NEIL ABERCROMBIE Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE AND JUDICIARY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014 2:15 P.M.

HOUSE BILL NO. 2361 HD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairpersons McKelvey and Rhoads and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 2361 HD1, which establishes the offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee to include grade standard violations and all stages of production of Hawaii-grown coffee.

In 2012, Act 328 was enacted which established criminal penalties for falsely labeled Hawaii-grown cherry, parchment, and green coffee with regard to geographic origin. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture, along with the several representatives of the coffee industry met with representatives of the Hawaii County Prosecutor's office on the limitations of Act 328 with regard to origin counterfeiting and the need to include quality counterfeiting to maintain the recognition of Hawaii-grown coffee is known for.

The Department supports the intent of this bill, and offers the following technical amendments:

"[+]\$708-71.5[+] False labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee.
 (1) A person commits the offense of false labeling of
Hawaii-grown coffee if the person knowingly transports,
distributes, advertises, sells, or possesses with the intent to



sell Hawaii-grown green coffee, cherry coffee, <u>natural</u>, or parchment coffee that is falsely labeled with regard to the [geographic origin of the Hawaii-grown coffee.]:

(A) <u>Geographic origin of green, cherry, parchment,</u> natural, roasted, or instant Hawaii-grown coffee; or

(B) Grade standard classification for Hawaii-grown coffee set forth in rules adopted under chapter 147, or

(C) The use of a geographic origin in the labeling of roasted or instant coffee, if the green coffee beans used in the roasted or instant coffee do not meet the grade standard requirements of rules adopted under chapter 147;

(2) For the purposes of this section:

"Cherry coffee" means the unprocessed fruit of the coffee plant.

"Geographic origin" means the unprocessed fruit of the coffee plant.

(a) Hamakua is the Hamakua district on the island of Hawaii, as designated as designated by the State of Hawaii tax map;

(b) Hawaii is the State of Hawaii;

(c) Kau is the Kau district on the island of Hawaii, as designated by the State of Hawaii tax map;

(d) Kauai is the island of Kauai;

(e) Kona is the north Kona and south Kona districts on the island of Hawaii, as designated by the State of Hawaii tax map;

(f) Maui is the island of Maui;

(g) Molokai is the island of Molokai; and

(h) Oahu is the island of Oahu.

"Green coffee means the agricultural commodity comprised of green coffee beans.

"Natural coffee" means coffee which has been processed from cherry coffee that has been dried with the husk on, or coffee which has been processed from parchment coffee with adhering mucilage.

"Parchment coffee" means the dried product that remains when coffee cherries are processed by removing the coffee seeds from the pulp.

(3) False labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee is a class C felony."

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

MITCHELL D. ROTH PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DALE A. ROSS FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



655 KĪLAUEA AVENUE HILO, HAWAI'I 96720 PH: (808) 961-0466 FAX: (808) 961-8908 (808) 934-3403 (808) 934-3503

WEST HAWAI'I UNIT 81-980 HALEKI'I ST, SUITE 150 KEALAKEKUA , HAWAI'I 96750 PH: (608) 322-2552 FAX: (808) 322-6584

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2361 HD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

> HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 19, 2014, 2:15 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chairs McKelvey and Rhoads, Vice-Chairs Kawakami and Har, and Members of the Committees, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i submits the following testimony in support of House Bill No. 2361 HD1.

Coffee is an extremely important commodity to the people of Hawai'i County and the State of Hawai'i. Through the hard work of generations of farmers and processors, Hawai'i grown coffee, particularly Kona coffee, has attained a worldwide reputation for excellent quality. The state legislature realized the need to protect this industry when it created §708-871.5. However, since its enactment, we have found this law difficult to apply to situations involving unscrupulous and what should be criminal practices attacking this industry.

Industry representatives interested in maintaining the reputation of Hawai'i grown coffee have approached us with their concerns regarding what they believed was counterfeit or falsely labeled coffee of very poor quality in various retail establishments. These situations do not necessarily involve false labeling as to geographic origin and thus does not fall into the purview of §708-871.5 as it is currently written. Thus, the reputation of this important industry has been threatened in recent years by individuals who falsely label poor quality coffee as high quality Hawai'i grown coffee. In order to protect the industry, §708-871.5 must be amended so that all stages of coffee, including the finished product as well as the quality standards for the product are included in this offense of false labeling of Hawai'i grown coffee. We should not allow the excellent reputation of Hawai'i grown coffee, made possible only by the sacrifices and hard work of generations of farmers to be destroyed because the law intended to protect them fails to adequately include the true scope of the problem.

For these reasons, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i supports the passage of House Bill No. 2361 HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Respectfully,

Mitchell D. Roth Prosecuting Attorney County of Hawai'i

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 18, 2014 9:04 AM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	jwayman@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/18/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Jim Wayman	Hawaii Coffee Association	Support	Yes	

Comments: HB2361 - Strong Support Bill scheduled to be heard by Consumer Protection/Judiciary on Wednesday, 02-19-14 2:15PM in House conference room 325. Please accept this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 2361. The purpose of this act is to establish further restrictions and criminal penalties on labeling Hawaii grown coffee in order to prevent counterfeiting and roasted coffee that does not meet established grade quality standards. This helps protect Hawaii's brands, coffee origins and Hawaii's reputation for high quality coffee. HB 280 was passed in 2012 and changed the act of mislabeling or counterfeiting Hawaii grown coffee from a misdemeanor to a class c felony. Although a step in the right direction HB280 did not include the mislabeling of roasted coffee in the commodity classifications considered as a class C felony. HB280 also did not clearly include the violation of grading standards for Hawaii grown coffee produced in Kona caused by the advent of the coffee berry borer beetle has increased the temptation to engage in coffee counterfeiting. The coffee industry seeks your help in tightening loopholes in current law and clarifying acts covered by punishment under a class c felony. Thank you, Jim Wayman

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 18, 2014 1:20 PM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	jkimof@msn.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/18/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james Kimo Falconer	Hawaii Coffee Growers Assn	Comments Only	No

Comments: Dear Committee Members: As the President of the Hawaii Coffee Growers Assn, a Hawaii organization representing better than 70% of the coffee growing acreage in the State, I strongly urge you to pass this bill through to law as an effort to strengthen or efforts to fight Counterfeit labeling in coffee. Mahalo Kimo Falconer, President, HCGA

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 18, 2014 8:54 AM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	rkaiwi@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/18/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Roger Kaiwi	Kona Coffee Council	Support	Yes	

Comments: Please accept this testimony in Strong Support of HB2361. Our industry needs to tighten up currrent laws in order to stop counterfeiting. Mahalo , Roger Kaiwi

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 18, 2014 10:08 AM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	gbiven@hicoffeeco.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/18/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gloria Biven	Royal Kona Coffee Visitor Center Mill & Museum	Support	No

Comments: I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 2361. I feel this bill will act to establish further restrictions and criminal penalties on labeling Hawaii grown coffee in order to prevent counterfeiting and roasted coffees that do not meet our already established grade quality standards. Thank you. Gloria Biven

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 18, 2014 12:55 PM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	john@olsontrust.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/18/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
John C. Cross	Kau Coffee Mill	Support	No	

Comments: I represent Kau Coffee Mill and the Edmund C. Olson Trust II. We strongly support this bill. Please strengthen the rules so that roasted Hawaiian coffee's are held to the highest standards and those that break the rules and tarnish the quality of Hawaiian coffee's are prosecuted appropriately.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

2/18/14

To: Members of the Consumer Protection & Judiciary Committees From: Bruce Corker Re: Opposition to HB2361/HD1

For the reasons set forth in my testimony to the Agriculture Committee and my email of February 5, 2014 to Scott Enright, Acting Chair of the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (both of which are set forth below) I request that your committees reject HB2361/HD1.

Respectively submitted,

Bruce Corker Rancho Aloha Holualoa, Hawaii County

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Feb 2

to AGRtestimony, me

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/2/2014 Testimony for AGR on Feb 3, 2014 09:40AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
bruce corker	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: 2/2/14 To: House Agriculture Committee From: Bruce Corker Re: Testimony in Opposition to HB2261 for hearing on 2/3/14, 9:40 am, House Conference Room Auditorium Dear Chair Wooley and Members of the Committee: I am a Kona coffee farmer and I am opposed to HB2361. Before stating the reasons for opposition to the bill, I want to clearly indicate that Kona's coffee farmers have for many years vigorously opposed (and continue to vigorously oppose) misleading and fraudulent labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee. That opposition includes efforts to reform the State's "10% Hawaii Coffee Blend Law". We have sought to encourage the Legislature to effectively reform this "10% Blend law" in light of the Legislature's own finding of fact in 2007 that "existing labeling requirements for Kona coffee causes consumer fraud and confusion and degrades the 'Kona Coffee" name." My reasons for opposing HB2361 are the following: 1--HB2361 merely tinkers with the Legislature's ill-considered enactment of HB280 (2012). HB280 repealed the system of mandatory inspection and certification of green coffee by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture. That mandatory system had operated well to protect the integrity of Hawaii-grown coffee for almost two decades after the Kona Kai mislabeling/counterfeiting scandal of the 1990s. The Legislature should reinstate the pre-2012 inspection system and appropriate the funds necessary for the HDOA to operate that system as it did prior to the adoption of HB280. The prior system of affirmative inspection and certification worked; the series of criminal penalties adopted by HB280 have provided no apparent protection from labeling abuse. As a matter of good governmental policy, on-going regulatory oversight (such as the pre-2012 inspection system) is far better at protecting against fraud than relying on the uneven application of criminal statutes. 2—HB2361 seeks to extend—for the first time—unwritten and/or undisclosed coffee standards rules to roasted coffee. Such an extension should not be adopted until the specific provisions of those roasted coffee standards are spelled out-and only after Hawaii growers and

roasters have had an opportunity to provide comment and input on the impact of such proposed changes. 3--HB2361 addresses only false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee and creates no requirements for labeling of imported foreign-grown coffee and no penalties for deceptive labeling foreign-grown coffee. This bill invites deceptive labeling of foreign coffee as being Hawaii-grown. Please reject HB2361 and please use the 2014 Legislative session to re-instate and fund the pre-2012 system of mandatory inspection and certification of green coffee. Respectfully submitted, Bruce Corker Holualoa, Hawaii County

Bruce Corker bruce.corker@gmail.com Feb 5 (13 days ago)

to Scott, smithfarms, Colehour, Barbara

Hi Scott:

This is a follow up to the meeting in Kona yesterday with the Governor concerning West Hawaii farm issues. Attached is my list of coffee issues given to the Governor at the meeting.

I would like to get to your thoughts on one of those issues—the Restoration of Mandatory Green Coffee Inspections and opposition to HB2361.

At yesterday's meeting, the Governor strongly agreed that replacing a smooth functioning, efficient and long-standing system of HDOA inspection and certification with a voluntary system relying on criminal penalties is a mistake as a matter of good governmental policy.

The enactment of HB280 in 2012 was, and this year's attempt for the first time to add roasted coffee to this criminal law approach, is a mistake. For almost 2 decades after the Kona Kai counterfeiting scandal of the 1990s, the mandatory HDOA inspection system protected the integrity of Hawaii-grown coffee.

The voluntary/criminal law approach did not work to prevent the Kona Kai scandal, and it is not working now.

Furthermore, extension of the criminal law approach into the area of roasted coffee (even if it were a good idea) should not occur until a clear set of roasted coffee regulations has been put in place-- and only then <u>after</u> Hawaii growers and roasters have had an opportunity to provide comment and input on the impact of such proposed changes.

I hope you will have the opportunity to discuss this issue with the Governor, and that you and the HDOA will advocate for the return to administrative (rather than a criminal law) approach for effectively protecting the integrity of Hawaii-grown coffee--and that the HDOA will oppose HB2361.

Aloha,

Bruce



Wednesday, February 19, 2014

Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary

RE: HB 2361, HD1, Relating to Agriculture

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har and members of the Committee:

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on HB 2361, HD1, and respectfully submit the following written testimony in opposition to the bill.

Times Supermarket is based on Oahu and operates 26 stores with locations in Maui, Kauai and Oahu.

HB 2361 HD1 applies the offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee to include grade standard violations and all stages of production of Hawaii-grown coffee. While we support, and indeed promote and sell, Hawaii-grown coffee, we are concerned with the unintended costs and logistical requirements of this measure and its potential to negatively impact our ability to offer these products to our customers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Bob Gutierrez Director of Government Affairs Times Supermarket

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 14, 2014 5:20 PM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	lynhowe1946@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM*

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/14/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyn Howe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 16, 2014 9:33 AM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM*

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/16/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 18, 2014 9:17 AM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	mauioma@maui.net
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/18/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
David Gridley	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: I strongly support HB2361 to strengthen the penalties for counterfeiting and mis-labeling Hawaiian grown coffees and undermining the quality image of the product.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 18, 2014 10:15 AM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	info@konaearth.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/18/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Gary Strawn	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: "I tried some of that Kona coffee and it was horrible." That is what I was recently told by a first time visitor to Hawaii. As a Kona coffee farmer, I was concerned. Looking into the issue further, I discovered that the coffee in question was indeed labeled "100% Kona coffee" and had been purchased from a local store. However, looking in the bag, it was immediately obvious that it was off-grade coffee which can not legally be called Kona coffee. However, current legislation offers nearly zero protection so counterfeiting is rampant, even here in our local stores. Please, pass HB2361 to help protect this important Hawaiian product. As a small- time Kona coffee farmer, I can not fight these counterfeiters on my own.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 18, 2014 10:18 AM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	rkaiwi1@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/18/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stacie Loo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB2361. I urge you to protect our industry from counterfeiting. Mahalo , Stacie Loo

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.





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

February 19, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

TESTIMONY ON HB 2361, HD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 325 2:15 PM

Chair McKelvey, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Kawakami, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committees:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,832 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB is in strong support of HB 2361, HD1. The passage of HB280/Act 328 in 2012 addressed false labeling of Hawaiian coffee; commonly known as counterfeiting.

In order to legally offer coffee for sale labeled with one of the defined geographical origins located throughout the state, including Hawaiian coffee, it must meet established minimum grade standards. While the 2012 Act made strides to protect green, parchment and cherry coffee, it did not go far enough to protect Hawaii's coffee origins. HB2361 strengthens the law to include all coffee including roasted coffee. Passage of this measure will help protect Hawaii's reputation for high quality specialty coffee.

Please pass HB2361, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 18, 2014 6:57 PM
То:	CPCtestimony
Cc:	derek.lanter@dole.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM



HB2361

Submitted on: 2/18/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Derek Lanter	Dole Waialua Coffee	Support	No

Comments: Please accept this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 2361. The purpose of this act is to establish further restrictions and criminal penalties on labeling Hawaii grown coffee in order to prevent counterfeiting and roasted coffee that does not meet established grade quality standards. This helps protect Hawaii's brands, coffee origins and Hawaii's reputation for high quality coffee. HB 280 was passed in 2012 and changed the act of mislabeling or counterfeiting Hawaii grown coffee from a misdemeanor to a class c felony. Although a step in the right direction HB280 did not include the mislabeling of roasted coffee in the commodity classifications considered as a class C felony. HB280 also did not clearly include the violation of grading standards for Hawaii grown coffee produced in Kona caused by the advent of the coffee berry borer beetle has increased the temptation to engage in coffee counterfeiting. The coffee industry seeks your help in tightening loopholes in current law and clarifying acts covered by punishment under a class c felony. Thank you, Derek Lanter Waialua Estate Coffee and Chocolate

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From: Sent:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Wednesday, February 19, 2014 6:57 AM	
То:	CPCtestimony	
Cc:	gjstille@gmail.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:	15PM

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/19/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Greg Stille	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please accept this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 2361. The purpose of this act is to establish further restrictions and criminal penalties on labeling Hawaii grown coffee in order to prevent counterfeiting and roasted coffee that does not meet established grade quality standards. This helps protect Hawaii's brands, coffee origins and Hawaii's reputation for high quality coffee. HB 280 was passed in 2012 and changed the act of mislabeling or counterfeiting Hawaii grown coffee from a misdemeanor to a class c felony. Although a step in the right direction HB280 did not include the mislabeling of roasted coffee in the commodity classifications considered as a class C felony. HB280 also did not clearly include the violation of grading standards for Hawaii grown coffee produced in Kona caused by the advent of the coffee berry borer beetle has increased the temptation to engage in coffee counterfeiting. The coffee industry seeks your help in tightening loopholes in current law and clarifying acts covered by punishment under a class c felony. Thank you, Greg Stille

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.



From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov		
Sent:	Wednesday, February 19, 2014 7:48 AM		
То:	CPCtestimony		
Cc:	wildnwoolley@gmail.com		
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2361 on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM		

HB2361

Submitted on: 2/19/2014 Testimony for CPC/JUD on Feb 19, 2014 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
donna woolley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please accept this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 2361. The purpose of this act is to establish further restrictions and criminal penalties on labeling Hawaii grown coffee in order to prevent counterfeiting and roasted coffee that does not meet established grade quality standards. This helps protect Hawaii's brands, coffee origins and Hawaii's reputation for high quality coffee. HB 280 was passed in 2012 and changed the act of mislabeling or counterfeiting Hawaii grown coffee from a misdemeanor to a class c felony. Although a step in the right direction HB280 did not include the mislabeling of roasted coffee in the commodity classifications considered as a class C felony. HB280 also did not clearly include the violation of grading standards for Hawaii grown coffee produced in Kona caused by the advent of the coffee berry borer beetle has increased the temptation to engage in coffee counterfeiting. The coffee industry seeks your help in tightening loopholes in current law and clarifying acts covered by punishment under a class c felony. Thank you, Donna Woolley

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.