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February 3, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON SB 224
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LOANS

Room 414
2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,932 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 supports the intent of SB 224 which creates an income tax exemption on the first \$50,000 of income for family farms, family farm communities, and family farm cooperatives.

HFB is supports any initiative that support Hawaii's small farmers and encourages new farming businesses.

We do recommend a broader definition of "Family farms" to include small farms that are incorporated.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.