



SB 969

Measure Title:	RELATING TO FARM WORKER HOUSING.
Report Title:	Farm Worker Housing; Agricultural Parks; Non-agricultural Parks; Appropriation (\$)
Description:	<p>Allows one or more employee dwellings to be built on an agricultural park lot or non-agricultural park lot that is leased by a long-term lessee with lease terms of at least thirty-five years and a lot size of at least five acres, with restrictions. Appropriates an unspecified amount from the general fund to be expended by the department of agriculture to develop farm worker housing.</p>
Companion:	HB764
Package:	Housing and Homeless Legislative Package
Current Referral:	HSH/AGL, WAM
Introducer(s):	CHUN OAKLAND, RUDERMAN, SHIMABUKURO, Galuteria, Harimoto, Riviere, Wakai

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HSH Testimony](#)
Cc: chris@hfbf.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 2:04:06 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Manfredi	Hawaii Farm Bureau	Support	Yes

Comments:

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Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 2:12:10 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: aipohaku@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 8:07:43 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vince Kana`i Dodge	`Ai Pohaku- The Stone Eaters	Support	No

Comments: Aloha all, Farm worker housing would greatly assist local small time farmers in increasing local food production. We need to eat and grow more local food. PLz support SB969. aloha nui, Vince Kana`i Dodge

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TESTIMONY ON SB 969 RELATING TO FARM WORKER HOUSING
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING AND
AGRICULTURE

February 10, 2015

3:00 pm

Conference Rm. 414

Aloha Chairs Chun Oakland and Ruderman, Vice-Chairs Green and Riviere , and members of the Senate Committees on Human Services and Housing and Agriculture. My name is Stephen Morse, and I am a lessee in a State agricultural park on Oahu. I am here to testify in **support of SB 969 Relating to Farm Worker Housing, particularly as it relates to lessees on State agricultural land being allowed to build farm worker housing.**

I support this bill, because I believe it will provide lessees to long-term State agricultural leases with more flexibility in making our farms sustainable. For small farmers, finding and attracting good farm workers in Hawaii is very difficult. Most farm laborers are attracted to working on the larger farms because of the benefits they can acquire, including decent, affordable housing for themselves and their families.

Currently, my lease agreement with the Department of Agriculture only specifies that I can build one residential dwelling on my 9.25 acre parcel. While I understand and support the need to keep much of our parcels arable and maximize the productivity of our lots, I have found that most small farmers have difficulty making their farms productive and sustainable without bringing in outside labor; primarily because most small farmers like me have to work at outside jobs to make ends meet or be eligible for medical insurance, or because, like me, they are getting older.

Since signing my lease in 1987, there have been several times when I have been approached by individuals looking for farm labor jobs offering to work for just room and board, but without the appropriate living space, I have had to turn them down.

I have been told and understand that under the conditions of our leases, I could build additional farm worker housing by making a special request and with the approval of the Board of Agriculture, but I believe this creates a bureaucratic burden that lessees are either unable or unwilling to shoulder. It creates situations where lessees often come into conflict with the Department because of their tendencies to build non-conforming dwellings on these leases.

Please consider passing this bill or continuing to look at solutions to the problems faced by small farmers in providing housing to farm laborers. Thank you.

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Cc: yorkcarlton@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 4:32:09 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carlton York	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: info@courtneybruch.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 4:56:24 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Courtney Bruch	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Farmers should be able to live on Ag parks if they so choose. This cuts down on expenses and we need to support the wonderful people that grow good food for us as well as make it more economically sustainable for potential new farmers. Thank you for your support!

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Cc: rezentesc@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:45:15 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia K.L. Rezentes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill as it provides an opportunity for farm workers to find housing that is conducive to their job opportunities allowing for a reduction in the need to transit to their jobs and also should help provide housing at a reasonable rental rate commensurate with their pay as a farm worker. Cynthia K.L. Rezentes

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 12:27:22 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dana G. Moss	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Farm workers don't make much. So the cost of living for them can be greatly reduced by living on land they work on. Please support this bill to support a usually low paying job. TY

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Cc: ihemphi@live.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 8:25:01 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Key	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:30:27 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eva Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: akamaimom@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 8:23:41 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Felicia Cowden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Allowing for farm worker housing is vitally important for organic farming. It also helps to relieve our housing crisis. This is a win-win for everyone. Please support SB969.

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Cc: ambrosenterprises@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 12:58:10 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:55:27 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:50:58 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lars Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 11:41:19 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martha Lind	Individual	Support	No

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 11:25:38 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

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Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 7:25:41 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter deVries	Individual	Support	No

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Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 6:43:12 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Sydney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 6:25:13 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Renae Robertson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 3:52:13 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB969 on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 9:03:25 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
stacy vosberg	Individual	Support	No

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Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 10:31:34 AM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sunny Savage-Luskin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Sunday, February 08, 2015 8:49:40 PM

SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tammy Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: With escalating land prices, farmers need housing to continue to produce food locally. Please support farm worker housing options.

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SB969

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HSH/AGL on Feb 10, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Jacintho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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