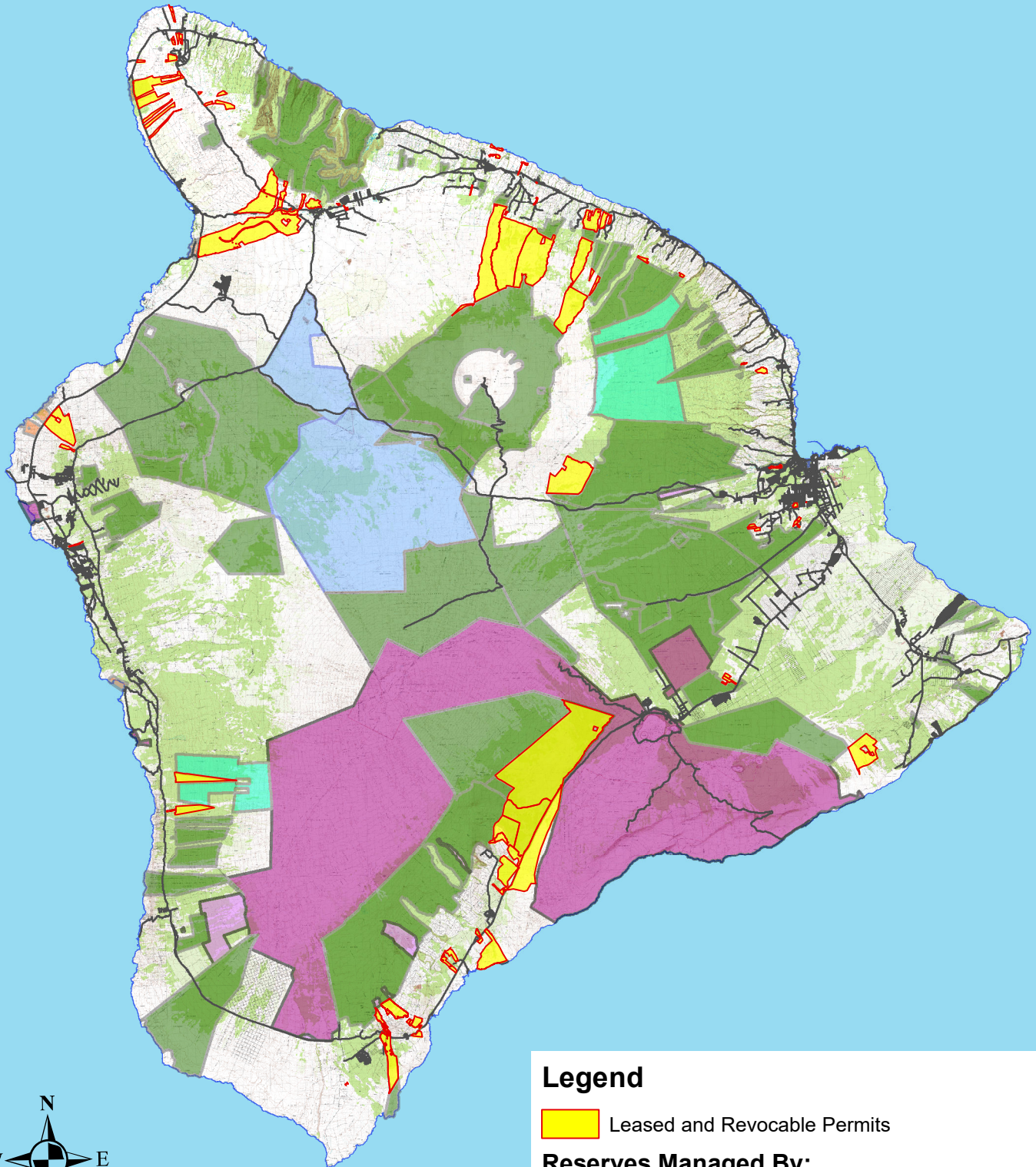


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HB2035 Pilot TMKs: Puu Mali




0 2.5 5 10 Miles




Legend


 Leased and Revocable Permits


Reserves Managed By:

 Div. Forestry & Wildlife, or Jointly with Other Agency

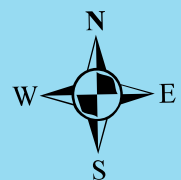
 Div. State Park

 The Nature Conservancy

 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

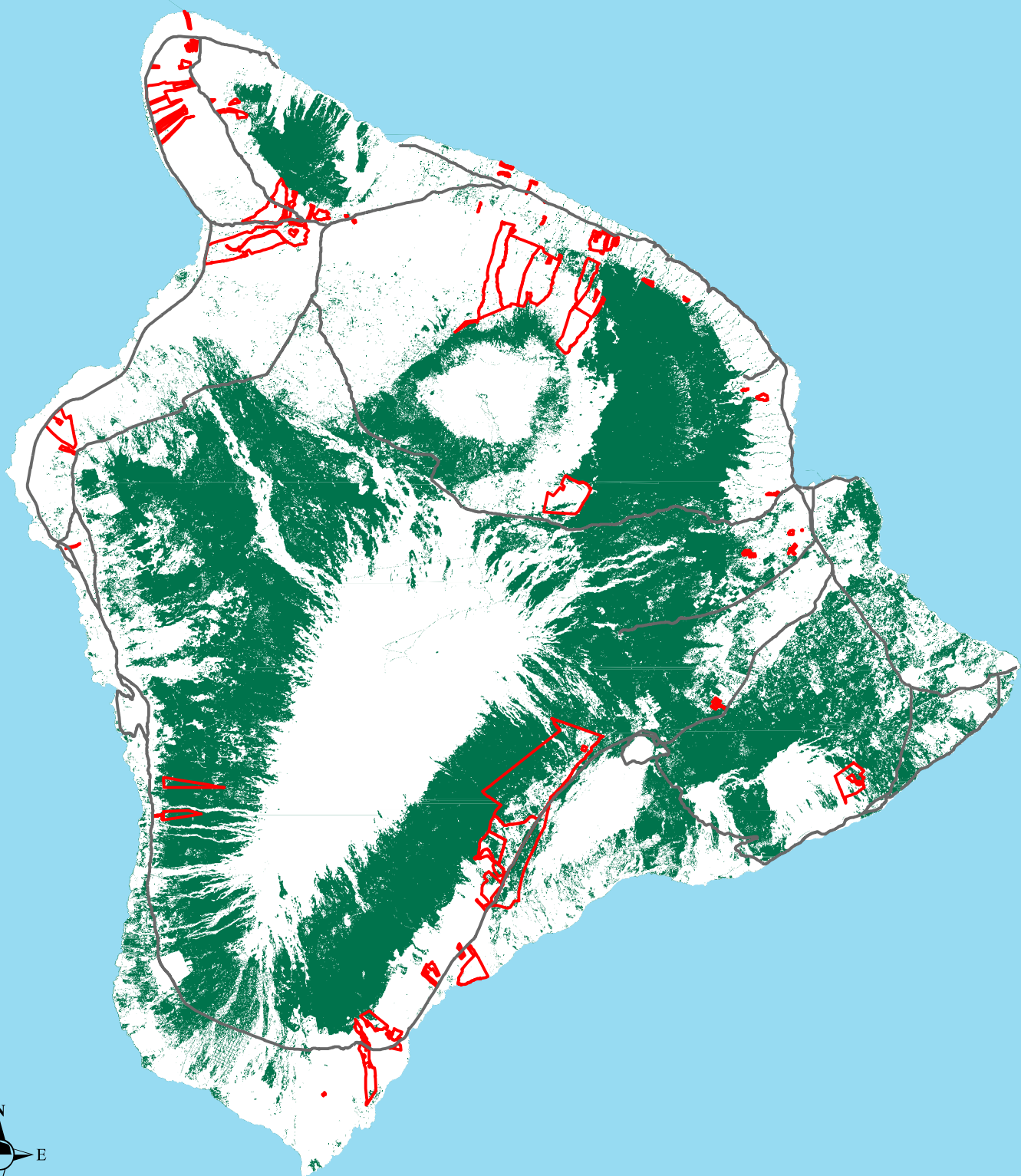
 U.S. National Park Service

 U.S. Army



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0 10 20 30 40 50 Kilometers



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Miles

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Kilometers

Legend











-  Leased and Revocable Permits
-  Forested Native Ecosystems
-  Major Roads

02/06/20

Parcels with Potential for Restoration Native Ecosystems Before Human Contact



Legend

-  Leased and Revocable Permits
-  Native Montane Wet Forest
-  Native Lowland Wet Forest
-  Native Montane Mesic Forest
-  Native Lowland Dry Mesic Forest
-  Native Subalpine Shrubland
-  Native Montane Dry Forest
-  Native Lowland Dry Forest
-  Barren or Alpine
-  Major Roads







0 2.5 5 10 15 20
Miles

0 5 10 20 30 40
Kilometers

Parcels with Potential for Restoration Remaining Native Ecosystems



Legend

-  Leased and Revocable Permits
-  Native Montane Wet Forest
-  Native Lowland Wet Forest
-  Native Montane Mesic Forest
-  Native Lowland Dry Mesic Forest
-  Native Subalpine Shrubland
-  Native Montane Dry Forest
-  Native Lowland Dry Forest
-  Barren or Alpine
-  Major Roads



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

0 5 10 20 30 40
Kilometers



0 2.5 5 10 15 20
Miles

0 5 10 20 30 40
Kilometers

Legend

-  Leased and Revocable Permits
-  Endangered Species in Parcels
-  Critical Habitat for Endangered Species
-  Major Roads

02/06/20



SUMMARY

DESCRIPTION

EXPECTED BENEFITS





2020 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

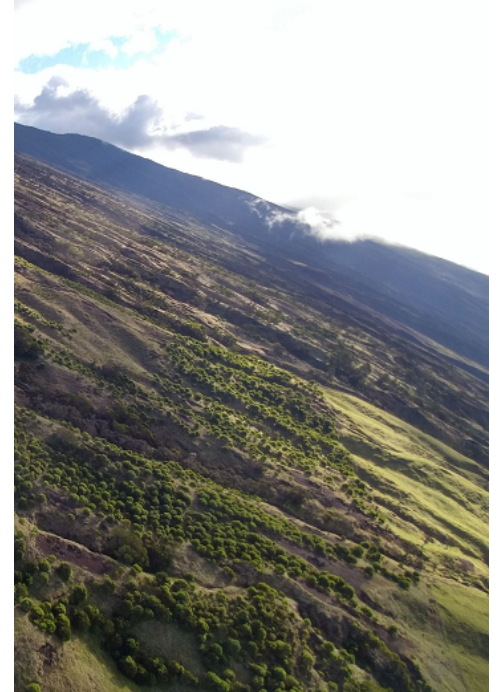
SB2812/HB2577 would transfer pasture leases to DOA because DOA appears to have greater flexibility under Chapter 166E, HRS to amend, extend, and issue new leases by negotiation. However, those goals could be achieved instead through SB2914/HB2358 to give DLNR similar statutory flexibility for negotiating pasture leases.



PASTURE LAND CONSERVATION VALUES

-  Water
-  Fire & Forest Health
-  Native Ecosystems
-  Forestry
-  Recreation

DLNR PARTNERSHIPS WITH RANCHERS



CLIMATE CHANGE AND CARBON NEUTRALITY

CONTACT PERSON

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



LATE

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

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

TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

JUNE 30, 2020
10:15 A.M.
AUDITORIUM

HOUSE BILL NO. 2035, SD1
RELATING TO NON-AGRICULTURAL PARK LANDS

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2035, SD 1. This measure requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources ("DLNR") to transfer to the Department of Agriculture ("Department") specified non-agricultural park lands by a specified deadline; requires lessees to develop and implement watershed partnership plans and dedicate fifty percent of meat production for local consumption by December 31, 2023; requires the Department to report on the percentage of local meat production marketed within the state and the status of implementation of the watershed partnership plan; amends the definition of "agricultural activities" used in chapter 166E, HRS; and sunsets on June 30, 2021.

The Department supports this measure and respectfully offers the following comments and recommendations.

The Department appreciates this measure's intent to expedite transfers of agricultural land to the Department, however, is concerned about the its ability to ensure



that the lands being transfers and the existing dispositions encumbering those lands are suitable and appropriate for agricultural use, and if not, that the process for returning those lands to the State's public lands inventory occurs in an expedient manner.

The return of lands that the Department has determined to be unsuitable or inappropriate for agricultural should not be limited to the parcels specified in this measure and should apply to anything within its agricultural land inventory to ensure that it can be available for other suitable public uses. Allowing such parcels to remain in the agricultural portfolio creates a significant liability risk since the Department lacks the adequate resources to manage non-agricultural matters. Additionally, the determination of compliance with HRS, Section 166E-3 for leases and agreements should reside with the Department as the enforcing authority for that statute.

As such, the Department respectfully requests the following amendments to the measure:

- (1) In Lines 8-9 on Page 2, replace the phrase "...pursuant to this Act that the department of agriculture has determined..." with the phrase "...to the department of agriculture that has been determined by the department of agriculture..."
- (2) In Lines 7-8 on Page 4, replace the phrase "...all leases and agreements that are not in compliance with..." with the phrase "...all leases and agreements that are determined by the department of agriculture to be not in compliance with..."
- (3) The June 30, 2021 sunset date in Section 7 of the measure should only apply to Sections 3(a), (b), and (c) of the bill. Sunsetting the entire Act would have the unintended and undesirable consequence of repealing the statutory clarifications and changes adopted in sections 1 and 2, 3(d), and 4. Repeal of Section 4 would be inconsistent with the intended reporting requirements set forth in the section.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

LATE



HB2035 HD1 SD1
RELATING TO NON-AGRICULTURAL PARK LANDS
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

June 30, 2020

10:15 a.m.

Capitol Auditorium

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **OPPOSES** HB2035 HD1 SD1, which may significantly compromise the Department of Land and Natural Resources' (DLNR's) ability to properly protect and promote native forests, watersheds, and habitats, including the natural and cultural resources they contain, on several thousands of acres of land on Hawai'i Island. While OHA recognizes and appreciates that the recent SD1 amendments to this measure aim to reduce and better protect those lands contemplated for transfer to the Department of Agriculture (DOA), OHA continues to have significant concerns with this bill with regards to (1) the DOA's lack of capacity to ensure that the non-agricultural values of transferred lands are sufficiently protected; (2) agricultural development exemptions that may be applied to the transferred lands; (3) ambiguities regarding the applicability of the proposed watershed partnership plan and other requirements for occupants of transferred lands; and (4) ambiguities regarding the applicability of such proposed requirements after the measure is "repealed" in one year's time.

First, OHA continues to express concern that this measure may significantly compromise the DLNR's ability to fulfill its kuleana to properly maintain native forests, watersheds, critical habitats, and natural and cultural resources and sites found on and adjacent to the lands that would be transferred to the DOA. The transfer of these lands from the DLNR, which has the responsibility, institutional memory, and expertise to balance the many important roles of these "pasture" lands, to the DOA, which does not, could compromise a wide range of non-agricultural interests in these public lands, including natural and cultural resources and sites that are of particular significance to the Native Hawaiian community.

Although limited from its original proposal to transfer over 100,000 acres from DLNR to the DOA, OHA notes that **HB2035 HD1 SD1 still seeks to transfer a significant amount of acreage on Hawai'i island – over 45,000 acres, according to DLNR's calculations.** These lands contain irreplaceable cultural and natural resources, historical sites, and accesses, including, but not limited to:

- The **historic 'Āinapō trail**, considered the traditional Native Hawaiian route to Mauna Loa and used to provide offerings to goddess Pele. 'Āinapō is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Kapāpala Forest Reserve houses the only public access to this trail from the highway;

- Thousands of acres of **native forests providing critical habitats** for endangered species including the ‘akiapōlā‘au, ‘io, nēnē, palila, and various native plants;
- Over **28,000 acres of public hunting area** which DLNR negotiates with Kapāpala Ranch to manage the Kapāpala Cooperative Game Management Area for community access to food and recreational resources; and
- Areas adjacent to DLNR-managed reserves that allow for **connectivity to native ecosystems, including the Pu‘u Mali Carbon Forest Project** that since 2004 has been undergoing reforestation efforts to recharge the watershed and provide longterm habitat for the endangered palila bird.

Even with the “watershed partnership plan” requirements for lands transferred under this bill, it is unclear whether and how these and similar resources, sites, and accesses will be adequately protected in light of the DOA’s limited staff capacity and subject matter expertise in reviewing and approving such plans, and the potentially limited scope of any watershed partnership plans to the extent that they are, in fact, required and adopted.

Second, OHA expresses significant concerns regarding the applicability of non-agricultural park land development exemptions under **Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (HRS) § 166E-10 to these transferred parcels. This section would allow DOA to develop these transferred lands in a manner “exempt from all statutes, ordinances, charter provisions, and rules of any governmental agency relating to planning, zoning, construction standards for subdivisions, development and improvement of land, and construction of buildings thereon.”** Such broad exemptions only exacerbate OHA’s concerns regarding the DOA’s lack of capacity to protect lands and resources from potential development activities on the transferred lands. Minimally, HRS § 166E-10 should be made inapplicable to the lands contemplated for transfer under this measure.

Third, OHA notes that the bill’s main protections for lands transferred to the DOA would require “[l]essees currently managing livestock production” (emphasis added) on the identified parcels to (1) develop and implement a watershed partnership plan, and (2) within three years, dedicate 50% of their livestock meat and beef production to the State’s local food industry. However, OHA emphasizes that many of the 11 specified parcels under this pilot project are not leased, but under Revocable Permits (RPs). To apply these protection requirements to RP holders and occupants, rather than just lessees, subsection (c) of Section 3 on page 4, lines 14-15, should be amended to read as follows:

“(c) Lessees, permittees, or other occupants managing livestock production on the parcels identified in subsection (a) shall:”

However, again, even if these requirements were to be applied to RP holders as well as lessees, OHA questions whether the envisioned “watershed partnership plans” would cover, much less adequately account for, the need to protect endangered native species habitat, trail access, and historic sites that may be found on or adjacent to the transferred parcels.

Minimally, further details regarding the scope, review and approval requirements, and minimum contents of the contemplated watershed partnership plans would be necessary to ensure the protection of interests and values in lands and resources that clearly are not within the DOA's purview or statutory responsibility to protect and manage.

Lastly, OHA points to the potentially premature proposed sunset date of June 30, 2021 next year, and questions how the measure's repeal may affect compliance with watershed partnership plan reporting and implementation requirements expressly contemplated to take place over the next several years.

Accordingly, OHA urges the Committee to **HOLD** HB2035 HD1 SD1, to ensure basic protections for the significant amount of valuable 'āina and resources proposed to be transferred to the DOA. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 11:28:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Theresa M Thompson	Testifying for Thompson Ranch	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 6:18:33 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jimmy Gomes	Testifying for Ulupalakua ranch	Support	No

Comments:



Young Progressives Demanding Action
P.O. Box 11105
Honolulu, HI 96828

June 30, 2020
10:15 AM

TO: Senate Committee on Ways & Means (WAM)
RE: Testimony in Opposition to HB2035 HD1 SD1

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, Members of the Senate Committee on Ways & Means,

My name is Jun Shin. I am a Junior at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and serve as the Environmental Justice Action Committee Chair for the Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA). YPDA advocates for public policies that reflect the values of young people throughout the State of Hawai‘i. One of those values is that public lands need to be taken care of and held to the highest standard for the public good. YPDA is in **Opposition** to **HB2035 HD1 SD1**, Relating to Non-Agricultural Park Lands.

The thousands of public lands at stake in this measure that would be transferred from the Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR) to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) are very rich and precious lands. Watersheds, native forests, and endangered species habitats exist alongside agriculture and even public hunting grounds, allowing for a diverse number of interests from hunters to Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners to share a fragile balance with one another.

DLNR, “is responsible for managing, administering, and exercising control over public lands” as stated on their website. They have a legal responsibility to the public trust and although the department is by no means a perfect trustee, it has the mission and the staff with the expertise that is needed in its divisions to take care of our public lands. This is a major requirement that the DOA lacks.

Alongside the loss of institutional knowledge and the important standards the department places on public lands, the Board of Agriculture that governs the department may under Hawai‘i Revised Statutes §166E-10 exempt non-agricultural park land development from county and state environmental and development laws. This could potentially restrict access to

the lands from non-agricultural groups, while harming our watershed forests and native species habitats with the lack of proper oversight. The State should not be forsaking their public trust duties to these lands and its precious resources by allowing this transfer to proceed.

If you look at the written testimony for this measure, you will see that the frustrations that ranchers have with the DLNR's process for handling land dispositions, which is at the heart of this bill is shared between fellow supporters and even opponents of this measure. This should be meaningfully worked out between stakeholders in order to reach a solution that allows for:

1. The proper management of public lands.
2. The protection of our natural and cultural resources.
3. The creation of policy that allows for smaller scale, lower impact activities in areas such as ranching and even farming to face less issues when getting permits to use public lands.

Young Progressives Demanding Action is in **Opposition to HB2035 HD1 SD1**. The legislature once again should not be considering such a controversial measure when the public is unable to fully participate in the legislative process due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We respectfully ask for you to **HOLD** this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Jun Shin,
Environmental Justice Action Committee Chair
Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA)
Cell: 808-255-6663
Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com
CC: action@ypdahawaii.org

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 3:51:32 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Testifying for Animal Rights Hawai'i	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 8:02:43 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sylvia Dolena	Testifying for Aloha Animal Advocates	Oppose	No

Comments:

The lands should remain under the purview of DLNR- they are important for watershed protection, and of course cattle are not beneficial to the environment.



June 28, 2020

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd and Members of the Committee on Water, Land and Hawaiian Affairs:

Kalapana Tropicals Inc. **strongly supports HB2035** to set a deadline and enforce Act 90, 2003.

As a horticulturist and business owner involved in the commercial floriculture industry in the Puna district of Hawaii Island for 33 years, it is very clear to me that ranch land activities are clearly agricultural enterprises that need to be managed by the Department of Agriculture not DLNR.

This bill reinforces Act 90, enacted in 2003, which was passed to transfer certain lands from DLNR to DOA. Farmers and ranchers have been waiting 17 years. It is long over due that these farmers and ranchers are given the supportive management that DOA can offer; providing lease terms that enable them to continue to invest in long term business practices that require highly strategized planning, financial investment, leadership and the sheer guts and dedication it takes to run a large scale agricultural operation.

Farmers ARE natural stewards of the land, which shows through the deep passion they have for their work, the perseverance through the long days, the years it takes to build and develop a sustainable environment for ranching on top of the challenges of weather and natural disasters. Without a commitment of a long term, reasonable lease, Hawaii will stand to lose another vitally important aspect of diversified agriculture that helps sustain our island community by providing jobs and food in addition to caring for highly complex blocks of land while doing so with respect to the very diverse eco-systems of Hawaii.

For 26 years I have had the pleasure to witness this ranching lifestyle at ***Kapapala Ranch*** that has embodied the finer points of land management, public access, diversified agriculture, protection of endangered species in addition to the huge financial investment in what is now a 100,000 million gallon water system with miles of pipeline. None of this would have been accomplished without vision, passion, backbreaking work and the support of a long-term lease that makes it all a worthwhile endeavor.

HB2035 will provide the land security to our fellow farmers and ranchers so they may continue to be productive viable businesses, producers of food while also providing sustainable stewardship to the land.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Melinda Clark
V-President
Kalapana Tropicals Inc.
808-987-8765



June 26, 2020

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Comments Regarding HB 2035, H.D.1, S.D.1, Relating to Non-agricultural Park Lands (Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources [DLNR] to transfer to the Department of Agriculture [DOA] specified non-agricultural park lands by a specified deadline; requires lessees to develop and implement a watershed partnership plan and dedicate fifty percent of meat production for local consumption by December 31, 2023; requires DOA to report on the percentage of local meat production marketed within the State; amends the definition of “agricultural activities” used in Chapter 166E, Hawaii Revised Statutes [HRS]; sunsets 6/30/2021.)

Tuesday, June 30, 2020, 10:15 a.m., in State Capitol Auditorium

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers, and utility companies. LURF’s mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational, and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii’s significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to provide comments concerning **HB 2035, H.D.1, S.D.1** in support of the various agricultural stakeholder groups who defend the goals of viable agricultural operations and the conservation and protection of agriculture in Hawaii.

HB 2035, H.D.1, S.D.1. This bill proposes to require the DLNR to transfer to the DOA specified non-agricultural park lands by a specified deadline. This SD1 version of the measure also requires lessees to develop and implement a watershed partnership plan and dedicate fifty percent of meat production for local consumption by December 31, 2023. This version of the bill further amends the definition of “agricultural activities” used in Chapter 166E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and also requires DOA to report on the percentage of local meat production marketed within the State.

LURF's Position. LURF members include property owners, farmers and ranchers who own, maintain, and engage in agricultural enterprises, and who consider efforts to protect and support agriculture significant to the continued conduct of their operations and to help sustain and preserve farming and ranching businesses into the future.

LURF understands that many farmers and ranchers have been awaiting the transfer of their land leases from the DLNR to the DOA pursuant to Act 90, Session Laws of Hawaii (2003) (codified as HRS Chapter 166E), which was enacted to ensure long-term productive use of public agricultural lands to be managed by the DOA. The 17-year delay of the anticipated transfers, however, has impaired the ability of farmers and ranchers to establish and implement long-term plans for their operations, and the determination of a time deadline by which to accomplish the transfer of leases from the DLNR to the DOA would greatly assist with this effort.

The H.D.1 version of this bill, and similar measures introduced in years past, have justifiably sought to establish a deadline for the subject transfers which were mandated by Act 90 in 2003, but to date have not been effectuated. LURF has therefore supported and continues to support the H.D.1 version of HB 2035.

LURF further supports this measure's clarification that "agricultural activities" in non-agricultural park lands shall include the care and management of pasture lands, since Act 90 expressly includes in its definition of "agricultural activities," the care and production of livestock and livestock products, which requires pasture. Livestock ranching is a significant component of Hawaii's agricultural sector, being a highly productive, expanding, and extremely valuable industry on all islands with an estimated current annual value of more than \$68 million.

It is extremely concerning, however, that the S.D.1 version of this measure now purposefully distorts and transforms the original purpose and intent of the current bill, as well as the underlying primary purpose and intent of Act 90

from:

setting a deadline for the transfer of certain non-agricultural park lands from DLNR to DOA,

to:

creating a pilot project to temporarily transfer certain limited parcels of land that have been identified as having the highest and best current and future use for livestock production on the island of Hawaii from DLNR to DOA.

In short, SB 2035 which was specifically proposed as a measure to enforce and implement the purpose and intent of Act 90 (which has been unduly disregarded for the past 17 years), now appears to have been contradictorily and objectionably transformed by this S.D.1 into an **unlawful amendment**, if not an **unlawful repeal** of the

existing law, which would substantially reduce and limit the transfer of non-agricultural park lands¹.

Moreover, the S.D.1 further attempts to **unlawfully amend** the intent of Act 90 and the current provisions of HRS Section 166E-3 by **including additional, contentious conditions** relating to the transfer of non-agricultural park lands to DOA, which will allow transfers to be **subject to dispute, as well as to added scrutiny and layers of approval by the State Land Use Commission (LUC), thereby potentially causing excessive administrative delays and burdens, and spurring challenges through quasi-judicial contested case hearings which can be appealed and last for several years.** Such repercussions are clearly in direct contravention of the intent underlying the current law.

Other new, unreasonable, and objectionable amendments proposed to be imposed by this S.D.1, include the requirement of land lessees to dedicate fifty percent of meat production for local consumption by December 31, 2023, which LURF understands **cannot even be satisfied by current livestock producers.**

For the reasons set forth above, and in accordance with the State's policies to promote and foster agriculture and an atmosphere of acceptance for all agricultural practices, LURF therefore **supports HB 2035, H.D.1, but must oppose HB 2035, H.D.1,** and respectfully urges your consideration of the foregoing comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding this matter.

¹ The only non-agricultural park lands transferrable by DLNR to DOA pursuant to this S.D.1 version of the bill (and then, only "upon identification and approval by the LUC") are the 11 parcels located on the island Hawaii, as proposed in Section 3(a) of the measure.



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

HB2035, HD1 SD1

Requires DLNR to transfer to DOA specified non-agricultural park lands by a specified deadline. Requires lessees to develop and implement a watershed partnership plan and dedicate fifty percent of meat production for local consumption by December 31, 2023. Requires DOA to report on the percentage of local meat production marketed within the State. Amends the definition of "agricultural activities" used in chapter 166E, HRS. Sunsets 6/30/2021. (SD1)

Tuesday, June 30, 2020, 10:15 am
Auditorium, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

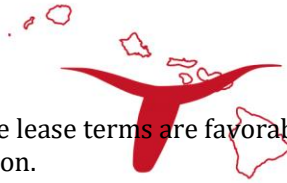
Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports HB2035 HD1 SD1**. **Hawaii's ranchers have been waiting for Act 90, 2003 to be enforced—we value the intent of this 17 year old legislature to ensure that agricultural lands and ask that the pilot project described in HB2035 HD1 SD1 will indeed be a mechanism to fully enact Act 90. A pilot project should assess the feasibility of the transfer described in Act 90 on a smaller scale, and then be geared up to complete the rest of the leases. First and foremost, we support Act 90, 2003 for all agricultural leases to be transferred to the Department of Agriculture.**

While we support HB2035 HD1 SD1, we have concerns about the implications of a "temporary" transfer of lands as described in purpose 2 of this act. What will happen after 3 years? Additionally, we would like to point out that a flat percentage of beef required to be produced locally is not ideal for applying to all ranches. A 2019 survey revealed 58% of ranchers want to increase their herds in the next 5 years. Many of Hawaii's ranchers aim to keep more cattle in Hawaii to be finished on grass, but there are limiting factors: access to quality forage, drought, processing facility capacity, and markets for selling the beef are a few of them. We request that this pilot project be amendable to both encourage lease holders to increase local food production, but also keep in mind flexibility to adjust for limiting factors. There are many factors that need to simultaneously improve in order for ranchers to finish cattle locally.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversity its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce. This bill will provide much needed support to keep agriculture running rather than facing the daunting task of restarting the industry after farms and ranches have shut down.

Act 90 was passed in 2003 for the purpose of ensuring the long-term productive use of public agricultural lands by allowing these lands to be transferred to and managed by the department of agriculture. The 17-year delay in transferring agricultural lands has hindered the ability for ranchers to do long-term planning. Agriculture has always been a vital part of Hawaii's well-being, and our current situation highlights that importance even more. For Hawaii to give agriculture the support it needs, agricultural



lands should be transferred to DOA where lease terms are favorable and encourage improvements to the land and expansion of local food production.

Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

Agricultural leases administered by HDOA are better tailored to agricultural operations and the management of those natural resources for agricultural purposes and sustainability for the following reasons:

- HDOA's mission is for agricultural production and to gain greater self-sufficiency in food, whereas DLNR's mission is to manage Hawaii's natural, cultural, and historic resources.
- Lands under DLNR go to public auction for lease disposal and aim to generate the highest lease rents possible. Consistent with HDOA's mission, the terms and conditions of their leases including rent structure are viable for ag uses and encourage good stewardship of said resources for agricultural sustainability.
- Long lease terms under HDOA allow ranches to invest in improvements to the land and gives them confidence based on sufficient tenure to grow their operation.

Ranchers are proponents for stewarding the land well and will continue to implement conservation practices when leases are transferred to HDOA—the health of the land allows ranchers to continue their production. With long-term leases based on agricultural production, ranchers will be even better situated to invest in long-term conservation practices. They will continue to be cooperators with their local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and manage their conservation plans under DOA leases. They will continue to fight invasive species, provide watershed management, and carbon sequestration, and provide all of the other eco-system services they have always provided, all at no cost to the State or the general public. But they need agricultural lease terms under DOA to be successful.

The transfer of agricultural leases to the Department of Agriculture is long overdue and we respectfully ask that the committees support HB2035 HD1 SD1 and ensure that the pilot project leads to the full enforcement of Act 90, 2003. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this critical matter for our industry.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director



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

June 30, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON HB 2035, HD1 SD1
RELATING TO NON-AGRICULTURAL PARK LANDS

Auditorium
10:15 AM

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, 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 1,800 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 strongly supports HB 2035, HD1 SD1, which will provide some agricultural producers on Hawaii Island the long-awaited support and lease stability they and many others have sought since DLNR ag lands and related facilities were mandated by this body to be transferred to DOA 17 years ago.

The bill also makes clear that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

The intent of Act 90 SLH 2003 was to ensure the long-term productive use of agricultural lands across the islands by transferring them to DOA, which is better equipped to manage agricultural lands. Although this bill falls short of fully implementing Act 90, we are appreciative that at least some parcels will be transferred by the end of the year. We are hopeful that the rest of the ag land will be transferred soon thereafter and respectfully ask that you clarify that that is your intent.

The success of ranchers and farmers is critical to the State's goal to double local food production. We know you recognize that DOA is the only agency structured to advance agriculture and make it practical for producers to succeed and provide our communities with what they need. For example, under DOA, lands are appraised on their agricultural value while under DLNR, lands are auctioned for lease at the highest rates possible, which is typically unaffordable for farmers and ranchers. Additionally, DOA's long-term leases make it possible for farmers and ranchers to prudently invest in infrastructure improvement and resource conservation on the leased land.

Please pass this measure to support Hawaii's farmers and ranchers and our communities.



Hawaii's Thousand Friends

335 Hahani Street #342132 * Kailua, HI 96734 * Phone/Fax (808) 262-0682 E-Mail: htff3000@gmail.com

June 30, 2020

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Members of the committees

HB 2035 HD1 SD1
RELATING TO NON-AGRICULTURAL PARK LANDS

Hawaii's Thousand Friends, a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that growth is reasonable and responsible and that planning and land use decisions protect natural and cultural resources and human health are implemented in conformity with the law, opposes HB 2035 HD1 SD1 that requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to turn thousands of acres of pasture land to the Department of Agriculture (DOA).

The tens of thousands of pasture lands that this bill seeks to have DLNR turn over to DOA are remnant native forests that provide access to hiking trails, provide habitat for Hawaii's endangered flora and fauna, reduce erosion and are watersheds that protect water sources.

While cattle have grazed on pasturelands these lands have never been plowed or clear-cut. Thus, they conceal unknown archaeological sites and offer countless opportunities for reforestation.

With over half of Hawaii's forestlands gone it is critical that the remaining mauka forest and watershed lands be protected to provide clean safe water and habitat for Hawaii's endangered plants and birds.

DLNR has the responsibility of protecting the public trust as delineated in the Hawaii Constitution Article XI, Section 1 "For the benefit of present and future generations, the State and its political subdivisions shall conserve and protect Hawaii's natural beauty and all natural resources, including land, water, air, minerals, and energy sources, and shall promote the development and utilization of these resources in a manner consistent with their conservation...."

We urge you to hold HB 2035 HD1 SD1 and reevaluate the consequences of Act 90 (2003) on Hawaii's finite natural and cultural resources with the understanding that DLNR cannot abrogate its public trust responsibilities.



Ponoholo Ranch Limited

P O BOX 700489
KAPOLEI, HI 96709
(808) 306-7769

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

HB2035, HD1 SD1

Requires DLNR to transfer to DOA specified non-agricultural park lands by a specified deadline. Requires lessees to develop and implement a watershed partnership plan and dedicate fifty percent of meat production for local consumption by December 31, 2023. Requires DOA to report on the percentage of local meat production marketed within the State. Amends the definition of "agricultural activities" used in chapter 166E, HRS. Sunsets 6/30/2021. (SD1)

Wednesday, June 24, 2020, 12:30 pm
Conference Room 229, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Alan Gottlieb, and I am The Vice President of Ponoholo Ranch, a working cattle ranch on the Big Island of Hawaii. We steward over 10,000 acres of land.

Ponoholo Ranch **strongly supports** HB 2035 HD1 SD1.

While there are many pressing issues that have arisen from the effects of COVID-19, Agriculture as a Means of Job Creation and GDP Growth, as heard in both houses of the Legislature in recent weeks, should continue to be a priority topic. This crisis has shown us that there is a great need to diversify Hawaii's economy, including more support for agriculture. Agriculture is already here and can thrive, given some legislative support. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. This bill will provide much needed support to keep agriculture running rather than facing the daunting task of restarting the industry after farms and ranches have shut down.

We support this bill as it provides a timeline to accomplish the transfer of agricultural leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) and specifies that pasture lands are agricultural as per legislative intent from 2003, **17 years ago**.

The transfer of lands to HDOA is critical for the success of agricultural producers, as HDOA leases are based on agricultural value.

This bill will simply change the state agency which administers agricultural leases, including pasture leases.

What this bill will NOT do, as purposed in past testimony:

- It is **NOT** a land grab. Lands would be transferred by Executive order from one State Department to another. They can be transferred back, if appropriate, at any future time.
- It is **NOT** changing a definition of Agriculture or trying to sneak pasture lands into the intent of Act 90, 2003. Pasture was clearly included in Act 90, despite separate classifications DLNR may have used in the past for their lease types.
- Management on the land by ranches will **NOT** change. Ranchers will continue to ranch and continue to be excellent, award winning land stewards, following conservation plans from the Soil and Water Conservation Districts, an arm of DLNR; allow public access and Hunting if they are allowing now under DLNR; allow Native Gathering Rights, just as they do now. In fact, ranchers would be happy to include any and all conservation requirements and other non-financial terms now included in their DLNR lease in any new lease with HDOA.
- Ranchers will **NOT** clear cut Koa Forests as has been submitted in testimony and will **NOT** illegally harvest Koa. They will maintain Forests (our watershed) and keep cattle out of the forests.
- Ranchers will **NOT** allow invasive species from their MANAGED lands into forests. They will continue to fight the invasive species that now flourish in many DLNR forests.

Some have asked why support the cattle industry, when so many cattle are shipped out of State as young calves. Selling cattle in Mainland markets is currently significantly economically advantageous. More and more cattle are staying in State for grass finished markets, but we need more infrastructure to process and sell the beef. Increased volume will help with that, and better land tenure will lead to increased volume. But even if every calf were shipped out of State (which they are not), we'd still have our culled cows to provide local food for our schools and residents and we would still have the Environmental Benefits (Eco-System Services) that help every resident of our State, at no cost to them: Open spaces, Watershed management and protection, public access and Carbon Sequestration.

YES – CARBON SEQUESTRATION. It is well documented, that improved Grass Lands are an excellent carbon sink, far outweighing carbon produced by Belching Cows, and unlike forests continue to hold the carbon in the ground, even after a wildfire. There are many studies that show this, and more being done every day, including here in Hawaii by the University of Hawaii. I would be happy to provide the committee with Citations if requested.

We firmly believe that Act 90 refers to pasture leases. Act 90 clearly defines agricultural activities as, “the care and production of livestock, livestock products, poultry, or poultry products, or apiary, horticultural, or floricultural products, or the planting, cultivating, and

harvesting of crops or trees.” The care and production of livestock requires pasture, and this bill clarifies that.

Act 90 was passed in 2003 for the purpose of ensuring the long-term productive use of public agricultural lands by allowing these lands to be transferred to and managed by the department of agriculture. The delay in transferring agricultural lands hinders the ability for ranchers to do long-term planning.

In fact, two Ponoholo Ranch leases and one Revocable Permit previously held under DLNR were transferred by Executive Order to HDOA in 2019, based on an agreement with DLNR that Ponoholo Ranch would be a test case, and then others would follow. Ponoholo Ranch was a successful test case, and DLNR after a visit to Ponoholo by the Chair, Deputy and several key employees, was very happy with the work Ponoholo was doing stewarding the land and providing access for hunters. However, since that meeting in 2018 and agreement, no other pasture leases have been transferred as DLNR had agreed. Its time more pasture leases are transferred as agreed.

Agricultural leases administered by HDOA will be better tailored to agricultural operations and the management of those natural resources for agricultural purposes and sustainability. It will aid in increasing local food production for the following reasons:

- HDOA’s mission is for agricultural production and to gain greater self-sufficiency in food, whereas DLNR’s mission is to manage Hawaii’s natural, cultural, and historic resources.
- Lands under DLNR go to public auction for lease disposal and aim to generate the highest lease rents possible. Consistent with HDOA’s mission, the terms and conditions of their leases including rent structure are viable for ag uses and encourage good stewardship of said resources for agricultural sustainability.
- Long lease terms under HDOA allow ranches to invest in improvements to the land and gives them confidence based on sufficient tenure to grow their operation.

Ranchers are proponents for stewarding the land well and will continue to work in consultation with DLNR on conservation practices when leases are transferred to HDOA. Many ranchers are award winning land stewards, participating in watershed partnerships and administering conservation plans with their local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, which are administratively affiliated with DLNR.

The transfer of these leases to HDOA is long overdue and this bill provides relief to farmers and ranchers by providing a timeline to complete the transfer of these leases. We respectfully ask this committee to support this measure. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this critical matter for our industry.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 9:16:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John C. Cross	Testifying for Ka'u Soil & Water Conservation District	Support	No

Comments:

My name is John C. Cross and I am the Chairman of the Ka'u Soil & Water Conservation District. I strongly support HB 2035. We need the large State of Hawaii Agricultural Lands transferred to the Dept. of Agriculture in order to preserve the stewardship of these lands in long term leases with HDOA.

I have worked many years with many of the State Land tenants here in the Ka'u district. These tenants treat the lands with care and respect and keep soil conservation measures in place to keep the lands productive and safe for generations to come.

Please approve this bill in order to preserve the Agricultural integrity of these State of Hawaii lands.

Aloha,

John C. Cross



June 29, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of HB2035, which would require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to transfer specific state leases to the Department of Agriculture.

This bill will help to stabilize and support the agricultural industry in Hawai'i by allowing farmers and ranchers on specific DLNR lands to become parts of the DOA ag lease program, specifically designed to help farmers and ranchers produce food and other goods for our communities. This transfer is a logical step in strengthening the agricultural industry, and by extension, the economy of our state, and will also help the state to achieve our sustainability goals.

W.H. Shipman, Limited is not directly impacted by HB2035, but we support this bill in solidarity with the farmers and ranchers that we work with in the agricultural community.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Margaret "Peggy" Farias
President

16-523 Keaau-Pahoa Road Keaau, HI 96749

tel.: 808.966.9325 • fax: 808.966.8522

www.whshipman.com

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 10:11:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Galimba	Testifying for Kuahiwi Ranch	Support	No

Comments:

Please support local food production by local farmers and ranchers by supporting HB2935 HD1 SD1.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
Tuesday, June 30, 2020 — 10:15 a.m. — Auditorium

Ulupono Initiative supports HB 2035 HD 1 SD 1, Relating to Non-Agricultural Park Lands.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

My name is Amy Hennessey, and I am the Senior Vice President of Communications & External Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve our community's quality of life by creating more locally produced food; increasing affordable clean renewable energy and transportation options; and better managing freshwater and waste resources.

Ulupono supports HB 2035 HD 1 SD 1, which requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to transfer to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) specified non-agricultural park lands by a specified deadline, requires lessees to develop and implement a watershed partnership plan and dedicate fifty percent of meat production for the local food production and meat industry by December 31, 2023, requires DOA to report on the percentage of local meat production marketed within the State and amends the definition of "agricultural activities" used in Section 166E-2, HRS.

Ulupono supports the local livestock industry and its efforts to provide fresh, healthy products for Hawai'i's consumers. With the DOA's affordable, long-term lease structure in place, local ranchers will be able to make the necessary investments into their respective operations, improving economic viability and increasing local food production for the State.

While we support the DLNR's mission to preserve natural resources and maintain watershed protection, Ulupono believes that all active agricultural pasture leases should be transferred to the DOA as per the intent of Act 90, SLH 2003. The DOA's mission and expertise to manage agricultural activities, including pasture land production, through a favorable lease structure promotes local food production.

As Hawai'i's local food issues become increasingly complex and challenging, the agricultural industry will 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 and increase our state's food security and resilience.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Amy Hennessey, APR
Senior Vice President, Communications & External Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

Barbed S Ranch, LLC

86-412C Luahualei Homestead Road
Waianae, HI 96792
(808) 696-8048 FAX (808) 696-7837 e-mail Henrysequ001@hawaii.rr.com

LATE

June 29, 2020

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair

Notice of Decision Making
June 30, 2020
10:15 am
State Capitol Auditorium

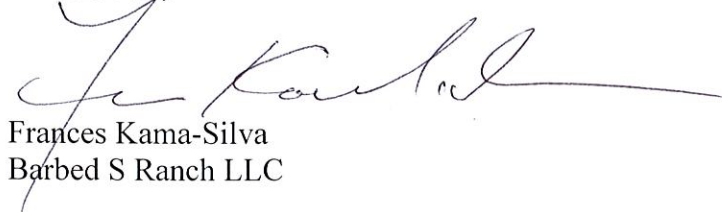
Re: HB 2035, HD1, SD1 RELATING TO NON-AGRICULTURAL PARK LANDS
SUPPORT

We are a small cow-calf producer located on the island of Oahu. Our market animals are currently air-lifted to the mainland with a small amount kept here for local consumption.

We strongly encourage the swift transfer of pasture lands currently with the DLNR to the Department of Agriculture. D.O.A. is much better equipped to manage these lands and are in line with their purpose. This will also enable the long term leases needed to enable ranchers and farmers to do their long-term planning and financing. **THIS IS ESSENTIAL TO MOVE TOWARDS PROVIDING HAWAII SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD PRODUCTION!**

State support for the availability of adequate livestock harvesting and packaging for all islands and all producers big and small is also needed for the move towards self-sufficiency.

Mahalo Nui,



Frances Kama-Silva
Barbed S Ranch LLC

I RANCH SO YOU CAN EAT

LATE

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 12:27:17 PM
Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William G. Jacintho	Testifying for Maui Cattlemen's Association	Support	No

Comments:

Previous personal testimony also on file.

Thank you,

William

From: [Peter Simmons](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Saturday, June 27, 2020 11:44:06 AM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Forest Industry Supports HB2035.

The clear intent of Act 90, which was passed into law in 2003, was to improve the States' management of its land assets by placing their responsibility in the hands of the State's departments that are most knowledgeable, capable and efficient at managing the various classes of assets. It seems peculiar and mis-guided to argue the definition of agriculture seventeen years after it was defined to include pastoral use as agriculture.

The challenge is how to optimize the use of our land for future generations. All of the large land uses like orchards, tree farms, commercial forests and pasture management require long-term planning, day to day efforts of many focused individuals and multigenerational commitment of human and fiscal resources. Working landscapes are harmed under short-term agreements because many of the inputs necessary to keep the land healthy have long-term pay backs which don't work with short term agreements.

The State and landowners do have opportunities to adjust or repurpose their lands and many thousands of acres have been repurposed in the last couple of decades. There are tens of thousands of acres on Hawaii Island that have been repurposed by both the State and Private landowners. The State has moved thousands of acres of former grazing land in upper Hamakua with the intention of restoration of Habitat for the Palila bird. The State withdrew 1,000 acres from Kapapala Ranch in Kau almost 30 years ago to demonstrate sound forest management while providing Koa for cultural and economic enhancement of the community. In these and too many other cases the acquisition appetite of our government, along its good intentions, has not been matched with the resources to manage these important lands.

Unmanaged lands, in most cases, invites land degradation over time. The State has not been able to manage its lands as it knows they should be managed. The Division of Forestry and Wildlife employ a cadre of professionals that are very capable and dedicated. We, as a State, have not funded our agencies charged with resource management and the lands show it.

Neglected lands become weed forests with amazing speed. The Hawaii Forest Industry Association applauds the idea of managing land to promote healthy and productive forests but we believe that improved land management can be achieved through land use negotiations with willing and knowledgeable ranchers. HFIA recommends appropriate incentives to achieve clear forest stewardship goals.

Asking the State's DLNR to manage these working landscapes does not demonstrate wise stewardship, because they don't have the resources to manage what they are responsible for now. DLNR is so over-burdened with their core mission of Fire prevention and suppression, protecting our rare forest birds, improving high elevation forested watersheds, providing hunting programs etc. DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife are too busy to manage the forests they have responsibility for now.

If the idea is to give more land to DOFAW to manage: regrettable that is not a good idea. We need DOFAW to continue to do what they now do better and we need DOFAW to manage the lands the way they would like to; which will take additional financial and human resources. It's simply the wrong time to burden DLNR and their DOFAW with additional responsibilities. Rather, we recommend that DOFAW be properly funded to carry out its existing mandates.

Mahalo for this opportunity to be heard,

Peter Simmons

From: [ROBERT FERREIRA](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Saturday, June 27, 2020 10:00:37 AM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce. Out in Kaupo Maui, Kaupo Ranch have 2 parcels of State lease lands through DLNR and would very much want it to be transferred to the Department of Agriculture. We do not want to become a victim of unsecured leases like many others of our fellow ranchers have faced. I support the transfer whole heartedly.

Robert H. Ferreira

Kaupo Ranch, Ltd.
Manager

From: [Stefanie Delmont](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:20:04 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Delmont
BLUE JOURNEY
74-5576 Pawai Pl Ste J PMB 697
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
bluejourney@aol.com

From: [John Gordines](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:10:05 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

John Gordines
TROPICAL FLOWERS EXPRESS
6721 Kawaihau Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746
gordines@kauaiflowers.com

From: [Mark Soppeland](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:10:04 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Mark Soppeland
President
Island Estates
PO Box 596
Kilauea, HI 96754
mleos8@outlook.com

From: [Alan Gottlieb](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:00:03 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Alan Gottlieb
VP
Ponoholo Ranch
92-6931 Puliko St
Kapolei, HI 96707
alan@prloffice.com

From: [Ron Kauha'aha'a](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 5:00:06 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Ron Kauha'aha'a
Manager
Nutrien Ag Solutions
PO Box 86
Kunia, HI 96759
ron.kauhaahaa@nutrien.com

From: [Alvin Tsuruda](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 4:50:04 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Alvin Tsuruda
Owner
Waihale Products
41-910 Mahiku Pl
Waimanalo, HI 96795
Waihale@hawaiiintel.net

From: [Patricia E Iwamoto](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 8:50:04 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Patricia E Iwamoto
YEE'S ORCHARD
379 Liholiho St
Wailuku, HI 96793
Piwamoto@msn.com

From: [Harry Holt](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 8:10:07 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Harry Holt
Ponoholo Ranch
Ponoholo Ranch
PO Box 1879
Kamuela, HI 96743
pono@ponoholo.com

From: [Guy Galimba](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 6:10:04 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Guy Galimba
President
Kuahuwi Ranch
PO Box 379
Naalehu, HI 96772
puaafarms@hotmail.com

From: [Young Tarring](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 9:40:05 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Young Tarring
Owner
OHANA BANANA FARM
162 Maka Hinu St
Hilo, HI 96720
young@applebananas.com

From: [Melvin Matsuda](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 7:10:09 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Melvin Matsuda
Vice President
Kahuku Farmers inc
PO Box 36
Kahuku, HI 96731
melvin@kahukubrand.com

From: [James Gomes](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 6:30:10 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

James Gomes
Mgr
Ulupalakua Ranch
8640 Kula Hwy
Kula, HI 96790
Jag@urmaui.com

From: robinsona015@hawaii.rr.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 6:46:21 AM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce.

I support this bill which clarifies that pasture lands are agricultural, and sets a deadline for the Act 90 transfer of agricultural lands from DLNR to DOA so that they can get the appropriate lease terms they need to succeed. We at Gay and Robinson currently lease approximately 1000 acres of state land under DLNR's year to year revocable lease. Currently, given the environment of being on the dry side of Kauai we are only able to pasture approximately 250 cows on this property. We have the ability and availability of water to turn this property into irrigated pasture and at the very least double the herd size on this property. We have discussed doing this over the years but it always comes back to the restriction on lease length. The irrigation infrastructure is quite costly and too much of a risk to install given the chance that the lease might be terminated on a yearly basis. If this bill passes and DOA were to issue us a multi-year lease it would give us the comfort to install the needed infrastructure thus increasing the value of the property.

Sincerely

Alan Robinson

President

Gay and Robinson.

From: [Margaret Bukatz](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 8:20:08 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Margaret Bukatz
President
Hawaiian Music Walk of Fame
2500 Kalakaua Ave
Honolulu, HI 96815
mbaui@aol.com

From: [Alan Tada](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 8:10:07 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Alan Tada
Flowers Forever
FLOWERS FOREVER LLC
2979 Kalena St
Lihue, HI 96766
flowersforever@hawaiiantel.biz

From: [Jerry Nishek](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 7:10:11 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Jerry Nishek
Corporate Treasurer
Kauai Nursery & Landscaping Inc.
3-1550 Kaumualii Hwy
Lihue, HI 96766
jerry@kauainursery.com

From: [Joy Gold](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: [Larry Jefts \(ljefts@aloha.net\)](mailto:ljefts@aloha.net)
Subject: Testimony for HB2035hd1,sd1, Non-Agricultural Park Lands, Sen WAM Decision Making Hearing, Tues June 30 - 10:15 am
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:00:23 AM
Attachments: [LJF_HB2035hd1_sd1_Non_Ag_Park_Lands_SenWAM.pdf](#)

Aloha,

On behalf of Larry Jefts, owner and operator of Larry Jefts Farms LLC, please accept the attached testimony for;

HB2035hd1,sd1, Relating to Non-Agricultural Park Lands

Sen WAM Decision Making Hearing

Tues June 30, 2020

10:15 am

Auditorium

Please call me on my cell, 368-1146 if there are any questions about the testimony submittal.

Thank you,

Joy Gold

Joy Gold Unlimited, Inc.

1164 Bishop Street, Ste. 1610

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

PO Box 88555

Honolulu, Hawaii 96830

Cell: 808-368-1146 www.joygoldunlimited.com

"Working with you to achieve your organization's mission and public policy goals"

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**LARRY JEFTS FARMS, LLC
PO BOX 27
KUNIA, HAWAII 96759
(808) 688-2892**

HB 2035hd1,sd1, Relating to Non-Agricultural Park Lands
Sen WAM Decision Making Hearing
Tuesday, June 30, 2020
10:15 am
Auditorium

Testimony By: Larry Jeffs
Position: Support

Chair Dela Cruz, and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the WAM
Committee:

I am Larry Jeffs, owner and operator of Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC, which is part of our family-run business of farms on Oahu and Molokai, under the administrative umbrella of Sugarland Growers, Inc. We have more than 35 years of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu. I am a volunteer director for the West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

HB 2035sd1 seeks to clarify that pastures---used for the care and production of livestock--- is indeed an agricultural activity. It also seeks to establish a deadline for the transfer of pasture leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture. This transfer of pasture leases was established in 2003, Act 90 and has not yet occurred.

This delay in lease transfers creates a situation where ranchers cannot do long-term planning to increase local grass-fed beef production. Ranchers, as in all who are involved in agriculture production, need long-term leases before capital investments can be made for production. The Department of Agriculture is a better fit for the management of land resources for agriculture purposes.

Your support of this bill is appreciated. Thank you for consideration of this testimony.

From: [John Giblin](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:40:08 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

John Giblin
owner
Ohana Farm Orchards
87-2814 Mamalahoa Hwy
Captain Cook, HI 96704
jgiblinjr@aol.com

LATE

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 1:13:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

LATE

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 1:35:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff McDevitt	Testifying for PATH	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha Legislators, PATH, a nonprofit devoted to safely connecting people and places with paths on the Big Island of Hawaii, supports DLNR in opposing this Bill which has already in the past led to closure of public access to forest trails used for generations, and could potentially also lead to clear cutting of forest lands. Thank you for your consideration. Jeff McDevitt, PATH board member.

From: [Joe Munechika](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:30:03 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Joe Munechika
Owner
Wines of Kauai, LLC
4689 Pohina St
Lihue, HI 96766
joe.munechika@gmail.com

From: [Dean Pinner](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:20:08 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Dean Pinner
owner
Pinner Creek Farms
231 W Naauao St
Hilo, HI 96720
dean@pinnercreekorganics.com

From: [MARIO GAGGERO](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:50:07 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

MARIO GAGGERO
Owner
Hawaii Seed Pro LLC
147 Hoolapa St
Kihei, HI 96753
mariorgaggero@gmail.com

From: [Randy Cabral](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:30:06 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Randy Cabral
KHK RANCH LLC
PO Box 337
Volcano, HI 96785
kaiwiki.1970@gmail.com

From: [Melvin Kunitake](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 4:50:07 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Melvin Kunitake
owner
melvin kunitake farm
PO Box 135
Holualoa, HI 96725
melvin.kuni@gmail.com

From: [Kaohi Mokuhalii](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 4:10:07 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Kaohi Mokuhalii
Owner
KM Farm & Ranch
PO Box 276
Naalehu, HI 96772
kaohi@kmfarmandranch.com

From: [Daphne McClure](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 7:40:05 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Daphne McClure
Owner
Moloa'a Bay Farms LLC
943 Kipuni Way
Kapaa, HI 96746
daphne.mcclure@gmail.com

From: [James Tavares](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 6:40:05 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

James Tavares
Owner
The Grassmaster
PO Box 3037
Kahului, HI 96733
tavaresjam@gmail.com

From: [Keane Iranon](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 5:40:06 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Keane Iranon
Owner
4Boys Ranch
PO Box 246
Volcano, HI 96785
fourboysranch@gmail.com

From: [Aileen Yeh](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 5:10:05 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Aileen Yeh
Owner
Aileen's Nursery
942 W Kawaiilani St
Hilo, HI 96720
ayeh@hawaii.rr.com

From: [Phil Becker](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 10:30:06 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Phil Becker
Owner
Aikane plantation
PO Box 698
Pahala, HI 96777
aikaneplantation@hawaii.rr.com

From: [Diane Chuensanguansat](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 8:10:06 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Diane Chuensanguansat
DINAS GARDEN
PO Box 860898
Wahiawa, HI 96786
dina@hawaii.rr.com

From: [Stephanie whalen](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 8:30:05 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Stephanie whalen
Ex Dir
HARC
PO Box 64
Kunia, HI 96759
whaleinn1944@gmail.com

From: [Alicia Bicoy](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 8:00:18 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Alicia Bicoy
Administrative Asst
Bayer Molokai
7411 Kamehameha V Hwy
Kaunakakai, HI 96748
alicia.bicoy@bayer.com

KAPAPALA RANCH

P. O. Box 537
Pahala, HI 96777
Kapapala.ranch@aol.com
lanipetrie@aol.com
808-936-2922

LATE

June 29, 2020

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee

We strongly SUPPORT HB 2035 HD1 SD1

We hope to be an asset to the State of Hawaii in achieving its food sustainability goals for many years to come. By passing HB2035 you as Legislators set the stage for farmers and ranchers to be partners in this mission.

When the Ranch was started, Kamehameha IV recognized the need to feed a growing population and granted the first lease 160 years ago. As ranching progressed it was clear nearly 100 years ago how important the watershed was in contributing to predictable rainfall so approximately 30,000 acres was withdrawn for that purpose. The cattle were fenced out in order that the forests would thrive. Also a century ago, about 4,000 acres was withdrawn from the Ranch for cultural purposes and the start of what is today the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Only 30 years ago 1,250 acres of native forest was withdrawn for Koa harvest and cultivation.

Throughout 16 decades, two World Wars, the coming and going of the sugar industry, uncountable natural and economic disasters, and 30 day revocable permits, the Ranch has continued to produce food. Please pass HB2035, un-handcuff us and let us show you how much we can really produce.

Sincerely,

KAPAPALA RANCH



Lani C. Petrie

From: [Jeri Moniz](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:00:16 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Jeri Moniz
KK Ranch
PO Box 428
Paauilo, HI 96776
jeri.moniz@gmail.com

From: [Mark Phillipson](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:00:14 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Mark Phillipson
Principal
Pacific Ag Consultants
2801 Coconut Ave Apt 4E
Honolulu, HI 96815
reelrelaxed@gmail.com

From: [Oliver English](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:10:13 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Oliver English
Director off agriculture
WH Shipman LTD
16-523 Keaau Paho Rd
Keaau, HI 96749
oenglish@whshipman.com



From: [Craig Kahauolopua](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:00:10 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Craig Kahauolopua
Owner
Hawaii UAV Service LLC
51-642 Kamehameha Hwy Apt B240
Kaaawa, HI 96730
ckanui@gmail.com

From: [Kim Kawahara](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 2:10:06 PM



Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Kim Kawahara
VP
Kawahara Gardening Specialists, inc
47-206 AHAOLELO RD
KANEEOHE, HI 96744
kawaharakoo3@hawaii.rr.com

LATE

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 11:50:47 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Montgomery & Anita Manning	Testifying for Ahahui Malama I Ka Lokahi /Hawaiians for the Conservation of Native Ecosystems	Oppose	No

Comments:

Re: HB2035

Ahahui Malama I Ka Lokahi firmly opposes this bill, which would abandon the careful process called for by Act 90, SLH 2003. When the Polynesian Voyaging Society searched for big koa trees to build voyaging canoes, sadly, they had to go to Alaska due to the damage by cattle to local forests. In 1913, the first botanist working for the Territory, Joseph Rock, published the classic Indigenous Trees of Hawaii, in which he writes:

"The whole forest has suffered greatly, not only from the invasion of cattle, but also by forest fires, which have destroyed large areas." On p. 175: "Cattle are the great enemy of the Koa". On p. 31 he notes the Volcano Park was rescuing a Manele grove in Kipuka Puauulu, where he had just discovered wonderful new trees barely saved while it was used to fatten cattle.

In this Capitol building well adorned by forest products from Hawaiian Koa, we must conclude this bill is not prudent with its capricious decree that so many upland sites, never once plowed or clearcut of trees, would be placed without "mutual agreement" under an agency lacking the expertise to manage or restore native ecosystems of forests, wildlife and shrublands.

(See section **166E-3 "Transfer ...of non-agricultural park lands ... to department of agriculture.** Upon mutual agreement and approval of the board (of Ag) and the board of land and natural resources."

The bill does not again require, as the 2003 Leg. did: "(1) The lessee or permittee shall perform in full compliance with the existing lease or permit;

(2) The lessee or permittee shall not be in arrears in the payment of taxes, rents, or other obligations owed to the State or any county; (3) The lessee's or permittee's agricultural operation shall be economically viable"

law.justia.com/codes/hawaii/2012/title-11/chapter-166e/section-166e-3/

It is unclear what problem is to be solved, but the bill does lead to new ones, so the

following must be addressed: The Bill benefits mostly current land lessees who stand to profit, not the landscape or general public.

Long-term, multigenerational leases may cut out changes by future generations desiring better uses of public trust lands and ceded lands, and can lead to a sense of entitlement on the part of lessees

Fenced forests on mauka borders will have cattle escapes into natural habitats and cause damage, so enforcement duties will remain for LNR.

DLNR has transferred to DOA 18,000 acres of crop lands, but since cattle grazed lands offers partnership programs for ranchers to protect endangered species, plant trees for habitat, carbon sequestration, and forest products, and reduce fuel loads to lower risk of wildfires. It is critical that these lands remain with DLNR to protect their public trust natural and cultural values. The DLNR has provided for ranchers interested in growing trees along with other agricultural products, and for carbon sequestration & sustainable harvest of wood as the expert agency on forestry. We should retain the close working relationships DLNR provides to facilitate diverse economic viability options in mauka landscapes in the forest belt.

Mauna Kea Forest Restoration Project is an example of ongoing tree planting in upper mamane tree belt.

North Kona at Puuwaawaa is a huge tract that can be a model for recovery of special native forests from livestock grazing. This dry zone was economically marginal for ranching, so in 2002 to protect endangered species, plant trees for habitat recovery, and lower risk of wildfires, the DLNR has set up an innovative protect the natural and cultural values. The Board transferred responsibility to the Division of Forestry and Wildlife These lands represent a remarkable diversity of historical, natural, cultural and recreational resources: archaeological and cultural sites, a rich history of ancient and contemporary human use, livestock grazing and hunting.

Steven Lee Montgomery, Ph. D., Board Member
Ahahui Malama I Ka Lokahi /Hawaiians for the Conservation of Native Ecosystems
P.O. Box 720, Kailua, HI 96734 www.ahahui.net

To practice, promote and perpetuate a modern native Hawaiian conservation ethic that provides for a healthy Hawaiian ecosystem nurtured by human communities and serving as a model for local and global resource management.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/30/2020 6:04:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith	Testifying for McCandless Ranch	Support	No

Comments:



Conservation Council
for Hawai'i

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife
Kō Hawai'i leo no n

LATE

**Submitted to the Senate Committee Ways and Means
Tuesday, June 30, 2020, 10:15am
Auditorium
HB 2035, HD1 SD1**

Conservation Council for Hawaii (CCH) **strongly opposes** House Bill 2035 House Draft 1 Senate Draft 1, relating the transfer of Agricultural lands from the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to the Department of Agriculture (DOA).

CCH supports the state's efforts to obtain food security through responsible and sustainable agricultural operations. CCH also supports DLNR's work in protecting watersheds, native flora and fauna, and native species. The proposed land transfer which has now been edited to 48,000 acres of land on Hawaii Island, and includes the historic Ainapo trail, considered the traditional route to Mauna Loa, used to make offerings for Pele and is on the National Register of Historic Places, is not environmentally nor culturally responsible.

The thousands of acres of intact native forest that could provide habitat for endangered birds such as the 'akiapola'au, 'io, nene, and endangered plants, needs to be protected and managed appropriately to ensure that endangered species do not face extinction.

With over 28,000 acres of public hunting area, which DLNR negotiates with the lessee to create the Kapapala Cooperative Game Management Area, public trust is built as the community is granted access to food and recreation of public lands.

The proposed watershed partnership plan should include verbiage that gives DLNR approval and oversight of the plan, the proper process of such a plan that includes public review and comment, and an allocated budget for implementation, monitoring, and reporting of the plan

Furthermore, transferring land specified by TMK, seems to be a specialized action which should not be allowed under legislative processes.

CCH **strongly opposes** this measure and requests that the committee HOLDS on the passage of HB2035 HD1 SD1. We encourage the committee to instead **strongly support** HB 2358 HD1 in its original form, which would provide DLNR the flexibility to work with lessees under similar conditions as DOA, this affording lessees the necessary support needed to build the processing and storage capacity they seek so that cattle can remain within the state, supporting food sustainability efforts.

Telephone/Fax: **808.593.0255** | email: **info@conservehi.org** | web:
conservationcouncilhawaii.org

P.O. Box 2923 | Honolulu, HI 96802 | Office: 250 Ward Ave. Suite 215 | Honolulu, HI 96814

President Rachel Sprague | Vice President: Lisa Hinano Rey | Secretary: Julie Leialoha

Treasurer: Sunshine Woodford | Directors: Robin Kaye, Steven Lee Montgomery

National Wildlife Representatives: Les Welsh, Rachel Sprague

Executive Director: Moana Bjur | Operations and Events Director: Jonnetta Peters



HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/30/2020 9:01:22 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Morgan	Testifying for Kualoa Ranch	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support HB 2035. This is an important bill for farming and ranchng in Hawaii.

Please support agriculture by supportig this bill.

Mahalo

john morgan

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 7:42:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brendan Balthazar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This bill is very important to keeping agg land in agg. Ranchers are loosing so much good ranch land to DLNR and Forestry. Land that was made productive by a rancher is now in jeperdy of being taken away. Lot of money was spent on improvements and care of the land . Please see that these lands get put under DOA where they should be.

Thanks

Brendan

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 8:45:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Craig	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this measure...

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 8:47:56 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Woody Child	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of bill HB2035

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 9:03:57 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kymberly child	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

support of bill HB2035

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 9:49:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Libby Child	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 2:01:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Fenner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I have worked with State and Federal land management agencies in the western United States for over 40 years and support HB2035 HD1 SD1 to provide for more effective, efficient and equitable utilization of Hawaii State Lands. I was born and raised in the business of agriculture and think this bill provides a better framework for managing agricultural lands in Hawaii for improved economic development and more effective land management.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 5:01:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
trevor child	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 9:40:18 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Bryan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 11:36:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jesse Owens	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and members of the WAM Committee,

This bill's "pilot program" is a thinly disguised special legislation to provide unfair advantages to a few big ranchers. Why would those four ranches be chosen and not others? This bill should be rejected and deemed unlawful special legislation.

Further, the ranches that were chosen are actually the areas that have the most diverse and varied resources with the most public benefits. Because DLNR manages Kapapala Ranch, they have negotiated a large cooperative hunting area, access to the Ainapo na ala hele trail (and cabin) - ensuring that the public benefits on those public lands truly are enjoyed by the public. If the DOA manages that area, there will be no advocating for public access, hunting, and native forest protection.

It is ironic that this bill, which is in theory supposed to help "food self sufficiency" would actually result in the blocking off of 28,000 acres of prime, accessible public hunting area for the community in the likely scenario that DOA does not work with the ranch to continue the cooperative Game Management Area, which DLNR oversees as the leasor.

There are large tracts of lands in Mauna Kea that are sought to be transferred to DOA. I am from Hilo and spent a summer working near these lands to restore a koa forest which provided habitat for our imperiled forest birds. On one side of the fence was a lush native forest, and the other side was a barren treeless cattle pasture. These areas have the potential to naturally regrow. Many of the lands in Kapapala are still native forest.

It is not pono to give some of our last remaining tracts of native Hawaiian forest and wilderness areas to DOA. Under DOA, cattle and "no trespassing" signs will be the only future for these *public* lands that have so much more potential for hunting, hiking, and our native plants and animals that could be our legacy for future generations.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 2:08:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jake Muise	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to support HB2035. Like any measure this one is not perfect but the greater good for our collective communities, at this time, is for non-ag park lands to be under the management of DOA. It has been my experience that the vast majority of ranchers are excellent land stewards with a strong focus and understanding of conservation. Providing stability through long term DOA leases will support both Hawaii's food resiliency and allow ranchers and farmers to take on larger conservation initiatives.

Jake Muise

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 2:57:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 4:34:52 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vanessa Stevens	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Once again I strongly support this Bill in order to secure the future of our food supply and our livelihood.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 4:36:59 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Stevens	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of this bill because it is pertinent to our food production. The state and nation rely on us farmers and ranchers to supply the food chain. The confidence and security we will get with knowing our land and conservation improvements are part of OUR future with HDOA is immeasurable.

Please support this Bill.

Charles Stevens

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 6:18:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Hagen-Cowell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 7:28:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Walter D. Andrad	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Wally Andrade and I have a lease with DLNR for 16 years and I support having it transferred to DOA.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 8:52:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephen A. De Luz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a 2nd generation rancher, I have been ranching here in Hawaii all my life. I have experienced first hand the loss of prime ranch land to other interest groups. Approximatey 20 percent of our state lands are in ranching and the rest is in forestry or are encumbered, it is so important these lands stay in the ranching industry so we can support our local markets. I have always felt the need for Hawaii to be self-sufficient in our food production, with Covid19 changing our way of living, we need agriculture more than ever.

Act 90 was passed in 2003 and the transfer of agriculture leases has been delayed for nearly 17 years. We kindly ask that you support HB2035 to keep Hawaii strong.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this crucial matter for the ranchers and farmers.

Stephen A. De Luz

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 9:12:28 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amanda DeSilva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support bill HB2035. It is very important that we strengthen our local food supply for not only in this challenging times but for the future. I have also seen first hand how dedicated the ranchers are on conserving the land. When in 2018 the fire was in the National Park, Kapapala Ranch employee's, friends and family were there for many days and nights fighting the fire. They supplied the water for the government trucks to fill up. Their first thought was about the land and protecting it. I feel that this bill with help with continuation of farming and ranching in Hawaii. Please pass the bill.

Thank you

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 9:28:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keone DeSilva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill.

Thank you

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 11:15:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jody Fergerstrom	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In SUPPORT of HB.2035

The purpose of this Bill is to put a timeline to Act 90 signed into law in 2003 providing agriculture entities a landlord that is more in line with supporting their mission of producing food in our State. Longer leases with favorable terms will allow lessees to invest in their infrastructure, their future, their planning and budget.

While pristine forests are a lovely ideal, huge tracts of idle or fallow land do not manage themselves. A State employee receives their paycheck regardless of the management, or lack of management, of resources in their care. They have no skin in the game. Conversely, the need for an economic return directly impacts the choices made by farmers and ranchers regarding their expenditures of time, money and resources. I feel this makes them highly motivated stewards of our Public Lands.

Long gone is the practice of clearing native forests for pastureland. Those methods from decades ago have long since been replaced by mindful, scientific range management and modern farming practices that complement and enhance native and endangered plants and wildlife, and protect critical habitats along with natural and cultural resources. With the DOA as a landlord existing public access to forest reserves, trails and hunting will continue. Soil and Water conservation plans and watershed partnerships will not change. Grasslands, along with forests will still play their vital role in the carbon cycle. Food production will increase with access to long term planning and budgeting.

With changes in DLNR leadership, the Department now opposes this bill. However, Committee reports show the DLNR supported this as SB 1034 when Act 90 was passed in 2003. Link here -

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2003/commreports/SB1034_HD2_HSCR1461_.htm or shortlink - <https://bit.ly/2YZVkyJ>

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 4:49:00 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taylor Kellerman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 7:40:01 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gregory FRIEL	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 7:46:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Freitas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 8:41:24 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chloe stevens	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support!

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

HB 2035, HD1, SD1

Requires DLNR to transfer to DOA specified non-agricultural park lands by a specified deadline. Requires lessees to develop and implement a watershed partnership plan and dedicate fifty percent of meat production for local consumption by December 31, 2023. Requires DOA to report on the percentage of local meat production marketed within the State. Amends the definition of "agricultural activities" used in chapter 166E, HRS. Sunsets 6/30/2021. (SD1)

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Jeri Moniz. My family and I own KK Ranch on Hawaii Island. HB 2035, HD1, SD1, proposes to transfer our lease on TMK (3) 4-4-014-002-0000 to the department of agriculture by December 31, 2020. We are very supportive of the proposed transfer.

HB 2035. HD1, SD1 also proposes to require that after this transfer that lessees:

1. Develop and implement a watershed partnership plan; and
2. Through a three-year phased in approach, by December 31, 2023, dedicate fifty percent of all livestock meat and beef production to the State's local food production and meat industry.

Although we are proponents of conservation practices having implemented several over the course of our lease and are strong proponents for increasing our local beef market we have concerns that the conditions are inadequately defined and may serve to set us up for failure. We request that the language be changed to read:

1. Develop and Implement a watershed partnership plan that is agreed upon and feasible to the lessees; and
2. Through a three-year phased in approach, by December 31, 2023, dedicate fifty percent of all livestock meat and beef production to the State's local food production and meat industry. The inability of the lessees to secure processing locally or secure markets that are willing to purchase fifty percent of produced beef within three years shall not disqualify the lessee from this transfer. The lessees however shall demonstrate efforts and progress towards these goals.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 8:53:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa Armenta	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 8:54:02 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 8:57:09 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Remington Abundis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 8:59:57 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judith Epperson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have watched the excellent job that Kapapala Ranch does in responsibly managing the land and raising cattle for food. This Bill will transfer the lease to the Dept. of Agriculture as it should more appropriately be under. I strongly support the passing of this Bill by the Senate Ways and Means committee.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 9:20:50 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
liz armenta	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 9:24:58 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
raul armenta	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 9:37:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My family and I don't understand why only some of the many leases that were supposed to be transferred to DOA from DLNR 17 years ago will be transferred, if this bill passes. But people keep telling me that something is better than nothing so we're supporting the bill.

I hope the rest of the ag leases will be transferred in my lifetime.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 9:42:48 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Savannah Martinez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 9:48:20 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Act 90, enacted in 2003, mandated the transfer of agricultural lands to DOA, the agency that is the most knowledgeable, capable and efficient at managing agricultural lands. Nothing in the past 17 years has negated the need for this transfer. In fact, there is more greater today to become more food self-sufficient and secure. Why aren't we encouraging and supporting our farmers and ranchers?

Farming and ranching in Hawaii requires long-term planning, daily intense efforts of many focused individuals and a multigenerational commitment of human and fiscal resources. Short-term agreements and other negative lease terms under the DLNR are not beneficial to producing food or maintaining healthy ecosystems.

The transfer of agricultural lands to the DOA will not preclude the State from adjusting or repurposing the land in the future, if/when appropriate plans and resources become available. DLNR currently has a portfolio of unmanaged lands that invite degradation and produce nothing but habitat for destructive invasive species that are spreading throughout the state.

Farms and ranches and healthy and productive forests are not mutually exclusive. The Board of Agriculture can ensure that the leases it awards to farmers and ranchers come with clear and enforceable forest stewardship goals and objectives, and other conditions that will benefit our communities.

It would be fitting if this bill was amended to include the transfer to DOA of **all** currently producing farms and ranches on DLNR ag leases, if this was not a pilot project, and if the transfer was not "temporary".

Thank you for your support of the people who grow and raise food for the rest of us.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 9:54:50 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Preciado	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 9:56:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bud & Katy Gibson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We support this bill. We need to move this along as we are hurting agriculture in Hawaii by being unable 17 years after the fact to get the leases transferred to the true stewards of the land which is the farmer and the rancher.

We cannot continue to develop all our open spaces and be sustainable in our culture and feed our citizens. The farmer and rancher has a vested interest in the land to be cared for and productive that will benefit everyone who calls Hawaii home and our visitors.

Please pass this bill.

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 10:02:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean M O'Keefe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support.

However, DLNR has had 17 years to carefully consider each of its ag leases and coordinate with DOA to transfer those that are in ag production and successfully stewarding the land and natural resources.

Why isn't this bill finally forcing that transfer, instead of only a select few on Hawaii Island?

Why is it a temporary transfer?

Why is it a pilot project?

Why doesn't the bill clarify that this bill does not supercede Act 90 and that other ag leases must still be transferred ASAP?

PLEASE consider these comments. Thank you.

From: [Stan Cypriano](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 2:39:28 PM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce.

From: [Corey Barth](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:30:06 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Corey Barth
54 Halelani Pl
Kihei, HI 96753
barth.corey@icloud.com

From: [Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Haraguchi](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:20:04 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Rodney Haraguchi
PO Box 427
Hanalei, HI 96714
karol@haraguchiricemill.org

From: [Marty Fernandes](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 6:10:04 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Marty Fernandes
PO Box 253
Kunia, HI 96759
mjf@naainakai.org

From: [Richard Ogoshi](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 5:50:04 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Richard Ogoshi
563 Kaumakani St
Honolulu, HI 96825
ogoshi@hawaiiantel.net

From: [paul kaneshiro](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 5:20:06 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

paul kaneshiro
owner/operator
self
41-659 Kumuhau St Unit G
Waimanalo, HI 96795
paulkaneshirosr@yahoo.com

From: [Barbara Nobriga](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD11 support this bill, it is absolutely necessary for agriculture, be it ranching or crops.
We need it.
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 5:58:29 PM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Taylor Kellerman](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 4:40:10 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Taylor Kellerman
PO Box 253
Kunia, HI 96759
tkellerman@kualoa.com

From: [donald sommer](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 2:00:05 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

donald sommer
5453 New Grange Garth
Columbia, MD 21045
desommer@yahoo.com

From: [Thomas Yeh](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 5:40:09 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Thomas Yeh
942 W Kawaihina St
Hilo, HI 96720
tly@yehandmoore.com

From: [Woody Child](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:00:14 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Woody Child
67-1303 Puaena St
Kamuela, HI 96743
wdchild@hotmail.com

From: [kymberly child](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:00:15 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

kymberly child
67-1216 N Alulike Rd
Kamuela, HI 96743
kamuelakym@msn.com

From: [walter child](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:00:14 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

walter child
Kaapahu Ranch
Kaapahu Ranch
67-1216 N Alulike Rd
Kamuela, HI 96743
wcinkona@usa.com

From: [Sandy Price](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:15:59 AM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce.

Sandra L. Price

Sent from my iPhone

From: [William Price](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:13:21 AM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce.

Bill Price
66-1225 Ko Uka Lane
Kamuela, HI 96743

From: [Frederick Mencher](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 3:50:03 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Frederick Mencher
2029 Nuuanu Ave Apt 1510
Honolulu, HI 96817
frederickmencher@gmail.com

From: [Susan Cabral](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 5:00:06 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Susan Cabral
PO Box 337
Volcano, HI 96785
s.kronecabral@gmsil.com

From: [Sandi Kato-Klutke](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 4:30:07 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Sandi Kato-Klutke
Retired
6266 Kawaihau Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746
skatoklutke@gmail.com

From: [Robert Paull](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 6:50:11 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Robert Paull
Professor/researcher
5393 Poola St
Honolulu, HI 96821
robertepaull@gmail.com

From: [Dana Sato](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 6:30:08 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Dana Sato
7 Halakahiki Pl
Wahiawa, HI 96786
dknsato@gmail.com

From: [Stacie Sasagawa](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 8:00:18 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Stacie Sasagawa
91-1170 Kaiopua St
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
ssasagawa@hawaii.rr.com

From: [Kai Pelayo](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 7:20:06 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

As recognized by the legislature since 2003, the DOA is the appropriate agency to provide the best oversight, support, and lease terms to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers further invest in the land, increase local food production, and maintain good stewardship of our precious resources.

Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Kai Pelayo
PO Box 253
Kunia, HI 96759
kaipelayo@gmail.com

From: [Sara Doi](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:10:11 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Sara Doi
775 Kinalau Pl Apt 601
Honolulu, HI 96813
sdoi14@gmail.com

From: [Justin Yeh](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 8:40:08 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Justin Yeh
Research Associate
UH Manoa
67-5189 Kamamalu St
Kamuela, HI 96743
jtyeh89@gmail.com

From: [Randy Yokoyama](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:30:09 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Randy Yokoyama
Mr
Me
PO Box 911
Lawai, HI 96765
rjyoko@gmail.com

From: [Carol Reimann](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:20:09 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Carol Reimann
234 W Hawaii St
Kahului, HI 96732
creimann4@gmail.com

From: [dale obrien](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:10:11 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

dale obrien
65-1190 Hokuula Rd Unit C
Kamuela, HI 96743
obriend004@hawaii.rr.com

From: [Cooper Stevens](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:10:05 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Cooper Stevens
PO Box 330
Paauilo, HI 96776
vany88@gmail.com

From: [Libby Child](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:40:10 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Libby Child
67-1225 Neleau Pl
Kamuela, HI 96743
libbychild14@gmail.com

From: [Trevor Child](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:30:09 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Trevor Child
67-1225 Neleau Pl
Kamuela, HI 96743
t.child26@gmail.com

From: [Sara Hughes](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:10:06 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Sara Hughes
Underwriter
Wells Fargo
240 N 1st St
Shandon, CA 93461
sarajex@gmail.com

From: [Aileen Yeh](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:20:11 AM

LATE

Apologies, the zip code for Hilo is 96720
Mahalo,
Aileen Yeh

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce.

Sent from my iPhone

LATE

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 11:35:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Moana Kea Among	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 11:56:37 AM
Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Toni Withington	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

There is NO reason why foresty lands should be transfered to DOA. There is NO reason why native forests should be under DOA> Hawaiian ancient trails need the protection od DLNR. Not DOA. Please reject this bill, even as amended. This is not the time to undertake these underhanded moves.

Toni Withington

Hawi, Hawaii

LATE

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 12:15:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Whitney Boteilho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



From: [SHANNON ARMENTA](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:30:11 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

SHANNON ARMENTA
PO Box 253
Kunia, HI 96759
sunshine5826@gmail.com

From: [BUBBA ARMENTA](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:30:06 AM



Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

BUBBA ARMENTA
PO Box 253
Kunia, HI 96759
barmenta10406@gmail.com

LATE

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 9:22:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kyle Caires	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

Hawaii's ranchers have been waiting for Act 90 to be enforced for many years, and I am pleased to **write in support of HB2035 HD1 SD1**. The transfer of agricultural leases to the Department of Agriculture is long overdue. I respectfully ask that the committee support HB2035 HD1 SD1 and ensure that the pilot project leads to the full enforcement of Act 90, 2003.

Hawai'i's ranchers provide wholesome, healthy beef for local consumption while also providing great ecosystem services to the community as excellent stewards of public and private lands. This is a win-win and will help the ensure long-term viability of ranching in Hawai'i.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify on this critical matter for the livestock industry. Mahalo!

Kyle Caires

Caires Farms - Independent Rancher

LATE

From: [Ranae Ganske](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 5:59:28 PM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce.

Thank you,
Ranae Ganske-Cerizo

Sent from my iPhone

LATE

From: wcinkona@usa.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 8:09:48 PM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce.

LATE

From: [Teena Rasmussen](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:54:14 PM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce.

Mahalo,

Teena M. Rasmussen

PO Box 901319

Kula, HI 96790

teena@pffmaui.com

LATE

HB-2035-SD-1

Submitted on: 6/30/2020 10:04:31 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/30/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Wood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

From: [Kaela Child](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:40:05 AM



Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Kaela Child
67-1303 Puaena St
Kamuela, HI 96743
klchild@hotmail.com

LATE

From: [Rio Miceli](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:30:08 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Rio Miceli
executive chef
Mauna Kea Beach Hotel
62-100 Mauna Kea Beach Dr
Kamuela, HI 96743
rmiceli@maunakeabeachhotel.com

LATE

From: [Jacob Tavares](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:30:06 AM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Jacob Tavares
PO Box 1295
Puunene, HI 96784
jacob7@hawaii.edu

LATE

From: [Susan Mulkern](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I support HB 2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:00:12 PM

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz,

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I strongly support HB 2035 HD1, which will ensure that certain agricultural lands can be used productively by transferring the leases from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, as mandated in Act 90, from 17 years ago. It will also clarify that using pasture land for raising livestock and growing crops is indeed an agricultural activity.

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Mahalo for your support of local farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

Susan Mulkern
V P
Mulkern Landscaping & Nursery
408 Lani St
Honolulu, HI 96821
susan@mulkernlandscaping.com



From: [shyloh Stafford-Jones](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: : Support for HB2035 HD1 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:41:59 PM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

While the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed important issues to address, the transfer of these leases to DOA is still a pressing issue for Hawaii's ranchers and farmers and we thank the legislature for hearing it. It is apparent, more so now than ever, that Hawaii needs to diversify its economy and support agriculture, an essential business. While we are working on increasing processing capacity, ranchers still need to be confident in their lease terms to make the shift to keep more cattle here in Hawaii. Ranchers need agriculture-appropriate lease terms and lease management, access to processing facilities, and confidence in consumer demand and markets to prudently increase the amount of local food they produce.

Thank you,
Shyloh Stafford-Jones