

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023
ROOM 325
9:30 A.M.**

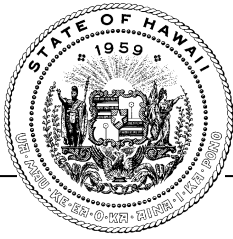
**HOUSE BILL NO. 305
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairpersons Gates and Holt and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 305 that amends the Hawai'i State Planning Act by removing references to the sugarcane and pineapple industries. The Department of Agriculture supports this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our testimony.





**STATE OF HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
DIRECTOR

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Statement of
SCOTT GLENN, Director

before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

Friday, February 10, 2023, 9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
**HB 305
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.**

Chairs Gates and Holt, Vice Chairs Kahaloa and Lamosao, and Members of the House Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Economic Development:

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports** HB 305, which updates the Hawai'i State Planning Act by removing references to the sugarcane and pineapple industries.

When the Hawai'i State Plan was first enacted in 1978, sugarcane and pineapple were the dominant agricultural crops and a significant part of Hawaii's economy. The predominance of these industries was reflected in the Hawai'i State Plan's economic objectives and policies for agriculture, and in the economic priority guidelines. However, sugarcane and pineapple production in Hawai'i has declined significantly since then, but the State Plan has not accounted for this change. By deleting references to sugarcane and pineapple, HB 305 will result in the State Plan better communicating our collective interest in promoting diversified agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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February 8, 2023

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

TESTIMONY ON HB 305
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Conference Room 325 & Videoconference
9:30 AM

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice-Chair Kahaloa, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports HB 305, which updates the Hawaii State Planning Act's economic agricultural objectives and policies and priority guidelines by removing references to the sugarcane and pineapple industries.

The State's Agricultural Functional Plan was last updated in 1991. Since it was last updated, Hawai'i's agricultural industry has transitioned from plantation agriculture to a more diversified agriculture sector. Diversified agriculture in Hawaii includes flowers and nursery products, vegetables and melons, macadamia nuts, cattle, milk, fruits poultry, eggs, forest products, hogs, coffee, taro, ulu, mamaki, cacao, other livestock, and aquaculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.



Officers

Kaipo Kekona
State President

Anabella Bruch
Vice-President

Maureen Datta
Secretary

Reba Lopez
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Madeline Ross
Kohala, Hawai'i

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Kona, Hawai'i

Fawn Helekahi-Burns
Hana, Maui

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Haleakala, Maui

Kaiea Medeiros
Mauna Kahalawai,
Maui

Kaipo Kekona
Lahaina, Maui

Rufina Kaauwai
Molokai

Negus Manna
Lāna'i

Brynn Foster
North Shore, O'ahu

Christian Zuckerman
Wai'anae, O'ahu

Ted Radovich
Waimanalo, O'ahu

Vincent Kimura
Honolulu, O'ahu

Ray Maki
Kauai

Aloha Chairs Gates & Holt, Vice Chaira Kahaloa & Lamosao, and Members of the House Agriculture and Food Systems & Economic Development Committees,

The Hawaii Farmers Union United (HFUU) is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawaiian Islands. **HFUU supports HB305.**

The current statute is dated and reflects an agricultural industry dominated by the sugarcane and pineapple industries, however the state of Hawaiian agriculture has vastly evolved with the growth of our local food producers, small farmers and agri-tourism. By removing references to the sugarcane and pineapple industries and updating the Hawaii State Planning Act, HFUU believes this piece of legislation will create an agricultural landscape that better meets the needs of our diverse agricultural communities. By removing outdated and restrictive language, this Act will help foster an environment where Hawaii's small farmers and ranchers can continue to thrive and contribute to the growth of our local economy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Kaipo Kekona, President HFUU/HFUF

HB-305

Submitted on: 2/8/2023 9:12:48 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/10/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HB305.