

PC-23

From: "Bobbie Becker" <bobbibecker@mindspring.com>
To: <don.couch@mauicounty.us>, <pc.committee@mauicounty.us>
Date: 10/30/2013 07:24 AM
Subject: Support Short Term Rentals
Attachments: support short term rental.docx

Bobbie Becker, Owner
 Maui Mountain Coffee Farm
 185 Mahiai Place
 Makawao, HI 96768

October 29, 2013

Aloha Councilmembers,

As the owner and operator of an Upcountry coffee farm I am writing in support of the measure to allow short term rentals on Ag zoned properties.

There are two main reasons for my support. One is that by allowing people to visit and stay on farms we are increasing their knowledge about agriculture. We need more people to take an interest in farms and agriculture not only here on Maui, but throughout the United States and the world. For our visitors who are keenly interested in learning more about the crops we can grow in our unique, non-freezing environment, actually spending time on a farm and seeing the lifestyle and meeting people who work the land, can be a transformative experience. Additionally, in the case of the burgeoning interest in 100% Maui coffee, I have experienced that people who have actually come to the farm and seen all of the steps that are involved in growing and processing fine coffee, do spread the word and share the photos with their family and friends on the mainland.

My farm is in Olinda, and at night it is totally still and quiet. It is so delightful to sleep here and listen to only the breeze in the trees. This is something that I would like to share with other like-minded folks, whose vacation goals are to relax, get away from the hustle of their mainland lives, and closer to Nature. There a multiple businesses in the area that would likely benefit from this regulation as well.

Please support short-term rentals on Ag properties. I am certain that by allowing our visitors the opportunity to stay on the land with the people who actually do the farming, that we will provide an unforgettable experience filled with Aloha....

Mahalo for your consideration.

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

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