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To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Cc: rebranco@capitol.hawaii.gov; repmartin@capitol.hawaii.gov; [Representative Lauren Matsumoto](#); [Representative Sean Quinlan](#); senlee@capitol.hawaii.gov; [Senator Gil Riviere](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Statute 205-47 Important Agricultural Lands Designation
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 4:03:44 PM

To The LUC and City and County:

The letter we received from the Land Use Commission dated April 12, 2021 is the first notification we received regarding this issue.

Such an important designation (proposal) of private land owners property and property rights should have been sent out directly to private land owners PRIOR to the City & County starting such a process, and then AGAIN after the City and County determined such properties would be proposed for such a designation.

To request comment on the process now, after it has taken place seems disingenuous. Moreover, how this designation would specifically affect the land has not been outlined or if it has, has not been communicated directly to the private land owners, important stake holders.

Additional criteria should have been included.

It seems the LUC, the State of Hawai'i, and the City & Counties should be focused on legislation that assists the farmers and land owners; income tax exemptions, gross excise tax exemptions, assistance-delivery of water, subsidized water-power, storage and transport of good and services for farming, and everything else a farmer needs to be competitive.

There is ample agricultural land, specifically State land, that is NOT being farmed now, WHY? That should be the immediate focus of making farming sustainable.

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