



# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS  
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Statement of  
**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
Director, Office of Planning  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**  
Monday, February 24, 2020  
12:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

in consideration of  
**SB 2701**  
**RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS**

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

The Office of Planning (OP) **supports** SB 2701 which amends Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 46-88 (c) to allow appropriate county fire and building permit agencies the right to enter exempted agricultural buildings to investigate allegations of violations and compliance with this section. This amendment would allow county agencies to exercise their enforcement powers and help to prevent the misuse of agricultural buildings and structures which sometimes are illegally transformed into residential uses. The amendment would also allow the counties to apply to the district court for a warrant, and to direct a police officer to provide assistance to the department or agency in gaining entry to the property.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Harry Kim  
Mayor



Roy Takemoto  
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow  
Deputy Managing Director

## County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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February 21, 2020

Kenekoa/Senator Karl Rhoads, Luna Ho'omalua/Chair  
Kenekoa/Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Hope Luna Ho'omalua/Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Committee Members:

**RE: SB 2701 Relating to Agricultural Buildings**

A year ago, the Senate passed SB 940 which recognized that there needs to be a method of verification if exemptions to a Building Code are conditional, and if those conditions are to be taken seriously. SB 2701 would seem to be substantially the same.

I believe that SB 940 and SB 2701 provide an appropriate balance between the need for verification and the right of privacy. Inspection is limited to agricultural buildings, it is limited in the personnel who can investigate, it is limited as to purpose, and puts the burden on government to seek court oversight if there is a dispute.

I support SB 2701 and urge its adoption.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim  
MAYOR



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February 24, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

**TESTIMONY ON SB 2701**  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS

Room 2016  
12:00 PM

Aloha Chairs Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

**The Hawaii Farm Bureau supports SB 2701**, which grants county agencies the right to enter property to investigate agricultural buildings and structures for violations of and compliance with building code exemption qualifications.

Although we assumed that the counties already have this authority, we support this effort to clarify the matter.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.

**LATE**

**SB-2701**

Submitted on: 2/23/2020 2:32:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/24/2020 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kalani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-2701**

Submitted on: 2/23/2020 6:43:33 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/24/2020 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-2701**

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 1:01:39 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/24/2020 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I have talked to Hunderdes of People in the last week they all agree this would be invasion of privacy. Others said let them try. They all agreed to VOTE OUT OF OFFICE ANYONE WHO SIGINS THESE TYPE OF BILLS!!!