

## hashem3 - Casey

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2012 9:41 AM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** gjstille@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HR105 on 3/21/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for AGR/ERB 3/21/2012 9:00:00 AM HR105

Conference room: 312  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Greg Stille  
Organization: Maui Coffee Association  
E-mail: [gjstille@aol.com](mailto:gjstille@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 3/19/2012

**Comments:**

Members of the National Agricultural Statistics Services we are urging you to use green coffee, instead of parchment equivalent, as the basis for valuing Hawaii's Coffee Crops. As we farmers sell green coffee to roasters and not parchment coffee.

Greg Stille  
President ; Maui Coffee Association

**Ka'u Farm Bureau  
PO Box 1109  
Naalehu Hawaii 96772  
808-929-9550**

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair  
Rep. Mark J. Hashem, Vice Chair

**COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION & BUSINESS**

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Isaac W. Choy, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 21, 2012  
9:00am  
Conference Room 312

**Testimony in Support of HR105**

Aloha Chairs Tsuji and McKelvey, Vice Chairs Hashem and Choy, and Members of the Committees:

**Ka'u Farm Bureau supports the aforementioned resolution.**

The Hawaiian coffee crop is currently valued as parchment by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Coffee is typically traded at wholesale as green beans.

By valuing the crop as parchment, NASS is undervaluing the crop both in-state and internationally. This places the Hawaiian, indeed the United States coffee industry at an unnecessary disadvantage when describing the value of the industry.

I have met with members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation in Washington DC specifically regarding this issue. Their support has been offered.

This request to change the valuation method was recently made the official policy of Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation with its more than 1800 member families in Hawaii and that of American Farm Bureau, with its more than 6 million member families across the nation.

Please pass this resolution.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Mahalo,

Chris Manfredi  
President