Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs

March 31, 2006

by

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House Bill 2146 HD 1 – RELATING TO LAND USE

Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Hooser, Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committees:

The purpose of the bill is to allow agricultural lands used for certain activities to be subdivided and leased without having to satisfy county subdivision ordinances or the Uniform Land Sales Practice Act; provided that the land shall be used for agricultural uses only.

I support HB 2146 HD1. The transition from large plantation agriculture to diversified agriculture on smaller parcels of land has proven difficult and costly for large landowners who want to subdivide their land. One of their largest expenses is the urban infrastructural requirements of county subdivision ordinances. Paved roads, utilities, fire hydrants, and street lights can be extremely costly, and are more specific to housing development than they are to farming.

This bill will make it easier for landowners to make available small parcels of agricultural lands to farmers. We believe that along with smaller agricultural parcels, long term leases, and subdivided boundaries that are recognized by the financial institutions, we will see more successful agribusinesses making substantial investments in their operations.

For these reasons, I support HB 2146 HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.