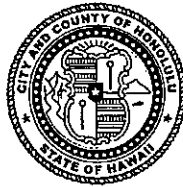


TESTIMONY
HB1436 HD1 SD1
LATE

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



DAVID K. TANOUE
DIRECTOR

ROBERT M. SUMITOMO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

April 1, 2009

LATE

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Water, Land,
Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs
State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

**Subject: House Bill 1436, HD1, SD1
Relating to Agriculture**

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) has **comments** on House Bill No. 1436, HD1, SD1, which would allow agricultural education programs as a permitted use within the state agricultural district, on soils classified by the land study bureau as overall (master) productivity rating A or B, and defines "agricultural education programs."

We continue to have serious reservations about outright allowing educational programs on a farming operation, even as an accessory use. Without a permit review process we cannot determine whether the use would interfere with surrounding farm operations. Educational programs on agricultural lands should only be allowed through the approval of a special permit (Section 205-6, HRS), which would allow for case-specific evaluation and analyses. Through such a public review before the Planning Commission, impacts on surrounding property, public infrastructure, such as water, wastewater, drainage, traffic and public services such as fire and ambulance, can be thoroughly evaluated and addressed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DKT", is written over a horizontal line.

David K. Tanoue, Director
Department of Planning and Permitting

DKT:jmf
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TESTIMONY
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(END)