

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

**APRIL 14, 2021
2:00 P.M.
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**SENATE CONCURENT RESOLUTION 247 SD1
REQUESTING THAT A WORKING GROUP BE CONVENED TO DEVELOP
RECOMMENDATIONS TO FACILITATE HOMESTEAD AGRICULTURAL
DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN THE STATE**

Chairperson Nakashima and Members of the Committee:

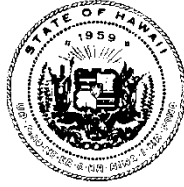
SCR247 proposes that a working group be convened to develop recommendations to facilitate homestead agricultural projects in the state. The Department of Agriculture ("Department") offers comments.

The resolution seeks to benefit the agricultural and pastoral lands and homestead lessees under the management authority of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. The Department's potential limited contribution to this effort is its technical disease and pest expertise. The Department defers to other proposed participant groups such as DBEDT, UH CTAHR Research and Cooperative Extension, DLNR, DHHL etc. regarding sites location, on-farm development, farmer training on business economics and production practices. It appears that the Department's role in the actions urged by this measure is one of a consultant on technical questions that arise.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of
DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

April 14, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 325

In consideration of
S.C.R. 247, S.D. 1
**REQUESTING THAT A WORKING GROUP BE CONVENED TO DEVELOP
RECOMMENDATIONS TO FACILITATE HOMESTEAD AGRICULTURAL
DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN THE STATE.**

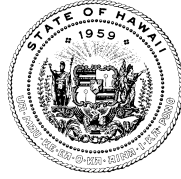
HHFDC *offers the following comments* on S.C.R. 247, S.D. 1. HHFDC is generally willing to partner with its sister departments and agencies to facilitate housing development, including agricultural worker housing. However, we note that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL), which would be responsible for convening the working group proposed in this Concurrent Resolution, previously testified that it does not have the resources to do so, and if given a choice between the two, prefers S.C.R. 246, S.D. 1 to this one.

We further note that the rules and regulations of HHFDC's affordable housing programs require that financed housing projects comply with Fair Housing laws in their tenant selection policies and operations. This applies to interim and permanent financing, and to for-sale or rental housing development.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments on this Concurrent Resolution.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
HEARING ON APRIL 14, 2021 AT 2:00PM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

**SCR 247, SD1, REQUESTING THAT A WORKING GROUP BE CONVENED TO
DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS TO FACILITATE HOMESTEAD AGRICULTURAL
DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN THE STATE**

April 14, 2021

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) submits comments on this resolution requesting that a working group be convened to develop recommendations to facilitate homestead agricultural demonstration projects in the State. DHHL appreciates the motivation behind this resolution, but would prefer SCR 246, SD1 since the Revitalizing Economy and Agriculture Leadership initiative is currently underway and its proponents are taking necessary actions with community and industry partners to stabilize Hawaii's small farming businesses. Frankly, to implement both SCR 246, SD1 and SCR 247, SD1 would stretch the already limited resources of DHHL.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.