



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/17/2025

Time: 03:00 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Bill Title: HB 1293, HD2 RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PROCUREMENT.

Purpose of Bill: Exempts Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products less than a certain amount from the electronic procurement system requirement. Requires at least three written quotes for Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products between certain amounts. Requires at least two written quotes for Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products between certain amounts for certain schools in rural communities. Sunsets 6/30/2028. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1293, HD 2.

Adjusting the Department's small purchase procurement capacity temporarily by increasing the threshold of \$100,000 for small purchase procurement, will help further support the goal of 30% locally sourced foods purchased by 2030. This will allow for the unencumbered purchase of locally produced foods from small businesses.

The Department recommends exempting purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products less than \$100,000 from the electronic procurement system requirement.

The process proposed in this bill will allow us to purchase items that currently are unavailable from our distributors such as poi and limu.

The Department appreciates the language in the bill that allows for a written justification in the instances where the required quotes are not able to be generated as a result of the limited number of

vendors, which is a particular problem in our more rural communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



HIPHI Board

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Kaiser Permanente

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*Medical-Legal Partnership
For Children in Hawai'i*

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HMSA

JoAnn Tsark, MPH

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Hawaiian Research Office*

HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community-Based Research &
Evaluation

Community Health
Worker Initiatives

COVID-19 Response

Environmental Health

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol-Free Coalitions

Hawai'i Farm to School Network

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Collective/Healthy Aging &
Community Living

Public Health Workforce Development

Date: Friday, March 14,, 2025

To: Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

RE: Support for HB 1293 HD2, Relating to Department of Education
Procurement

Hrg: Monday, March 17, 2025 at 3 pm in Conference Room 229

Hawai'i Public Health Institute¹ (HIPHI) works to advance policy and systems change to reduce disparities and improve the health of Hawai'i residents. HIPHI is home to and testifies here on behalf of the Hawai'i Farm to School Network. Hawai'i Public Health Institute and the Hawai'i Farm to School Network appreciate the opportunity to provide **strong support for HB 1293 HD2**, which introduces flexible procurement procedures for the Department of Education (DOE), including the requirement of at least two written quotes for certain purchases supplying schools in rural communities and a sunset clause to assess the effectiveness of these changes.

More Straightforward to Work with Local Farmers

This bill increases flexibility for local food purchases from small and medium-sized farmers, particularly those in rural areas. Rural schools often face additional challenges, such as limited access to technology or fewer available vendors. Reducing the number of required quotes acknowledges these barriers and supports more equitable access to local procurement opportunities.

Local Guidelines

HB 1293 HD2 requires the DOE to establish procurement guidelines with a geographic preference for locally grown or raised products and exempts purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products under \$100,000 from the electronic procurement system of the DOE. This smaller regional procurement model could be modeled after the School

¹ Hawai'i Public Health Institute's mission is to advance health and wellness for the people and islands of Hawai'i. We do this through expanding our understanding of what creates health of people and place, fostering partnerships, and cultivating programs to improve policies, systems, and the environments where people live, learn, work, age, and play.



Food Authority (SFA) of New Mexico, which is notable for its success in smaller regional procurement from small to medium farms. To learn from this SFA model and to assess what staff positions, laws, and infrastructure are necessary, DOE will grant permission and allocate funds for a DOE procurement staff member, a dietitian, and a farm-to-school coordinator to travel to this SFA to study the smaller regional procurement model.²

Increased Accessibility

Additionally, HB 1293 HD2 proposes increasing DOE-exempt purchases from \$25,000 to \$100,000 for the small purchase procurement program. The proposed policy increases the Department of Education's small purchase procurement threshold from \$25,000 to \$100,000, streamlining the purchase of locally sourced foods. This change supports Hawai'i's farm-to-school initiatives and the goal to source 30% of school food locally by 2030.³ It reduces administrative burdens, allowing schools to quickly acquire fresh, nutritious Hawai'i-grown produce. The policy strengthens local agriculture, boosts economic self-sufficiency, and improves student health by providing fresher meals while advancing sustainability and reducing reliance on imported foods.

Uniform Purchase Limit

It is important to note that all other Departments have a \$100,000 threshold (e.g., Department of Agriculture (DOA), Department of Transportation (DOT), Department of Human Services (DHS), etc.). DOE is the only one with the lower \$25,000 threshold. This lower threshold dramatically limits the ability of schools to purchase local foods, as the amount demanded is usually well above this amount.⁴

Accountability Recommendations

Furthermore, the State Procurement Office (SPO) shall suggest to DOE's School Food Services Branch (SFSB) financial system accountability recommendations to reduce the risk of financial mistakes that run afoul of parceling. SPO is welcome to review SFSB's progress in implementing SPO's suggested financial safeguard protocols.⁵

² New Mexico Public Education Department, "Farm to School Procurement Guidelines."

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/student-success-wellness/nutrition/farm-to-school/>

³ Hawai'i Farm to School Resource Hub - Advocacy, legislation, & policy. (n.d.).

<https://sites.google.com/hiphi.org/hawaiif2s/advocacy-legislation-policy>

⁴ Hawaii DOE | Selling goods and services to the DOE. (n.d.).

<https://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/ConnectWithUs/Vendors/Selling/Pages/home.aspx#:~:text=Schools%20and%20offices%20are%20authorized.or%20like%20goods%20and%20services.>

⁵ Small Purchases Procurement method. (n.d.).

<https://spo.hawaii.gov/for-vendors/vendor-guide/methods-of-procurement/goods-services-construction/small-purchases-procurement-method/>



More Regionalized Purchasing

For several years, the Hawai'i Farm to School Network, HIPHI, and partner organizations have advocated for regionalizing local food purchases. For example, bananas to be served in school breakfasts on Kaua'i should be purchased from farmers on that island. This arrangement fosters stronger relationships between the school community and local farmers, increasing nutritional education and knowledge of locally grown and raised foods among Hawai'i's students. HB 1293 HD2 will positively impact the health of our keiki and contribute to the development of sustainable food systems in Hawai'i.

Meeting our 30% by 2030 Goal

Under Act 175, the DOE is required to purchase locally grown food as 30% of total procurement by 2030 and 50% by 2050.⁶ The added flexibility in HB 1293 HD2 will help achieve these goals and support students and their families in understanding the importance of local food systems. Additionally, a sunset clause ensures that the policy can be evaluated and adjusted to meet the evolving needs of Hawai'i's schools and agricultural communities.

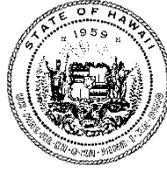
Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 1293 HD2.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kawika Kahiapo", written over a white rectangular background.

Kawika Kahiapo
Hawai'i Public Health Institute
Hawai'i Farm to School Network Program Coordinator

⁶ Tagami, M.(2023, December 12). Hawaii Education Department takes 'Big first step' to increase local food in schools. *Honolulu Civil Beat*. <https://www.civilbeat.org/2023/12/hawaii-education-department-takes-big-first-step-to-increase-local-food-in-schools/>



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

P.O. Box 119
Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119
Tel: (808) 586-0554
email: state.procurement.office@hawaii.gov
<http://spo.hawaii.gov>

TESTIMONY
OF
BONNIE KAHAKUI, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION
MARCH 17, 2025, 3:00 PM

HOUSE BILL 1293, HD2
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 1293, HD2. The State Procurement Office (SPO) provides the following comments:

The SPO recommends revisions to Section 2, page 2, lines 17-21, and page 3 lines, 1-11 to read as follows:

§302A – Local edible produce and packaged local food products procurement; small purchases. Notwithstanding section 103D-305(c) and any law to the contrary, procurements of less than \$100,000 for local edible produce and packaged local food products for the department shall be exempt from the requirement to conduct procurements through an electronic system and shall instead be subject to no less than three written quotes for procurements of \$25,000 to less than \$100,000; provided that the department may allow for no less than two written quotes for procurements of \$25,000 to less than \$100,000 for local edible produce and packaged local food products to supply schools in rural communities, as determined by the department; provided further that if the department is unable to receive the required number of written ~~notifications~~ quotes as required by this section, written justification shall be provided and kept by the department in the procurement file. All awards exceeding \$2,500 shall be posted electronically on the Hawaii Awards and Notice Data System (HANDS), or similar department of education procurement platform, and shall be compliant with section 103D-310(c). The State Procurement Office may request data from the department to evaluate the efficacy of this Act.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Monday, March 17, 2025 — 3:00 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports HB 1293 HD 2, Relating to Department of Education Procurement.

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy, clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports HB 1293 HD 2, which exempts Department of Education (DOE) purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products less than a certain amount from the electronic procurement system requirement; requires at least three written quotes for DOE purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products between certain amounts; and requires at least two written quotes for DOE purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products between certain amounts for certain schools in rural communities.

Ulupono supports the State's farm-to-institution efforts, including the DOE's Farm to School Program, which has the potential to leverage the department's significant buying power to become one of the state's largest purchasers of local food (perhaps one day the largest) while also shaping the tastes, attitudes and eating habits of Hawai'i's keiki for healthy outcomes. The State has committed to local food procurement goals through 2050 (including the DOE's own statutorily required goal of 30% local by 2030), and it is important to provide opportunities for local producers to participate in institutional purchasing.

While the DOE's regional kitchen construction plans advance, the fact remains that these facilities won't be operational for many years. The department should seize current opportunities to strengthen relationships with local food producers. By engaging farmers now, we can align DOE's food requirements with local agricultural production and build supply chain capacity. This proactive approach not only serves today's students better

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



than waiting for kitchen completion, but also sets up the regional kitchen strategy for long-term success — ensuring a robust supply chain is ready when these facilities open.

By expanding the small purchase exemption for the DOE, schools across the state will have an additional tool now to procure fresh products from local farmers and ranchers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 17, 2025

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

TESTIMONY ON HB 1293, HD2
RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
3:00 PM

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee:

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

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports HB 1293, HD2, which allows the Department of Education to procure local edible produce and packaged food products under a certain dollar amount without using an electronic procurement system. It also requires the department to obtain written quotes for purchases within specific price ranges, with considerations for rural schools.

Hawai'i's Farm to School program is an essential initiative that improves student nutrition, supports local farmers and ranchers, and strengthens food security. Under Act 175, SLH 2021, the state has committed to sourcing at least 30 percent of school meals from local food sources by 2030. However, achieving this goal has been challenging due to procurement regulations that favor large, out-of-state suppliers over local farmers.

HB 1293, HD2 addresses this issue by streamlining the procurement process for the Department of Education. By exempting smaller purchases from the electronic system and requiring written quotes for mid-range purchases, the bill makes it easier for local farmers and ranchers to supply fresh food to Hawai'i's schools. The flexibility given to rural schools further ensures that they can access locally grown products even when fewer suppliers are available.

Expanding DOE's local food procurement will help create a stable and predictable market for Hawai'i's farmers. Many producers hesitate to scale up their operations due to uncertainty in demand. By simplifying the procurement process, HB 1293, HD2 encourages long-term investment in local agriculture, benefiting both farmers and students.

To fully support this initiative, HFB encourages additional efforts to assist local farmers and ranchers in navigating the procurement system. Educational workshops, technical assistance, and direct collaboration between DOE and local producers will further increase participation and ensure that Hawai'i-grown food reaches more students across the state.

We respectfully urge the committee to pass HB 1293, HD2 to strengthen Hawai'i's Farm to School program and increase the availability of fresh, locally grown food for students.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Testimony of
MetroGrow Hawaii
Kerry Kakazu, Ph.D., President

To the
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, March 17, 2025
TIME: 3:00 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Chair Kidani and Members of the Committees:

Measure: H.B. No. 293

Title: RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT.

Description: Exempts Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products less than a certain amount from the electronic procurement system requirement. Requires at least three written quotes for Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products between certain amounts. Requires at least two written quotes for Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products between certain amounts for certain schools in rural communities. Sunsets 6/30/2028. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

Position: MetroGrow Hawaii is in strong support of this measure.

Testimony: Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in full support of this measure. This proposal to streamline local food purchasing to support both our schools and agricultural economy is a win for both our students and our farmers.

MetroGrow Hawaii was established in 2014 as the first indoor, vertical hydroponic farm in the state and has been supplying premium produce to local restaurants and markets for over 10 years. Our experience has established that controlled environment agriculture is a technology that works very well to grow a wide variety of crops. We have also been researching how we can expand our farming operations to contribute to the State's goals of local food production, especially to meet the demands of institutional customers such as the Department of Education.

While I am confident that MetroGrow Hawaii and other local farmers have the knowledge and experience to substantially increase local food production, the removal of administrative hurdles that burden sales and distribution efforts need to be addressed concurrently to effectively impact local food supply and meet the State's mandate of 30% local food purchases by 2030.

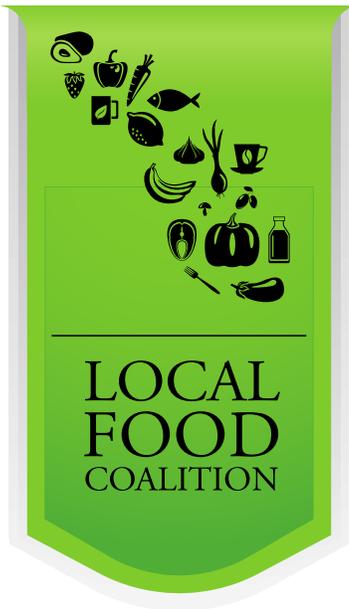
Especially in light of recent federal cuts that assisted farm-to-school program funding we must support all efforts to ensure that local foods can get to our students and promote their good health and nutrition. I urge the passage of this important measure and stand ready to assist in any way to advance this effort for our food future. Thank you very much.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kerry Kakazu". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kerry" and last name "Kakazu" clearly distinguishable.

Kerry Kakazu, Ph.D.

President, MetroGrow Hawaii



Hawai'i Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association
Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council
Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation
Hawai'i Farmers' Union United
Hawai'i Food Industry Association
Hawai'i Food Manufacturers Association
Kohala Center
Land Use Research Foundation of Hawai'i
Maui Farm to School Network (Maui F2SN)
Ulupono Initiative
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience - University of Hawai'i at Manoa

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Monday, March 17, 2025 – 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

HB 1293 HD2 – RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee:

The Local Food Coalition **SUPPORTS** HB 1293 HD2, which exempts Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products less than a certain amount from the electronic procurement system requirement.

HB 1293 HD2 addresses key logistical challenges that have long hindered the Department of Education's ability to source local foods efficiently. By raising the small purchase threshold and providing flexibility in procurement processes, especially for rural schools, we are removing unnecessary barriers and empowering our educators to make choices that benefit both our students and our local farmers, ranchers, and livestock producers.

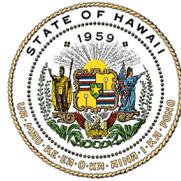
This bill's impact extends beyond the classroom, supporting job creation in agriculture, promoting food security, and reducing reliance on imports. This is a win-win for students, farmers, and the community, moving us closer to achieving the mandated goal of 30% locally sourced foods in public schools by 2030.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprised of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawaii's food supply.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 1293 HD2.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DEAN M. MATSUKAWA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025
3:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

HOUSE BILL NO. 1293, HOUSE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT.

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill No. 1293, House Draft 2 that seeks to exempt the Department of Education (DOE) purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products less than a certain amount from the electronic procurement system requirement. This measure also requires at least three written quotes for Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products between certain amounts and at least two written quotes for Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products between certain amounts for certain schools in rural communities. This measure sunsets on June 30, 2028. The Department of Agriculture supports this measure.

The DOE's request to temporarily increase their small purchase procurement capacity for local edible produce and packaged food products will assist the DOE in fulfilling its mandate to provide locally sourced foods for the State's public schools. This temporary flexibility in procurement may also increase opportunities for Hawaii's agricultural producers and wholesalers/food hubs to increase the supply of locally grown agricultural products that meet DOE's expectations with respect to consistent quality, quantity, variety, and other criteria in meeting their institutional food service needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to present our testimony.



HB-1293-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 5:21:27 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/17/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Casey China	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support raising the DOE's small purchase procurement limit from \$25,000 to \$100,000, aligning it with other state departments. The current \$25,000 threshold hinders local food procurement due to burdensome formal competition and public advertising requirements. Increasing this limit will streamline processes, eliminate barriers, and enhance the DOE's ability to purchase local foods. This also supports Hawai'i's goal to source 30% of school food locally by 2030 (Act 175, 2021 / HRS302A-405.6), strengthening our agricultural economy and ensuring students have access to fresh, nutritious meals. Mahalo for considering my testimony in strong support of this issue.

HB-1293-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 5:25:53 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/17/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Local fresh foods for our school children,. No Zippys or fast foods.

HB-1293-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 7:55:21 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/17/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support. Thank you.

HB-1293-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 8:07:06 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/17/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cynthia M Archibald	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support raising the DOE's small purchase procurement limit from \$25,000 to \$100,000, as the original version of this bill proposed, which would align it with other state departments. The current \$25,000 threshold hinders local food procurement due to burdensome formal competition and public advertising requirements. Increasing this limit will streamline processes, eliminate barriers, and enhance the DOE's ability to purchase local foods. This also supports Hawai'i's goal to source 30% of school food locally by 2030 (Act 175, 2021 / HRS302A-405.6), strengthening our agricultural economy and ensuring students have access to fresh, nutritious meals.

HB-1293-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 8:36:40 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/17/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shay Chan Hodges	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support raising the DOE’s small purchase procurement limit from \$25,000 to \$100,000, as the original version of this bill proposed, which would align it with other state departments. The current \$25,000 threshold hinders local food procurement due to burdensome formal competition and public advertising requirements. Increasing this limit will streamline processes, eliminate barriers, and enhance the DOE’s ability to purchase local foods. This also supports Hawai‘i’s goal to source 30% of school food locally by 2030 (Act 175, 2021 / HRS302A-405.6), strengthening our agricultural economy and ensuring students have access to fresh, nutritious meals.

HB-1293-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 10:55:30 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/17/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathryn Braun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support raising the DOE's small purchase procurement limit from \$25,000 to \$100,000, as the original version of this bill proposed, which would align it with other state departments. The current \$25,000 threshold hinders local food procurement due to burdensome formal competition and public advertising requirements. Increasing this limit will streamline processes, eliminate barriers, and enhance the DOE's ability to purchase local foods. This also supports Hawai'i's goal to source 30% of school food locally by 2030 (Act 175, 2021 / HRS302A-405.6), strengthening our agricultural economy and ensuring students have access to fresh, nutritious meals.

HB-1293-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 1:44:55 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/17/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Larissa Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senate Committee on Education,

I strongly support the bill to increase the Department of Education’s (DOE) small purchase procurement limit from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Raising the limit will allow the DOE to more easily engage with local food producers, helping to meet Hawai‘i’s goal of sourcing 30% of school food locally by 2030 (Act 175, 2021 / HRS 302A-405.6). Access to fresh, local produce will improve students' health, boost their ability to learn, and support our state’s agricultural economy.

Increased local sourcing is essential for creating healthier, more sustainable school meals and fostering long-term benefits for both students and local farmers.

Mahalo,

Larissa Wong