

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022
10:00 A.M.
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2319
RELATING TO SERVICE ANIMALS**

Chairperson Hashem and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2319 regarding neighbor island inspection permit fees for service animals that are being transported for release at Kona, Kahului, or Lihue airports. The Department of Agriculture offers comments.

HB2319 requires "waiving the inspection fee for all service animal owners entering the State at these airports." Currently service animals are not assessed any fees from the state whether they arrive and are inspected at the Daniel K. International Airport in Honolulu, Oahu (HNL), Kahului Airport on Maui (OGG), Ellison Onizuka Kona International Airport at Keahole (KOA), or Lihue Airport on Kauai (LIH). Fees to issue a Neighbor Island Inspection Permit to fly direct to OGG, KOA and LIH are currently waived.

The Department of Agriculture (DOA) allows private veterinarians to apply for and receive approval from DOA to conduct inspections of dogs and cats arriving at OGG, KOA and LIH. This is because the Rabies Quarantine Branch does not have staff on any island except Oahu to receive, process and conduct inspections. DOA does not regulate inspection fees charged by these private entities.



Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022
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**HOUSE BILL NO. 2466
RELATING TO TARO**

Chairperson Hashem and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill 2466. This bill establishes an exemption from state income tax for the first \$100,000 of income derived from taro, taro products, and land used to produce taro, provided the total amount of land used to cultivate taro in the State does not exceed thirty thousand acres at any point in the year. The Department of Agriculture appreciates the intent of the bill to reduce the tax liability for taro farmers and value-added producers but defers to the Department of Taxation with respect to the proposed amendments to Chapter 235.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



HB-2319

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 3:11:59 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/4/2022 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| isaac maeda | Department of Agriculture | Comments | Yes |

Comments:

Available for questions.



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Phil M. Guidry, J.D.
Director, Policy Analysis
Government Relations

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

The Honorable Mark J. Hashem
Chairman, Hawai'i House Committee on Agriculture
Conference Room 325, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: AKC Supports House Bill 2319, Relating to Service Animals

Chairman Hashem and members of the Hawai'i House Committee on Agriculture:

The American Kennel Club (AKC), which was established in 1884 and promotes the study, breeding, exhibiting, and advancement of purebred dogs, represents over 5,100 dog clubs nationally, including 42 clubs in Hawai'i. The AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, protects the rights of dog owners, and promotes the ideals of responsible dog ownership. The AKC and our affiliated clubs are both happy and proud to serve lawmakers and communities by sharing with them our animal care and responsible ownership principles. Today, we write to share our support of House Bill 2319 and respectfully request committee passage of the measure.

On principle, AKC strongly supports the training and use of dogs by humans, whose lives are enriched by dogs' performing essential services. Dogs provide a wide variety of valuable services including: handicapped assistance dogs; drug, bomb, and arson detection dogs; and tracking dogs to locate missing persons and fugitives. AKC encourages the continuation and further development of the use of dogs for these and similar purposes.

HB 2319 requires the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture to be responsible for all inspection permit fees for service animals that arrive at any other part of entry other than Daniel K. Inouye International Airport on Oahu. In our view, HB 2319 provides an equitable and fair solution for service dog users traveling to the airports on Hawai'i, Maui, and Kauai, and ensures they are not unnecessarily burdened.

Thank you for your consideration of our request of support for House Bill 2319. Please feel free to contact me at (919) 816-3502 or phil.guidry@akc.org if I may be of additional assistance on this or any other dog-related matter.

Sincerely,

Phil M. Guidry, J.D.
Director, Policy Analysis
AKC Government Relations

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