



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

March 4, 2021

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON SB 479, SD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Conference Room 211
10:00 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 supports SB 479, SD1, which requires the Department of Agriculture to collaborate with agricultural growers and researchers to develop and implement a program to safely distribute disease- and insect-free tropical plant materials to Hawaii farmers.

Many tropical flower species face new threats from insects and diseases. For example, the ginger coming in the floral trade has succumbed to a new virus on Oahu. Commercial production has significantly declined. As new plantings are installed clean fresh material is needed to prevent its spread. Because the disease is a virus, diseased plants may not be obvious in their early stages. A guaranteed clean source of material is important.

For these reasons, HFB respectfully requests your strong support of this measure.

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

SB-479-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2021 5:11:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/4/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

Please support SB479.

Thank you,

Andrea Quinn