

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
LAURA H. THIELEN
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Thursday, February 18, 2010
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2409, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO AQUACULTURE**

House Bill 2409, House Draft 1 proposes to increase lease terms for aquaculture ventures from 35 to 45 years, provides aquaculture lessees in good standing the right of first refusal, and allows for supportive aquaculture activities. The Department of Land and Natural Resources opposes the provision in this bill that provides aquaculture operations in good standing with a right of first refusal and allow such entities to seek a renewal of a lease that has been issued. The inclusion of a right of first refusal to a lessee in good standing for lease renewals is especially objectionable because it would constitute a de facto extension of the lease for unspecified consecutive terms that could continue into perpetuity.

The Department could support an amended version of this bill that does not include any renewal rights that may override the Department's discretionary authority to issue leases to appropriate lessees and clarifies that any renewal preference provided to existing lessees is not a perpetual option.

LAURA H. THIELEN
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RUSSELL Y. TSUJI
FIRST DEPUTY

KEN C. KAWAHARA
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



**Hawaii
Aquaculture
Association**

THE HOUSE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2010

TIME: 3:00pm

PLACE: Conference Room 308, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of HB2409 HD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Committee Members,

The Hawaii Aquaculture Association strongly supports HB2409 HD1 as written because:

1. it would increase lease terms for aquaculture to 45 years thereby encouraging increased investment in expensive aquaculture infrastructure and equipment requiring long-term financing, and encourage multi-generational commitment to aquaculture farming
2. it would provide lessees in good standing the right of first refusal such that their years of financial investment in the aquaculture farming operation are not put on the auction block and potentially lost to a higher bidder who would not have the intimate knowledge of the site nor the experience gained in the aquaculture farming operation, and may not have the commitment or experience of the lessee who has already demonstrated such commitment and experience;
3. it would allow additional supportive aquaculture activities such as aquaponics, which would reuse aquaculture effluent water to grow additional plant products thereby improving the overall financial viability of the operation, or the generation of renewable energy, which could improve the long-term sustainability of the operation; and

4. it would help stimulate and diversify our economy by encouraging increased investment in land-based, coastal, and ocean aquaculture ventures in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this important bill.

Sincerely, Ron Weidenbach, HAA President

THE HOUSE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2010
TIME: 3:00pm
PLACE: Conference Room 308, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony Supporting HB2409 HD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Dear: Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Committee Members.

My name is Clyde Tamaru and I am an aquaculture specialist with the Department of Molecular Biochemistry and Bioengineering that is within the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). While I am a faculty member of the University of Hawaii the views being presented are not those of the University of Hawaii and am doing so as a private citizen. However, I have been an aquaculture specialist for the University of Hawaii for over 15 years and have watched the challenges and opportunities that the aquaculture industry has had to face during that time period. Despite the challenges and even in these economic times it remains the fastest growing segment in diversifies agriculture within the state, nation and internationally as well. With the state's and also University's focus on sustainability, particularly, with regard to decreasing our dependence on external sources of food, finding ways in which we can support and sustain the continued growth of this sector becomes ever so important. Provide for the kinds of lease agreements that would be provided under this new legislation would bring the aquaculture sector at least on the same ground as that of terrestrial agriculture. This would lead to more agreeable conditions of land tenure for the aquafarmer to succeed in establishing a sustainable enterprise. For these reasons, I fully support the passage of HB2409 HD1 ..

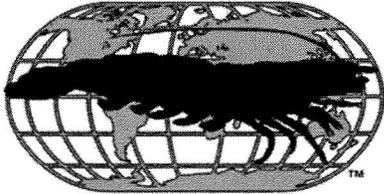
If there are any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.



Clyde S. Tamaru, Ph.D.
Aquaculture Specialist
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University of Hawaii-Manoa
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email: ctamaru@hawaii.edu

HIGH HEALTH



AQUACULTURE

73-4460 Queen Kaahumanu Hwy
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jim.wyban@gmail.com
www.SPFGenetics.com

February 17, 2010

HHA strongly supports HB2409 HD1 as written because:

1. It will increase lease terms for aquaculture to 45 years and increase investment in expensive aquaculture requiring long-term financing.
2. It will provide lessees in good standing the right of first refusal such that their years of financial investment in the aquaculture farming operation are not put on the auction block and potentially lost to a higher bidder who would not have the intimate knowledge of the site nor the experience gained in the aquaculture farming operation, and may not have the commitment or experience of the lessee who has already demonstrated such commitment and experience;
3. It will stimulate investment in land-based, coastal, and ocean aquaculture ventures in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this important bill.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Wyban". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jim Wyban PhD
High Health Aquaculture Inc.
Kona Hawaii USA



THE HOUSE

THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn Lee, Vice-Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2010

TIME: 3:00pm

PLACE: Conference Room 308, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony in Opposition to HB2409 – Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Chair Oshiro and Members,

I am a 32-year resident of Maui, and served as Maui County Environmental Coordinator from 2003-2007. On behalf of Food & Water Watch (FWW), with whom I have worked as the Hawaii liaison for Open Ocean Aquaculture outreach and education over the past two years, I thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and voice strong opposition to HB 2409. FWW is a non-profit organization that works with grassroots organizations to create an economically and environmentally viable future. The FWW Fish Program promotes safer and more sustainable seafood for consumers, while helping to protect the environment and support the long-term well being of coastal and fishing communities.

Over the past several years in Hawai'i, we have witnessed widespread opposition to the expansion of open ocean aquaculture among the environmental and Native Hawai'ian communities. **Of paramount interest to the deliberations of this committee, we have also become aware that aquaculture has not provided large economic gains or job opportunities, and has drained state resources. Please see section III.**

I. Abundant Demonstration of Community Opposition to Ocean Aquaculture

Since Hawai'i chose to allow leasing of ocean land for the purpose of commercial aquaculture, a number of companies have applied for or received leases, and all have faced community opposition. To date, three farms – Ahi Nui Tuna Farms LLC, Ahi Farms, and Pacific Ocean Venture – have been unsuccessful in obtaining the needed community support, permits and/or financing for open ocean operations.¹ In 2002, a Native Hawai'ian Group filed a contested case against Ahi Nui Tuna Farms LLC. Now,

¹ Report to the Twenty-Fourth Legislature of Hawai'i 2008 Regular Session. Implementation of Chapter 190D, Hawai'i Revised Statutes Ocean and Submerged Lands Leasing. Prepared by Department of Agriculture and Department of Land and Natural Resources. November 2007. Page 9-10.



another prospective Open Ocean Tuna Farm, Hawai`i Oceanic Technology, has two cases filed against its permit by members of the Kanaka Council Moku `O Keawe, which protects native Hawai`ian rights.^{2,3}

The two farms that have been able to operate in Hawai`i state waters – Kona Blue Water Farms (recently transferred to Keahole Point Fish LLC) and Hukilau Farms LLC (formerly Cates International, formerly the Hawai`i Offshore Aquaculture Research Project) have also faced enormous opposition. In 2009, when Hukilau submitted applications to expand its operation, the Bureau of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) received at least 70 comments from Hawai`ians stating opposition (these are the comments we are specifically aware of – there may have been others).

Kona Blue Water Farms (KBWF) has met with numerous expressions of opposition over the years. The Kanaka Council, a coalition of Native Hawai`ian rights groups, has expressed frustration that Native Hawai`ians were not adequately involved or consulted in the decision-making process when KBWF was determining the site location of its facility, located in a traditional fishing area directly off the coast of Kailua-Kona. When KBWF applied to expand its cages in 2007, it received so much opposition, including two filed contested cases, that the company ultimately decided to withdraw the application.^{4,5}

These experiences are all extremely relevant in that they highlight the massive public opposition in Hawai`i to the expansion of this industry.

II. Consequences of Ocean Aquaculture and the State's Inability to Regulate or Mitigate Them

Recent information released by the State after the submission of a FOIA request has highlighted additional flaws with Kona Blue Water Farm's operation. Between 2005 and 2008, the company did little benthic testing. In their application for a modified permit in 2008, they provided only five samples from three sample dates, over three years. These included one sample for each site, with no replicates for any site sampled. The small sample size and lack of repetition call into question the accuracy of any analysis provided by the company regarding their impact on the benthos. In March 2007, the Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL) notified KBWF that their current benthic

² Petition for contested case hearing, filed by Mike Lee, cultural practitioner with Board of Land and Natural Resources for its decision to award a Conservation District Use Permit to Hawai`i Oceanic Technology for 90 acres off of the North Kohala Coast, Hawai`i Island for the purpose of an open ocean fish farm. Filed on 23 October 2009.

³ Petition for contested case hearing, filed by Kale Gumapac on behalf of Kanaka Council Moku `O Keawe with Board of Land and Natural Resources for its decision to award a Conservation District Use Permit to Hawai`i Oceanic Technology for 90 acres off of the North Kohala Coast, Hawai`i Island for the purpose of an open ocean fish farm. Filed on 23 October 2009.

⁴ "Kona fish farm facing expansion opposition." Associated Press, January 21, 2008. Available at: savekauai.org/oceans/kona-fish-farm-facing-expansion-opposition

⁵ Kona Blue Water Farms, LLC. "Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment for a Modification to Net Pen Designs within the Existing Production Capacity and Farm Lease Area for Kona Blue's Offshore Open Ocean Fish Farm off Unualoha Point, Kona, Hawaii." April 2009 at 3.



monitoring system was unsatisfactory. They proposed a minimum of quarterly monitoring by drop camera, but as of March 2008, KBWF had not complied.⁶

KBWF has introduced antibiotics in Hawai`ian waters at their site, without approval by Hawai`ian officials. The permission to use an antibiotic was given to KBWF by officials at the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in Montana and approved by a federal agency, the Center for Veterinary Medicine at the Food and Drug Administration.⁷ After the drug was applied, OCCL questioned whether these outside agencies knew they were approving extra-label use of the drug to be deposited directly into Hawai`ian waters, not a land-based tank.⁸

The State has also documented cases of deliberate interference with bottle-nosed dolphins at KBWF's operation, and according to the Hawai`i Department of Aquatic Resources, the animals have begun to exhibit "unnatural behaviors."⁹

These examples all serve to illustrate the complexity of regulating open ocean aquaculture. Clearly the state agencies have not had the resources to stop the aforementioned problems from occurring, and extending lease durations to forty-five years will make it even more difficult for the state to avoid undesirable environmental consequences. To envision such a facility not being required to update its technology until the year 2055, regardless of what harm occurs in the interim period, flies in the face of common sense and ignores scientific progress. It is hard to understand why the state of Hawai`i would choose, on its own accord, to simply give away such control to a private entity, and eviscerate its own power to properly regulate activities in state waters.

III. Lack of Demonstrated Economic Benefits

H.B. 2409 states that "direct leasing of public lands had been a cornerstone for building a successful commercial aquaculture industry in the State," but it does not discuss whether a successful aquaculture industry will **benefit** the state.

⁶ Public comment. Dan Polhemus, Administrator, Division of Aquatic Resources, Department of Land and Natural Resources, to Sam Lemmo, Administrator Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, Department of Land and Natural Resources. Review of Draft EA/CDUA HA-3443 for the Expansion of Kona Blue Water Farms Offshore Aquaculture Facility. 3 March 2008. Page 7.

⁷ E-mail correspondence. November 2, 2007. Susan Storey, Aquaculture Drugs Team, FDA-CVM, Office of New Animal Drug Evaluation, Division of Therapeutic Drugs for Food Animals to Neil Anthony Simms, President, Kona Blue Water Farms. Subject: Florfenicol for your fish. On file with Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, DLNR

⁸ Letter dated November 15, 2007. Dan A. Polhemus, Administrator to Samuel J Lemmo, Administer of Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, DLNR. RE: Bacterial Outbreak at Kona Blue Offshore Fish Farm On file with Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, DLNR.

⁹ Memorandum. Dan Polhemus, Administrator, Division of Aquatic Resources and Jeff Walters, Co-manager of Hawai`i Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to Sam Lemmo, Office of Coastal and Conservation Lands, Department of Land and Natural Resources. Subject: Kona Blue Water Farms open ocean fish farm, concerns regarding dolphin interactions. 20 February 2008.



As ocean aquaculture is scheduled to increase in Hawai`i, the amount of direct employment it will provide has decreased. Prior to modifications or expansions, Hukilau LLC and Kona Blue Water Farms employed a total of 44 people, including jobs at both of their land-based hatcheries. **After recently approved modifications are made to both the Hukilau and Kona Blue Water Farms site, the industry will only be providing 39 jobs. This is despite a projected increase in production of about 2.5 million pounds to 6 million pounds annually.**¹⁰

Furthermore, it is questionable whether the employment that is provided or to be provided by the aquaculture industry is safe or stable. A diver employed by KBWF has filed suit against KBWF, alleging that it failed to provide a safe environment, ultimately leading to personal injury. According to the suit: "Kona Blue, acting through its managerial agents, was guilty of outrageous conduct owing to gross negligence, willful, wanton, and reckless indifference to the rights of others, and/or conduct even more deplorable..."¹¹ While the Court has yet to rule on this case, the claims indicate lack of oversight of safety conditions at this aquaculture site.

In addition, the aquaculture industry has not sufficiently proven that it can achieve profitability. Despite \$1.8 million in funding from NOAA, millions in tax technology credits given away to aquaculture operations in Hawai`i, nearly \$10 million from investors, and a product that has retailed for \$17 a pound for fillets, KBWF was not able to reach profitability.¹² It remains to be seen whether the new leaseholder, Keahole Point Fish LLC, will be able to bring the operation to self-sufficient economic viability.

IV. Other Legislative Efforts

The controversy surrounding ocean aquaculture in Hawai`i is further evidenced by the introduction of two other bills this legislative session: one in the Hawai`i Senate and one in the House of Representatives). H.B. 2958 Relating to Mariculture lends support to the

¹⁰ Information derived from the following sources: Consent to Assign General Lease No. S-5654, Cates International, Inc., Assignor, to Grove Farm Fish and Poi, LLC, Assignee, Oahu, Tax Map Key:(1)9-1-005:Seaward. Land Submittal to State of Hawai`i Department of Land and Natural Resources Land Division Board of Land and Natural Resources on 9 February 2007; Aquaculture Planning & Advocacy LLC. Final Environmental Assessment Proposed Expansion of Hukilau Foods Offshore Fish Farm, Mamala Bay, Oahu, Hawai`i. Prepared for Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, Department of Land and Natural Resources. 24 July 2009. Page 8; Kona Blue Water Farms, LLC Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment for a Modification to Net Pen Designs within the Existing Capacity and Farm Lease Area for Kona Blue's Offshore Open Ocean Fish Farm off Unualoha Point, Kona, Hawai`i prepared for Land Division, Department of Land and Natural Resources. Dated April 21, 2009. Page 17; Aquaculture Planning & Advocacy LLC. Final Environmental Assessment Proposed Expansion of Hukilau Foods Offshore Fish Farm, Mamala Bay, Oahu, Hawai`i. Prepared for Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, Department of Land and Natural Resources. 24 July 2009. Page 8.

¹¹ Wagner v Kona Blue Water Farms LLC United States District Court for the District of Hawai`i No CVO9 00600 Filed 16 December 2009.

¹² Food & Water Watch. "Fish Farms," October 2007, p 11; and Kona Blue Water Farms, LLC. "Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment for a Modification to Net Pen Designs within the Existing Production Capacity and Farm Lease Area for Kona Blue's Offshore Open Ocean Fish Farm off Unualoha Point, Kona, Hawaii." April 2009.



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development of land-based, closed-loop re-circulating aquaculture systems, and would suspend the development, expansion or transfer of any existing permits of open water commercial finfish operations. S.B. 2486 calls for tougher requirements for open ocean aquaculture, requiring that applicants also submit a full Environmental Impact Statement.

Conclusion

Experiences with Hawai`ian open ocean aquaculture indicate that the State of Hawai`i should proceed with extreme caution in regulating the industry's development. Opposition voiced by the local community, especially by Native Hawai`ian groups, indicates that many constituents support this approach. The legislature should not extend the maximum lease term, or include an option for renewal, as stated in this Bill, because that would allow the industry to completely circumvent reasonable oversight, and increase this state's difficulty in sufficiently regulating the industry and protecting our natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to the Bill, and in favor of a precautionary approach in protecting Hawai`i's environmental and cultural resources.

Sincerely,

Robert Parsons
Hawaii Aquaculture Liaison
600 Kaupakalua Rd.
Haiku, HI 96708
808-572-4120



EAST OAHU COUNTY FARM BUREAU

45-260 WAIKALUA ROAD S 101 KANEHOE, HI 96744

February 17, 2010

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance
State Capitol Building, 415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

I am sending this testimony to express the strong support of the East Oahu County Farm Bureau for HB 2409, "Relating to Aquaculture." Aquaculture is one of the largest and fastest-growing sectors of Hawaii's diversified agriculture industry. Aquaculture and aquaponics farms tend to have substantial infrastructure requirements such as wells, tanks, raceways, pipes, and support structures which in turn require a substantial investment. In order to make this investment, aquafarmers need to have access to long-term loan capital, and need to know that they will be allowed to remain in place long enough to justify not only the financial investment, but the investment of personal time, labor, and ingenuity that is necessary to succeed in a challenging endeavor.

HB 2409 would increase the maximum lease terms for aquaculture and aquaponics farms, which would encourage investment in farm facilities and allow farmers greater access to Federal loan guarantees. It would allow established farms in good standing the right of first refusal, reducing the risk that farmers who have invested much of their lives in building successful businesses will see their life's labors taken away when their original leases expire. It also encourages more efficient use of resources by specifically permitting supportive activities such as the use of aquaculture effluents to produce secondary crops. We therefore support HB 2409, and encourage its passage.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Frederick M. Mencher
for Grant Hamachi, President



February 18, 2010

TO: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Rep. Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair,

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of HB2409 - Relating to Aquaculture, Thursday,
February 18, 2010 3:00pm

Hawaii Oceanic Technology, Inc. strongly supports HB2409 HD 1as written . Hawaii Oceanic Technology, Inc. is the first open ocean ahi tuna farm to receive a State Conservation District Use permit allowing the lease of 247 acres of ocean in Hawaiian territorial waters. We anticipate spending tens of millions of dollars to build and deploy our revolutionary and environmentally responsible Oceansphere tuna farming systems at this lease site. A longer term lease that is consistent with other types of land based leases will give our investors a higher degree of confidence in our project and reduce risk. For this project to be sustainable and create and maintain quality jobs, export revenues and tax revenues to the state, HB2409 is critical to our success. HB2409 also:

1. will increase lease terms for aquaculture leases thereby encouraging investment in aquaculture infrastructure and equipment requiring long-term financing, and encourage multi-generational commitment to aquaculture farming
2. will provide lessees in good standing the right of first refusal such that the years of financial investment in the aquaculture farming operation are not put on the auction block and potentially lost to a higher bidder who would not have the intimate knowledge of the site nor the experience gained in the aquaculture farming operation, and may not have the commitment or experience of the lessee who has already demonstrated such commitment and experience;
3. will allow additional supportive aquaculture activities such as aquaponics, which would reuse aquaculture effluent water to grow additional plant products thereby improving the overall financial viability of the operation, or the generation of renewable energy, which could improve the long-term sustainability of the operation; and
4. it would help stimulate and diversify our economy by encouraging increased investment in aquaculture ventures in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this important bill.

Sincerely,

/s/

Bill Spencer, President/CEO



Hawaii Farm Bureau
F E D E R A T I O N

2343 Rose Street, Honolulu, HI 96819

Phone: (808) 848-2074; Neighbor Islands: 1-800-482-1272

Fax: (808) 848-1921; e-mail: info@hfbf.org

TESTIMONY

RE: HB2409HD1 RELATING TO AQUACULTURE

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committees:

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation on behalf of our member farm and ranch families and organizations **urges your support of** HB2409, addressing the lease terms of aquaculture leases in the State.

Aquaculture is a growing industry. The potential is significant with increased interests in more fish in people's diets. However, successful aquaculture operations require significant capital. The proposed lease terms make major investments possible.

We therefore, respectfully request your support of HB2409 HD1 as written.
Thank you.



MAUI TOMORROW

Protecting Maui's Future

February 17, 2010

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Open ocean aquaculture is a relatively new technology where the burden of proof must fall on those promoting this new activity in order to prove that it will not harm people or the environment. The aquaculture industry has failed to demonstrate that ocean fish farming is environmentally sustainable, technically possible or financially viable on a commercial scale. Biological pollution, an environmental problem related to aquaculture, must be studied in greater detail as ecosystems are being altered and biodiversity is being reduced.

Aquaculture is now the world's largest consumer of fish meal and fish oil. Many species of small fish ground up for aquaculture feed are being harvested beyond sustainable levels. When fish are removed from wild food webs, less food may be available for commercially valuable predatory fish and other marine predators. By taking these fish out of the ocean to feed to farmed fish, we undermine the integrity of the marine food web.

Studies show the composition of most fish feeds contain heavy metals, PCBs, dioxins, flame retardants, and pesticides from the small fish ground up for feed. The common use of antibiotics, growth enhancers, pharmaceuticals, and cleaning agents necessary for fish farming needs further research.

Impacts of escaped farmed fish on wild fish populations must be considered as the potential for escape is always present in aquaculture operations. Escaped fish can threaten local wild populations, either by spreading diseases to wild fish, or competing with them for resources. Densely packed fish within farm pens may also infect wild fish populations with disease and parasites.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration stated that there is "little knowledge about the environmental effects of offshore aquaculture." Maui Tomorrow Foundation believes this to be true and, in light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo,

Irene Bowie/Executive Director



THE HOUSE - TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - 2010

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2010

TIME: 3:00pm

PLACE: Conference Room 308, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Support of HB2409 HD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Committee Members,

I would like to express my strong support for HB2409 HD1 because a long-term perspective is critical for development of a viable, stable aquaculture industry in Hawaii.

Increasing the lease terms for aquaculture to 45 years would encourage increased investment in expensive aquaculture infrastructure and equipment requiring long-term financing, and encourage multi-generational commitment to aquaculture farming.

The right of first refusal to lessees would ensure that their years of financial investment in the aquaculture farming operation are not put on the auction block and potentially lost to a highest bidder.

This bill would also allow additional supportive aquaculture activities such as aquaponics, which would reuse aquaculture effluent water to grow additional plant products thereby improving the overall financial viability of the operation, which could improve the long-term sustainability of the operation.

Thanks, and aloha,

Neil Anthony Sims
Co-founder, President, CEO

DEEP BLUE RESEARCH, LLC

OFFSHORE AQUACULTURE SOLUTIONS

P.O BOX 525

HOLUALOA, HI 96725

REF: HB 2409

ATTN: FINANCE COMMITTEE

I urge you to support this bill.

Offshore aquaculture in Hawaii has proven itself to be an ecological and sustainable form of producing healthy fish. Aquaculture production in Hawaii has been growing steadily over the years, even during the recent economic downturn, in contrast to essentially all the other diversified agriculture industries.

Its positive track record and promising future deserves support from the State. Improving the potential lease terms gives the industry and individual farms more stability and helps attract investment.

Any small adjustment can be made by amendments or during Rule Making.

Thank you.

**Dale Sarver, Ph.D.
Marine Ecologist
President**

THE HOUSE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2010
TIME: 3:00pm
PLACE: Conference Room 308, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of HB2409 HD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Committee Members,

As a strong believer in the positive social, economic and innovative industry impacts of aquaculture in Hawaii, **I strongly support HB2409 HD1.**

The increased lease term will **decrease risk** for those working to establish a long-term future for aquaculture research and production. It will give those in the aquaculture industry the opportunity to focus on growing the industry without concern for lease expiration and the inability to invest as needed.

Also, by supporting aquaculture activities such as aquaponics, we will be **supporting an environmentally sustainable process** – where complementary products such as algae can grow, while concurrently reducing water pollution in a natural way. This win-win will reduce water pollution and support an even greater economic return.

As an isolated island with great weather conditions and deep ocean currents, please support the aquaculture community as **this industry has great potential to become Hawaii's niche** – developing innovative technology and practices, while supporting a sustainable practice that relieves our oceans of overfishing and encourages the people of Hawaii to consume more responsibly and return to a sustainable practice.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this important bill.

Sincerely,
Tricia Dang

FINTestimony

From: Taleah Mcdonald [Taleahsage@mac.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:57 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Taleah Mcdonald
Niupea homesteads rd.
okala, HI 96776

FINTestimony

From: Brian Kaczmarek [lionazlamb@gmail.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:57 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Brian Kaczmarek
12-197 Kipuka St.
07
Pahoa, HI 96778

FINTestimony

From: Niyaso carter [ulrikeingo@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Niyaso carter
270 hoolawa st
aiku, HI 96708

FINTestimony

From: James and Terri Walsh [walshj011@hawaii.rr.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 9:14 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

James and Terri Walsh
66-489B Pikai street
aleiwa, HI 96712
808 637-6255

FINTestimony

From: Denise Snyder [scott101@hawaii.rr.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 9:14 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

I am opposed to HB2409. This takes us further in the wrong direction. We need to evaluate the environmental and financial costs already incurred BEFORE we consider extending these types of activities.

Industrial ocean fish farms have already had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

ahalo

Denise Snyder
4952 Mana Place
Honolulu, HI 96816

FINTestimony

From: Ronald Fujiyoshi [Ronsan2224@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:54 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

I am a supporter of the Kanaka Council which has taken a stand against these fish farms.

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Ronald Fujiyoshi
1196 W. Kowailani St.
Hilo, HI 96720
808-959-9775

FINTestimony

From: mackensie grant [mackensie11@gamil.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:48 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

mackensie grant
HC 1 Box 180
ana, HI 96713

FINTestimony

From: Cha Smith [conch@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:46 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Cha Smith
4117 Black Point Road
Honolulu, HI 96816

FINTestimony

From: Phyllis Frus [pfrus@hpu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:01 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Phyllis Frus
445 Seaside Ave #1101
Honolulu, HI 96815
808 9232589

FINTestimony

From: Doug Phillips [djp@kona.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:08 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Doug Phillips
PO Box 44910
Honolulu, HI 96743
8088821692

FINTestimony

From: Yuri Zhuraw [happyzghost@yahoo.com]
ent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 9:46 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha members of the House Committee on Finance,

my name is Yuri and i am a farmer on the big island. i believe that our aina and water are a precious resource to conserve correctly. We must protect our resources against harmful unnatural practices that are detrimental to the environment. please help to save the natural balance of ocean life. monetary incentives from big corporations and private interests into the hands of policy makers do not benefit the hard working people of this earth. support the people of hawaii by choosing local products and services that are practice sustainable and organic methods.

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not o extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo -Yuri

Yuri Zhuraw
pohakea Rd
Paauilo, HI 96776

FINTestimony

From: Alana Bryant [alanaisforlovers@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 6:45 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha members of the House Committee on Finance,

In no way do I support the way open-ocean fish farming has developed in Hawai'i in the past 10 years, or the way proposed ventures are doing business.

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins, killing of a shark, and altering fish behavior. In return, they have not increased our food independence, and have no plans to. They release misleading statements such as, "produced locally in Hawai'i", but the fish is not consumed by people in Hawai'i. We currently have a huge trade deficit. We import 70% of the seafood we eat, why can't these ventures remedy that?. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo nui loa,

Alana Bryant
2746 Kahawai Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
808 988-4614

FINTestimony

From: Hesh Goldstein [heshgoldstein@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 5:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Hesh Goldstein
P.O. Box 240783
Honolulu, HI 96824-0783
(808) 258-1177

FINTestimony

From: Brad Parsons [kauaibrad@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 10:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Brad Parsons
P.O. Box 223374
Hilo, HI 96722

FINTestimony

From: Alexander Lau [anderlau@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 10:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Alexander Lau
2527 Tantalus Drive
Honolulu, HI 96813

FINTestimony

From: Skye Coe [mauiskye1@yahoo.com]
ent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 3:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha members of the House Committee on Finance,

Very few people that I know will actually eat farm raised fish. That is a trend that is increasing everywhere. Why should we rape our own 'aina me kai for the benefit (financial, not health) of those not living here at the cost of our own citizens and future of our children by destroying something God given that can in no way be repaired without great cost?

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Skye Coe
3164 Mapu Place
Kihei, HI 96753
808-280-3682

THE HOUSE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2010
TIME: 3:00pm
PLACE: Conference Room 308, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TO: Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Committee Members,

RE: Testimony In Support of HB2409 HD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Please accept my support to HB2409 HD1 as written for the following reasons:

1. This bill will encourage future investments and commitment by farmers who hold good record in food production by increasing the lease terms for aquaculture to 45 years.
2. This bill will encourage the following generation of a farmer with good record to continue with the family values and commitment to aquaculture and by that to help bring about future food security and food safety to the State of Hawai'i, which currently imports 90% of its seafood.
3. This bill will give the professional aquaculturists, who are lessees the right of first refusal to make sure that their hardship and many years of financial investment in the aquaculture avoid the auction block and lost to a higher bidder, regardless her/his experience in aquaculture.
4. This bill will help encourage professional farmer to invest in new areas of aquaculture and go with the latest technology for growing food for the community in Hawai'i and by that to bring future food security and food safety to the State of Hawai'i, which currently imports 90% of its seafood.

Mahalo,

Dr. Benny Ron

THE HOUSE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2010

TIME: 3:00pm

PLACE: Conference Room 308, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Support of HB2409 HD1- Relating to Aquaculture

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Committee Members:

My name is John Corbin. I was formerly Manager of the State Aquaculture Development Program and have worked with the industry in Hawaii for over 30 years. I support what H.B 2409 H.D. 1 is trying to do. My experience with the application of Section 171-59 HRS is land-based and ocean aquaculture farmers would benefit from a longer term lease with respect to time to grow their businesses and having more options with respect to financing. Moreover, allowing complimentary activities that enhance profitability is consistent with the State's desire to encourage this industry to diversify the economy. Giving aquaculture farmers the right of first refusal to further extend a lease is a policy issue, however allowing this option would help maintain a viable , long term industry resulting in greater long-term food self sufficiency.

Lastly, I am very concerned that a mainland non-profit group, Food and Water Watch, with locally hired staff, has a campaign to convince the State Legislature and the public to stop offshore fish farm development. They are skilled in using so-called Internet Activism techniques to have people flood legislators with e-mails (Please see their web site, <http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/fish/fish-farming>). While no vehicle should be off limits in a democracy for communicating with elected officials, I have noted this vehicle, which provides form responses, readily allows people to express their opinions with little or no study of the issue. Though a fact of life in the Internet Age, should these negative comments promote questions about offshore aquaculture development in Hawaii, I urge you to contact aquaculture industry members to obtain their answers to these questions so you will have the complete picture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

FINTestimony

From: Summer Starr [summer_starr@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:35 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Summer Starr
2237 hoonanea
Honolulu, HI 96822

FINTestimony

From: john carty [johncartyphoto@gmail.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 11:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

john carty
2580 kekaa dr.
15-157
Mahaina, HI 96761
8082768733

FINTestimony

From: Kirstin Morris [lomikirstin@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 1:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Kirstin Morris
6335-B Waipouli Rd.
apaa, HI 96746
(808) 822-0427

FINTestimony

From: Pua Nani Rogers [kealiagirl2004@yahoo.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 12:18 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Pua Nani Rogers
4702 MaIlihuna Rd.
apaa, Kauai, HI 96746
(808) 652-1249

FINTestimony

From: Nancy Mower [nmower@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 12:58 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Nancy Mower
1536 Kamole Street
Honolulu, HI 96821
373-2901

FINTestimony

From: Robert Gibson [robgibson@opendoor.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 4:14 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Robert Gibson
915A Kupulau Dr.
Iihei, HI 96753

FINTestimony

From: Bonnie Bonse [bcbonse@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 1:32 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Bonnie Bonse
182 S. Makaleha Pl
Kakawao, HI 96768
808-572-1865

FINTestimony

From: Steve Slater [ss@vcasa.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 12:31 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

As a long term resident of Hawaii, I am shocked at the short notice I am being given for such long reaching leases of what is supposed to be our Ocean.

Please oppose HB 2409.

I have been Snorkeling here for close to 30 years now and am saddened by the noticeable decline in coral and virtually all marine life.

I just read yesterday on the front page of the New York Times, how plans for Federal Control of Aquaculture are being put on the fast track, because of the horrible record of States protecting against the decimation of coastal and fresh water areas, by private industries. Here I am, the very next day, watching my representatives allow another long term decision to be rushed through before the public can even understand the issue.

Oppose HB2409 !!!
PLEASE !!

Steve Slater
P.O. Box 790913
Paia, HI 96779
808-572-7121

FINTestimony

From: Lauren King [laurenkking@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 11:48 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Lauren King
1630 Makiki St A306
Honolulu, HI 96822

FINTestimony

From: Donna Klipstein [Dklipstein@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 10:27 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Donna Klipstein
280 Akalua
Iehi, HI 92014

FINTestimony

From: sara Appel [sarae@mac.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 12:45 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

sara Appel
71 Puakea Pl
ula, HI 96790

FINTestimony

From: Alison Hartle [ahartle@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 12:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Alison Hartle
2646 Pamoia Rd
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808)295-3861

FINTestimony

From: wilma Nakamura [wwnakamura@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 10:23 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

wilma Nakamura
9220 Kula Highway
ula, HI 96790

FINTestimony

From: ellen kraftsow [kraftsow@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 10:19 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

ellen kraftsow
east kuiaha road
aikū, Hawaii 96708

FINTestimony

From: Gloria Natale [glorianatale@mac.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 10:10 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Gloria Natale
PO Box 753
Haleiwa, HI 96754

FINTestimony

From: Markus Broyles [markus.broyles@gmail.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 9:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Markus Broyles
48-5536 Waipio road
ukuihaele, HI 96727

FINTestimony

From: Kathi Lee [kathilee@skyhighway.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Kathi Lee
3797 Papalina Road
797 Papalina Road
Kalaheo, HI 96741

FINTestimony

From: Ramani Ramani [ramani001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 10:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Ramani Ramani
3950 Kalai Waa #W101
Kihei, HI 96753
808 875-7308

FINTestimony

From: Shannon Rudolph [shannonkona@gmail.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 9:34 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Shannon Rudolph
P. O. 243
.o . 343
Holualoa, HI 96725
808-322-6604

FINTestimony

From: Susan Gailey [sgailey@hawaiian.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 12:12 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Susan Gailey
P.O.Box 737
Halea, HI 96754

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 12:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: robparsons@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for HB2409 on 2/18/2010 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 2/18/2010 3:00:00 PM HB2409

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Robert Parsons
Organization: Individual
Address: 600 Kaupakalua Road Haiku, HI 96708
Phone: 808-572-4120
E-mail: robparsons@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 2/17/2010

Comments:

Aloha; These additional points were not covered in my testimony IN OPPOSITION submitted on behalf of Food & Water Watch:

Ambiguous Language in Bill

As written, this bill proposes to extend favorable lease terms of up to 45 years for, existing operations that have a favorable track record of ten or more years." Who would determine what criteria constitute a favorable track record?

Likewise, "Aquaculture operations in good standing would have a first right of refusal and may seek to renew a lease..." Who determines good standing, and by what criteria?

The bill states, "Aquaculture operations, during the lease term, may engage in supportive activities that are related to aquaculture." There is no definition of "supportive activities," thus this is extremely vague, ambiguous, and could surely lead to arbitrary and capricious interpretations.

DLNR's Aquaculture Report to the Legislature is Absent

The Department of Land and Natural Resources is required by law (Act 176, Section 12, Session Laws of Hawaii 1999) to provide the legislature with yearly reports on the status of aquaculture operations throughout the state, and the outlook for the future. To date, DLNR has been delinquent in providing that document.

State resources are insufficient to monitor and review environmental studies and broad impacts of open ocean aquaculture operations. The Department of Agriculture's Aquaculture Program has been cut by 75%, from eight staff positions to two. There appear to be serious communication gaps within offices and divisions of DLNR, specifically OCCL, DAR, and Land, with respect to aquaculture oversight.

It would be imprudent to allow greater latitude for fish farms, which should be termed ocean seedlots, to continue operating for extended decades in this climate of insufficient oversight. Additionally, these leases do not provide a meaningful return to the people of Hawaii, while their cultural rights and ability to utilize public resources within lease areas is compromised.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to HB 2409, and in favor of a precautionary approach in protecting Hawaii's environmental and cultural resources.

Sincerely,

Robert Parsons
600 Kaupakalua Road
Haiku, HI 96708
808-572-4120
robparsons@earthlink.net

FINTestimony

From: Joan Lander [namaka@interpac.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 11:40 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Joan Lander
PO Box 29
a'alehu, HI 96772

FINTestimony

From: kathy pearson [peakat@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 9:38 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

kathy pearson
P.O. Box 2095
Honolulu, HI 96743

FINTestimony

From: Sherrie Moore [sherrie@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 11:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

This is an outrage. The ocean should not be used for what amounts to aquatic factory farms, there is no upside to this. Ordinary citizens of our state are not even reaping the benefits of these operations. There is no excuse for supporting something that pollutes our waters and disrupts our marine life. Especially not when the jobs generated are minimal and costly to other taxpayers, and the product does not feed ordinary people, only the few who can afford expensive restaurants. That is not the definition of increasing food independence for our islands.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Sherrie Moore
RR 3 Box 1302
Pahoa, HI 96778
808 966 9968

FINTestimony

From: Sarah Sherman [bean@higp.hawaii.edu]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 10:53 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Sarah Sherman
481A Sierra dr
onolulu, HI 96816

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 11:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rblyth_skyrme@yahoo.co.uk
Subject: Testimony for HB2409 on 2/18/2010 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 2/18/2010 3:00:00 PM HB2409

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme
Organization: Individual
Address: 874 Nana Honua St Honolulu, HI
Phone: 808 351 0050
E-mail: rblyth_skyrme@yahoo.co.uk
Submitted on: 2/17/2010

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Committee on Finance,

I am writing to you with regard to your upcoming discussions on HB2409, 'Relating to Aquaculture'.

I should say that I am a marine fisheries and environmental professional, with 15 years of science, management and policy experience. I worked as a fish farmer for 4 years before shifting focus to wild fisheries.

I am conscious of the need to provide security of tenure for developers, so that investment is encouraged and can occur. However, 35 years, the existing limit on aquaculture developments, would seem to already provide that security.

The justification for an increase in the term provided in Section 1 of the act that Federal Loans 'require applicants to have leases at least 5 years longer than the term, a minimum of 45 years' is misleading when federal loan terms are available for 'up to' 40 years. If the limit is 35 years then loans would simply need to be extended for a shorter period of time.

Further, the comparison with farmers who have 65 year leases is misleading in that the farmer's success depends directly on his taking care of the land. In aquaculture, there is no comparable stewardship of the sea- the productivity of open-ocean fishfarms does not depend on the maintenance of healthy marine habitats and communities around the farms. Sadly, such fishfarms have a generally poor record of minimal impact, with escapees causing genetic contamination of local stocks, non-native species release, nutrient enrichment, benthic smothering and contamination of the environment with pest control agents.

Finally, and possibly most importantly, to grant this extension when appropriate environmental safeguards for developments do not appear to be in place (I refer to SB2486 'Related to submerged lands leasing' which awaits further readings and confirmation), appears inappropriate at best.

would suggest that, if HB2409 is to be taken forward, that careful consideration needs to be given to the environmental safeguards around fish farming, including through clearly defining what 'in good standing' (Section 171-59 (b) 2 (B) means, and through waiting for SB 2486 to proceed. If extensions are required to provide greater security of tenure, then these should be sought as part of a normal planning process, and with the requirement to

demonstrate, through independent determination and planning review, that the effects of the development have not been detrimental to the surrounding environment.

I am grateful for this opportunity to comment.

Yours faithfully,
Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme

FINTestimony

From: Sandra Atherton [sandra@seagoddess.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Sandra Atherton
583 Kulaiwi Dr
Wailuku, HI 96793

FINTestimony

From: Alison Hartle [ahartle@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 11:14 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Alison Hartle
2646 Pamoia Rd
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808)295-3861

FINTestimony

From: scott heller [scottieheller@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 4:44 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Mahalo

scott heller
333 haumana rd
aiku, HI 96708

FINTestimony

From: Michael Hyson [michaelhyson@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 11:56 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Jr Michael Hyson, Ph.D.

Michael Hyson
Box 1979
Pahoa, HI 96778

FINTestimony

From: Robert Wintner [robertw@snorkelbob.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 8:58 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Please vote NO on HB 2409. Negative impacts of industrial fish farming are clearly known.

Why would this committee approve a 45 year contract? With all due respect, something here stinks.

Can you please shed some sunshine on this situation, or at least add a sunset clause that will allow this issue to be revisited in 2 years? Or is capital investment more righteous than Hawaii reefs?

Economic cycles will come and go. Our reefs must be protected. Please vote NO on HB 2409.

Mahalo

Robert Wintner
S. Kihei Road
Kihei, HI 96753

FINTestimony

From: chris harrison [wow91263@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 1:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

chris harrison
PO Box 385015
aikoloa, ID 96738
808-989-7814

FINTestimony

From: Andrea Brower [andrea@malamakauai.org]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 3:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Andrea Brower
PO Box 220
nahola, HI 96703

FINTestimony

From: john dalbec [backinmaui@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 10:24 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

john dalbec
po box 532423
ihei, HI 06753
808-205-1450

FINTestimony

From: Richard Bennett PhD [drrhbennett@konamist.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 9:06 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Absent a comprehensive independent scientific review of ocean farming in Hawaii, it is the prudent and wise choice.

Mahalo

Richard Bennett PhD
87-3020 Mamalahoa Hwy
Captain Cook, HI 96704
808 3289605

FINTestimony

From: Karin Frost [karin@ergobaby.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 5:48 PM
o: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Karin Frost
1215 Piiholo Road
Wakawao, HI 96768
808-572-2657

FINTestimony

From: Thomas Tizard [tizard8@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2010 12:29 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Thomas Tizard
591-A Keolu Dr.
Haleiwa, HI 96734
808-261-6626

FINTestimony

From: Deborah Erickson [debbie_96754@yahoo.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 7:52 AM
fo: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Deborah Erickson
7655 Koolau Rd
ilauea, HI 96754
8088281174

FINTestimony

From: Philip Thomas [pt@philipt.com]
ent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 10:26 AM
fo: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment.

Please do NOT allow extension of open ocean leases for aquaculture.

I urge you to vote against HB 2409 (or--at the very least--to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension).

Mahalo,

Philip Thomas
Maui
Kihei, HI 96753

FINTestimony

From: kimberly wylie [kwylie21@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 10:58 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

kimberly wylie
rr 4 box 2356
R 4 Box 2356
pahoa, HI 96778
808 965-9206

FINTestimony

From: Mitchell Evans [me@dmesys.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 4:23 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Mahalo

Mitchell Evans
44-704 Hoouli Street

Honokaa, HI 96727
808 775 9512

FINTestimony

From: michael grammer [emohyaw@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 3:57 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

michael grammer
493 pio dr
ailuku, HI 96793

FINTestimony

From: Virginia Bennett [vbennett@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 3:26 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have clearly had a negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into class AA waters, interference with dolphins and killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

In light of this, it is time to reevaluate the role of open ocean aquaculture in Hawaii - not to extend its reach. I urge you to vote against HB 2409 or to insert an amendment to exclude industrial open ocean aquaculture from the proposed lease extension.

Mahalo

Virginia Bennett
1201 Wilder Ave.
Honolulu, HI 96822
808-956-4165

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Thursday, February 18, 2010 10:43 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: cindy@aylateva.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2409 on 2/18/2010 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 2/18/2010 3:00:00 PM HB2409

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: cynthia Babson
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: cindy@aylateva.com
Submitted on: 2/18/2010

Comments:

Quit destroying the gifts of the earth. Money is not an issue here your heart is soiled.....find truth in perserving our planet.....for our children

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2010 11:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: isurus79@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2409 on 2/18/2010 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 2/18/2010 3:00:00 PM HB2409

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Stephen Van Kampen-Lewis
Organization: Individual
Address: 2737 Pacific Heights Rd Unit B Honolulu, HI
Phone: 808 896 3387
E-mail: isurus79@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/18/2010

Comments:

I support HB2409 because of the following:

The Hawaii Aquaculture Association strongly supports HB2409 HD1 as written because:

1. it would increase lease terms for aquaculture to 45 years thereby encouraging increased investment in expensive aquaculture infrastructure and equipment requiring long-term financing, and encourage multi-generational commitment to aquaculture farming
. it would provide lessees in good standing the right of first refusal such that their years of financial investment in the aquaculture farming operation are not put on the auction block and potentially lost to a higher bidder who would not have the intimate knowledge of the site nor the experience gained in the aquaculture farming operation, and may not have the commitment or experience of the lessee who has already demonstrated such commitment and experience;
3. it would allow additional supportive aquaculture activities such as aquaponics, which would reuse aquaculture effluent water to grow additional plant products thereby improving the overall financial viability of the operation, or the generation of renewable energy, which could improve the long-term sustainability of the operation; and
4. it would help stimulate and diversify our economy by encouraging increased investment in land-based, coastal, and ocean aquaculture ventures in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this important bill.

FINTestimony

From: Brooks Blanchard [brooksblanchard@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2010 10:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FIN Meeting 2/17 3:00pm Room 308 - opposition to HB2409

Aloha Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Industrial ocean fish farms have had a clear negative impact on our environment - including introducing antibiotics into Class AA waters, interference with dolphins and the killing of a shark. In return, they have not increased our food independence. These ocean feedlots rely heavily on imported feed and the end product is shipped off island or only found at high-end restaurants. After grants, state and federal support, each job created in Hawaii by this industry has cost tax payers over \$84,000.

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Mahalo

Brooks Blanchard
39 Crescent Beach
Haleiwa Cove, HI 11542
808-658-2299