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Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

GLENN K. MURANAKA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**MARCH 29, 2019
2:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 308**

**SENATE BILL NO. 390 SD2 HD1
RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM INCENTIVES**

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committees:

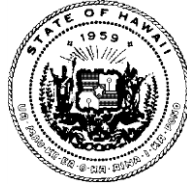
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 390 SD2 HD1 that requires the Department of Agriculture to develop and administer a dollar-for-dollar matching program, to be called the local healthy food incentive program, promoting the purchase of Hawaii-grown fruits and vegetables by beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The Department supports the intent of this bill provided it does not impact the Department's priorities listed in the Executive Budget and offers comments.

The Department lacks the staff to manage the program at the operational level and intends to administer the program partnering with public and private agencies that have experience and success with similar programs on behalf of SNAP recipients. The Department is concerned with developing rules pursuant to Chapter 91, as we believe a permanent program should not be placed in the DOA. While the Department believes the increased sales of locally grown fruits and vegetables will increase profits for Hawaii farmers statewide, we do not have a SNAP program or a dedicated staff to support these efforts.



The local health food incentive dollar-for-dollar matching program benefit will encourage the SNAP recipient to purchase locally grown produce and to try new fresh commodities offered by the farmers and direct food retailers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 28, 2019

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 390 SD2 HD1 - RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INCENTIVES**

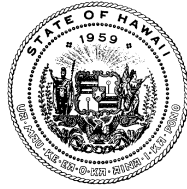
Hearing: Friday, March 29, 2019, 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of this bill. The national double up food bucks program helps Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants increase their purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables by doubling the value of their benefits spent and keeps food dollars in the local economy. DHS defers to the Department of Agriculture as to program development and implementation issues.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill requires the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to purchase Hawaii-grown produce. Appropriates funds. The House Committee on Agriculture further defected the effective date and made technical amendments. (HD1)

SNAP is 100 percent federally funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). While FNS supports healthy incentive projects, federal regulations specify that "no retail food store may single out SNAP participants using SNAP benefits for special treatment in any way." Farmers markets that plan to implement a bonus incentive project will need to apply for a waiver from FNS during their initial authorization or subsequent reauthorization to participate in SNAP.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of S.B. 390, SD2, HD1
RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
INCENTIVES**

REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Date: March 29, 2019

Room Number: 308

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (DOH) defers to the Department of Agriculture
2 (DOA) regarding the implementation and fiscal impacts of this bill, and to the priorities set forth
3 in the Executive Biennium Budget Request.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports Senate Bill 390 Senate Draft 2, House Draft
5 1 (S.B. 390, SD2, HD1) to establish a nutrition incentive program for beneficiaries of the
6 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

7 Major health authorities (including the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Centers for
8 Disease Control, and the World Health Organization) recommend increasing fruit and vegetable
9 intake as a means to prevent chronic disease and improve overall health.^{1,2,3} However, access to
10 fresh produce for income-limited individuals can be difficult and is one of the reasons why they
11 often have poorer diets and higher rates of chronic disease than middle class and wealthy

¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Agriculture. *2015 – 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans*. 8th Edition. December 2015.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Strategies to Prevent Obesity and Other Chronic Diseases: The CDC Guide to Strategies to Increase the Consumption of Fruits and Vegetables*. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2011.

³ World Health Organization. *Healthy Diet Fact Sheet N°394*. Web. Updated September 2015.

1 individuals.^{4,5} This bill would double the SNAP recipients’ purchasing power when they use
2 their benefits to purchase local fruits and vegetables.

3 Nutrition incentive programs similar to the one proposed in this bill are prevalent around
4 the United States, and similar bills have been passed in twenty states. Nutrition incentives are
5 often touted as a “win-win-win” for farmers, families, and local businesses. Data from these
6 interventions have shown improvements in dietary behaviors, reduction in household hunger and
7 food insecurity, and increased sales of local produce (by more than their dollar value alone).^{6,7,8}
8 In Hawaii, less than one in five adults reported eating five or more fruits and vegetables a day
9 (2015 Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System). The Department supports S.B. 390, SD2,
10 HD1 as one component of a comprehensive approach to improve the availability and
11 accessibility of healthy foods to improve health outcomes for people in Hawaii, especially for
12 those who face greater health disparities.

13 Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

⁴ Hawaii Health Data Warehouse, Hawaii State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2016.

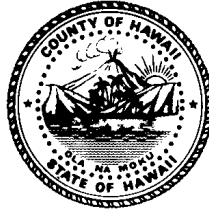
⁵ Simmet, Anja et al. *The Dietary Quality of Food Pantry Users: A Systematic Review of Existing Literature*. Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Volume 117, Issue 4, 563 – 576.

⁶ Fitzgerald, Katherine. *Double Up in Farmers’ Markets: The Consumer Experience*. Fair Food Network, 2015.

⁷ Mann, J., et al. *Economics of healthy food incentives at Michigan farmers markets: Study highlights*. Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems, 2017.

⁸ Fitzgerald, Katherine. *Double Up Food Bucks and Hunger*. Fair Food Network, 2015.

Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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March 27, 2019

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members:

RE: SB 390, SD1 Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

Please accept this testimony in support of the Double Bucks initiative, SB 390, SD1.

On Hawai'i Island, the Food Basket and One Island (West Hawai'i) applied for, and were awarded, \$500K each for four years. The funding is for SNAP recipients to purchase local fruits and vegetables, thereby encouraging them to make healthier choices.

I'm told that the \$500K was for four years – total. The Food Basket is close to using up most of that grant.

In addition, there has been so much success with Double Bucks, the entire state now wants to start up this kind of program. For Hawai'i County, we need funding to continue and expand the initiative.

The 2018 Farm Bill increased funding for the federal grant program called the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive. There is \$250 million available over 5 years, starting this year. Other states that have appropriated matching funds have received this funding, so there is a strong chance Hawai'i would qualify for additional funds from this program if SB 390 passes. There is no limit, but national partners have suggested that \$1M is achievable.

Double Bucks is a win-win for SNAP recipients, farmers, markets, and our communities. We hope you will give it a favorable vote.

Respectfully Submitted,


Harry Kim
MAYOR



Board Members

President

Jason Okuhama
Managing Partner,
Commercial & Business Lending

Secretary

Marcus Kawatachi
Deputy Director,
Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission

Trina Orimoto

Clinical & Research Psychologist

Kaipo Kukahiko

HMSA Foundation

Miwa Tamanaha

Deputy Director,
Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo

HACBED Staff

Brent N. Kakesako

Executive Director

Keoki Noji

Chief Operating Officer

Athena T. Esene

Bookkeeper & Office Manager

Foley Pfalzgraf

Program Specialist

Chelsie Onaga

AmeriCorps VISTA

Date: March 27, 2019

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Ty J.K. Cullen,
Vice-Chair, and members of the Committee on Finance

From: Brent Kakesako, Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic
Development (HACBED)

Re: Support for SB390 SD2 HD1

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen, and Committee Members,

The Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development (HACBED) supports SB390 SD2 HD1, which requires the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) who use their benefits to purchase Hawai'i-grown produce.

HACBED was established in 1992 as a nonprofit statewide intermediary to address social, economic, and environmental justice concerns through community-based economic development and asset building strategies. It advances its mission with core competencies in the areas of community and organizational capacity building, community and economic development planning, and asset policy development and advocacy. Over time, what has rung true across the different communities HACBED has been blessed to support is the importance of choice and control in the lives of families across the state to achieve their vision for genuine wealth – and within the context of food, this has been no different. The Double Up Food Bucks programs have been shown to:

- **Reduce food insecurity.** Double Up doubles the purchasing power of Hawai'i's low-income families, freeing up room in their budget for other expenditures like housing and healthcare.
- **Improve dietary behaviors among low-income families.** Evaluation data from programs in other states have shown that families eat more fruits and vegetables, eat a larger variety of fruits and vegetables, and eat fewer chips, candy, and cookies.
- **Support farmers.** Nutrition incentives increase sales and farm income and increase farmers' customer base.
- **Boost the local economy.** Double Up is an effective way to keep federal funding circulating in the local economy. Using the USDA's economic multiplier coefficients, the \$1.6 million in SNAP at Hawai'i farmers' markets (2016) generates nearly double the economic impact, by encouraging more consumer spending at local businesses.

SB390 SD2 HD1 would provide a way to support our most vulnerable families with healthy options while supporting our local economy.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify,

Brent N. Kakesako
Executive Director



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Friday, March 29, 2019 — 2:00 p.m. — Room 308

Ulupono Initiative Supports SB 390 SD 2 HD 1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better manage waste and fresh water resources. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono supports SB 390 SD 2 HD 1, which creates a dollar-for-dollar matching program for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to be used on Hawai'i-grown produce, because it aligns with our goal to increase local food production.

Local food is often some of the healthiest and most nutritious foods that Hawai'i's residents can eat. Yet, local food is often slightly more expensive, making it more difficult for residents to obtain in lower socioeconomic areas of our state. Therefore, residents with lower incomes often consume cheaper and unhealthier food options, leaving them particularly vulnerable to health-related issues. This matching program by the State can leverage federal government support to help those lower socioeconomic residents be able to access locally produced foods that they are likely to not otherwise be able to partake.

Through coordination between the federal government's SNAP, the State's matching funds, and our local farmers markets, various sectors are collectively coming together to address poverty, health, and local food production.

With SNAP benefits, a wider population will be able to purchase fresh, nutritious products from local farmers, which will help the farmers gain more revenue. As demand for products increase, the farmers will be incentivized to grow more local food. Increased local food production will help the state to become more self-sufficient. Hawai'i currently imports the vast majority of its foods.

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

As Hawai'i's local food issues become increasingly complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that through collaboration, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay
Managing Partner



March 29, 2019

RE: STRONG SUPPORT SB390 SD2 HD1 Relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen, and Members of the Finance Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB390 SD2 HD1, which provides increased access to local produce to Hawaii's low-income families. All members of our community should have the opportunity to eat healthy foods. This bill puts more money into our local farming community, which results in more financial stability for farmers, and in turn can strengthen the local economy.

At Blue Zone Projects, we support well-being. Part of that is working to ensure that all people have access to locally grown fruits and vegetables. This measure helps the approximately 83,800 households (2018) who receive SNAP benefits to purchase more healthy foods at farmers markets by giving them a dollar per dollar match up to \$20, doubling their buying power for Hawaii grown fresh fruits and vegetables.

Based on the initial million dollars requested for this program, the money would translate into an estimated \$3.6 million statewide benefit, based on the USDA's economic multiplier. This state funding would then create a path for Hawaii to apply for federal dollars through the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentives federal grant opportunities. Farmers will benefit by growing their customer base and increasing their income, which helps support our economy. Hawaii's families increase their health by eating right. Data from programs in other states have shown that families who "Double Up" eat an increased amount and more varied fruits and vegetables while consuming less chips, candy, and soda.

Currently there are SNAP incentive programs throughout the state that are making positive impacts. As Hawaii strives to become healthier, increase food security, and explore pathways to strengthen its financial well-being, programs that benefit families, farmers, and local economies need to be cultivated and broadened.

Please pass SB390 SD2 HD1 as written and "Double Up Food Bucks to result in a Triple Win for Hawaii's Families, Farmers, and Local Economy". Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peggy Mierzwa

Peggy Mierzwa
Blue Zones Project—Hawaii





**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Friday, March 29, 2019; 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

RE: SUPPORTING SENATE BILL NO. 0390, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INCENTIVES.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill No. 0390, House Draft 1, RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INCENTIVES.

The bill, as received by your Committee, would:

- (1) Establish a Local Health Food Incentive Program (Program) for beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) within the Department of Agriculture (DOA);
- (2) Provide a dollar-for-dollar match up to \$20 per visit, per day, for SNAP recipients who use food stamps to make purchases at a farmers' market or other SNAP direct food retailers, to be used solely for purchases of Hawaii-grown fresh fruits and vegetables at the farmers' market, farm stand, mobile market, community-supported agricultural site, grocery store, or other direct food retailer that participates in SNAP;
- (3) Authorize the DOA to consult and cooperate with private organizations to develop and implement rules to administer the Program
- (4) Appropriate an unspecified amount in general funds for fiscal year 2019-2020, and the same amount for fiscal year 2020-2021, for DOA to administer the program and provide matching funds; and
- (5) Take effect on July 1, 2150.

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 0390, House Draft 1
Friday, March 29, 2019; 2:00 p.m.
Page 2

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines in rural communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of health.

As a member of the Obesity Prevention Task Force, the HPCA joins the Hawaii Public Health Institute and other advocates in support of efforts to promote healthy diets and the increased consumption of locally-grown vegetables and fruits in our schools and communities.

In advance, thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



March 29, 2019
2:00 pm
Conference Room 308

To: The Honorable Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Committee on Agriculture

From: Paula Arcena, Executive Vice President, External Affairs

Re: SB390, SD2, HD1 Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

AlohaCare is pleased to submit this testimony on support of SB390, SD2, HD1 which proposes to require the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program who use their benefits to purchase Hawaii-grown produce and appropriate funds.

Double Up Food Bucks, which provides additional incentives for SNAP families, is a triple win for families, farmers, and the local economy:

1. Helps low-income families on SNAP bring home healthy and nutritious food.
2. Allows local farmers to gain new customers and bring in more income.
3. More food dollars stay in the local economy.

Crediting SNAP dollars creates room in the families' budget for other household and healthcare expenses so that food dollars can be spent on locally grown food such as taro, papaya, Hamakua mushrooms, and other produce instead of cheaper, unhealthy alternatives. With more than 25% of children 10-17 years old and 58% of adults in Hawai'i overweight or obese, SB390, SD2, HD1 can help to improve healthier dietary behaviors.

AlohaCare is a local, non-profit health plan founded in 1994 by Hawaii's Community Health Centers. We serve over 70,000 Medicaid and dual-eligible health plan members. We are the third largest health plan in Hawaii. We partner with nearly 3,500 physicians, specialists and providers in the care of our members. We have over 260 employees who work on Oahu, the Big Island, Maui and Kauai.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



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President
Lotus Pond Communications

LJ Duenas
Hawaii Director
American Diabetes Association

March 27, 2019

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance
Hawaii State House of Representatives

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 390

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) supports SB 390, legislation requiring the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program that incentivizes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients to purchase locally grown nutritious fruits and vegetables.

Diabetes is an epidemic in the United States and in Hawaii. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), over 30 million Americans have diabetes and face its devastating consequences. An estimated 142,000 people in Hawaii, or 12% of the adult population, have diabetes. An additional 442,000 have prediabetes and are at risk for developing the disease.

Maintaining a healthy weight by consuming a diet of nutritious foods is can reduce the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, the most common form of the disease. As such, the ADA supports policies that remove affordability barriers to healthy foods and policies that promote strong Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs.

It is imperative we take steps to improve access to nutritious foods for all but perhaps most importantly for our keiki. Studies have shown obese children and adolescents are five times more likely to face obesity in adulthood. Obesity is associated with childhood-onset of type 2 diabetes, adult onset of type 2 diabetes and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease-the largest cause of mortality among people with diabetes.

Every year, 8,000 people are diagnosed with diabetes in Hawaii. The ADA supports SB 390 to stop this epidemic by improving access to nutrition foods today and for future generations in our state.

On behalf of the American Diabetes Association and those we serve, we ask for your support of this bill.

Warmest aloha,

LJ Duenas, Hawaii Director
American Diabetes Association



21 people
are diagnosed with
diabetes every day
in Hawaii

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 10:12:21 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
PHC HNL	Pioneering Healthier Communities of Honolulu	Support	No

Comments:

RE: SB390 SD2 HD1

RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INCENTIVES

From: Pioneering Healthy Communities – Honolulu

The Pioneering Healthier Communities Initiative brings together local, diverse leaders to discuss and support strategies, policies and programs that we can accomplish together to build healthier communities in our island home. The Honolulu Committee was established in 2009. The members of PHC of Honolulu are involved in helping children and families to become healthier through schools, afterschool programs, healthcare and community initiatives such as farmer’s markets.

Our State today is in the middle of an epidemic of obesity and chronic disease such as diabetes. The risk begins in early childhood; today about 1/3 of children are overweight or obese and at risk for developing metabolic complications, such as diabetes. In many of our rural and low-income communities, the problem is much more prevalent and more severe. This translates to thousands of children, adolescents and young adults with significant chronic disease risk in each of our communities.

Making matters worse, many Hawaii residents, live at or near the poverty level and struggle to buy, prepare, and eat healthy foods. When the very high cost of living in Hawaii is considered, local residents have the 10th highest poverty rate in the Nation.

Numerous report on programs across the U.S. that incentivize nutritious produce purchases among SNAP recipients, such as the “Double Bucks” programs, indicate that they are an effective way to encourage more fruit and vegetable purchasing, reduce hunger and supporting healthy diets. Double Bucks programs have emerged at Farmers Markets in Hawaii, such as those associated with the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center and Kalihi Kokua Valley Health Center. The programs have been very popular and very successful in motivating community members to purchase more fruits and vegetables but need ongoing resources. We also are aware of positive economic, education, and environmental benefits for individuals, and communities, from these Double Bucks Programs.

As such, we strongly urge you to pass this Bill, in its original draft, which asks for an appropriation of \$1 million to fund the program.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

Michael Broderick

Susie Chun Oakland

Joy Barua

May Okihiro

Daniel Leung

Tina Tamai

Diane Tabangay

Daniela Kittinger

Jennifer Dang

Paula Adams

Ray L'Heureux

Stacy Evensen

John Mai

The Honorable Representatives Luke and Cullen
House Committee on Finance
Hearing: March 29, 2019 2:00pm
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 308

Testimony of Kasha Ho'okili Ho, Emergent Island Economies Collective, Senate District 23
In SUPPORT of Senate Bill 390, RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INCENTIVES

House Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members,

I submit our testimony in strong support for SB390. For that past seven years, we have been working with communities here on O'ahu to develop food systems solutions that address access, affordability of locally grown foods for low-income and mobility challenged community members. Through GreenWheel Food Hub, we established SNAP acceptance at 5 O'ahu farmers markets that sell only locally grown produce. At Kōkua Kalihi Valley, we started SNAP acceptance at two Kalihi farmers markets, one located inside of the Towers at Kalihi Park (KPT) for residents. Currently, with Emergent Island Economies Collective, we are working with KEY Project to establish a food hub, where Ko'olau farmers can aggregate and sell local produce to their neighbors. KEY Project's food hub just received SNAP authorization, and this bill would provide an important benefit to our community.

As you know, Hawaii imports upwards of 90% of our food from overseas. The high import costs mean that Hawai'i families spend 70% more on groceries than families on the Continental United States.ⁱ At the same time, Hawai'i has some of the lowest wages and the highest cost of living in the country.ⁱⁱ According to the USDA, an average family of four with young children should be able to eat on a "thrifty" food budget of \$562 per month. In Hawai'i, it costs the same family \$1,161 for the same meals.ⁱⁱⁱ

We are struggling to survive on both ends of the food system in Hawaii. Farming has always been hard work, and it is particularly difficult to make a living farming in Hawaii with limited access to land, high costs of inputs, infrastructure, and having to compete with imported, industrial agriculture that is heavily subsidized.

The farmers we work with are doing what they do for the love of the land and the health of their communities, but it is not easy to support your family as a small farmer in Hawai'i. We need to invest in these local farmers in order to see a future where we are able to feed ourselves once again in Hawaii. This bill would provide a much-needed infusion into the local food system, allowing those with SNAP benefits to mutually support our local farmers. Over \$40 million comes into Hawaii through SNAP benefits each month.^{iv} Shifting SNAP dollars over to local produce would have a huge benefit to local farmers and the local economy.

In my experience running SNAP programs at local farmers markets, the availability of incentives such as the one proposed by this bill has an enormous impact on SNAP customer participation at the market. I strongly support this bill and am available for further questions.

Mahalo,



Kasha Ho'okili Ho
Emergent Island Economies Collective

ⁱ Murakami, Kery (2013) [Living Hawaii: Why Is the Price of Paradise So High?](#) Civil Beat

ⁱⁱ Dill, Kathryn (2014) [The Best And Worst States To Make A Living In 2014](#) Forbes Magazine

ⁱⁱⁱ United States Department of Agriculture (2017) [USDA Food Plans: Cost of Food](#) Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion

^{iv} SNAP State Activity Report FY 2016



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 29, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON SB 390, SD2, HD1
RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
INCENTIVES

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau supports SB 390, SD2, HD1, which requires the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program who use their benefits to purchase Hawaii-grown produce.

SNAP offers nutrition assistance to eligible, low-income individuals and families, increasing their food purchasing power and improving their nutrition. SNAP also provides economic benefits to farmers participating at farmers' markets, roadside stands, CSA programs, grocery stores and other food retailers.

Some of HFB's farmers' markets participate or have participated in the SNAP program. We believe that access to locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables to low-income individuals and families provides benefit to both SNAP participants and Hawaii farmers.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important subject.



WAHIAWA

Community Based Development Organization (WCBDO)

PO Box 861191, Wahiawa HI 96786 wahiawacbdo.org

March 21, 2019

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Senator Donovan Dela Cruz
Chair, Ways and Means
Senate District 22 Hawaii State Capitol Room 208

RE: In Support of Double Bucks SB No. 390
RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
INCENTIVES.

Senator Dela Cruz:

The Wahiawa Community Based Development Organization dba Wahiawa Fresh, writes in support of Senate Bill 390, RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INCENTIVES.

Your support of this bill has a significant impact in our Wahiawa community where it is estimated it will help at least 2,000 households and 4,000 individuals receive more fruits and vegetables. Statewide, this bill has an economic impact of \$3.6 million dollars benefitting our local farmers, bolstering food security, and doubling the purchasing power of our low income families.

Supporting community initiatives such as Double Bucks is a key component of Wahiawa Fresh's mission in addition to being supported by all of its community partners. We see the program as a valuable component to the CSA and farmers markets programs that we support in our Wahiawa community as well as a wonderful opportunity to increase our residents' exposure to healthy fruits and vegetables.

Wahiawa Fresh strongly supports this bill and appreciates all of the legislature's efforts to reduce obesity and chronic disease in Hawaii. SB 390 is a significant step towards helping our community live longer, healthier, happier.

Mahalo,

Darin Uesugi
For the Wahiawa Fresh Board.

WahiawaCBDO.org



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Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee:

It is our honor and privilege to submit testimony *strongly supporting* SB 390, which appropriates funds for Hawaii's Double Up Food Bucks program.

The term "food insecurity" has taken on a life of its own in the last few months in Hawaii. An increase in natural disasters and the recent partial government shutdown, has forced people who have never experienced hunger in their lives, to search for options. Loosely defined, it is the lack of access to nutritional foods, which can lead to health concerns and even malnutrition. There is no easy solution to address hunger in Hawaii but there is a program already in place, serving as a lifeline for thousands of island residents.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly referred to many of us as the Food Stamp Program, is the largest food assistance program in the country, including Hawaii. According to data from The Center on Budget and Policies Priorities, in Fiscal Years 2017, 169,000 Hawaii residents, or 12% of Hawaii's population, were receiving benefits from SNAP. Of those, more than 63% of SNAP participants are in families with children, almost 31% are in families with members who are elderly or have disabilities and more than 51% are in working families.

Even with government benefits, there is an enormous gap when it comes to access to healthy foods and that is where the Double Up Food Bucks Program becomes vital. Double Up Food Bucks provides an additional dollar for every dollar a SNAP family spends, essentially stretching their purchasing power, increasing their financial accessibility of eating more fruits and vegetables. That alone can help alleviate financial stresses so families can focus on other expenses, such as rent and childcare costs.

The healthier options also contribute to an improved diet and overall health and wellness while, lowering healthcare costs. Healthy food has proven to have positive impacts on a child's immune system, energy level, digestion and attention span.

Finally, this nutrition incentive is good for Hawaii's farmers. The Double Up Food Bucks Program has already shown it can help increase sales and our farmers' customer base by keeping food dollars within the local community. It can stimulate farm expansion in acreage and diversity. Using the USDA's economic multiplier coefficients, the \$1.6 million in SNAP at Hawaii's farmers' markets (2016) generates nearly double the economic impact, by encouraging more consumer spending at local businesses.

Hunger can be a temporary issue or it can be chronic and a root cause of malnutrition. It is not enough to provide families in need with food, want families to have access to a healthy variety of foods. Hawaii's Double Up Food Program is helping us change the conversation.

With much respect and aloha,

Ron Mizutani
Hawaii Foodbank
President and Chief Executive Officer

Marielle Terbio
Hawaii Foodbank
Director of Community Engagement & Advocacy



SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 8:28:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dayea shim	Blue Zones Project	Support	No

Comments:



March 28, 2019

Testimony to the House Committee on Finance (FIN)
March 29, 2019 at 2:00pm, Conference Room 308

Submitted By: Richard Bettini, President and CEO, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

Aloha Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty Cullen and Members of the Committee:

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB390 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INCENTIVES

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of **SB390 SD2 HD1**, which requires the Department of Agriculture to create a farmers market dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

The Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) is Hawaii's largest and oldest federally qualified community health center and is the only safety-net provider serving the medically underserved along the Waianae Coast. The communities served are impoverished and 29% of families receive SNAP or other forms of public assistance, the highest rate in Hawaii. Our patients suffer from a variety of health disparities including diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular disease. Optimal nutrition and access to healthy foods is imperative, but often difficult, for our families. Fresh produce, especially local produce, is expensive, even with SNAP benefits.

To improve access to healthier foods, in 2008, WCCHC held the first Makeke Farmers Market in Waianae. *The primary purpose of the Mākeke Markets is to help cultivate a community that is healthy in mind, body and spirit by providing vibrant gathering places for the community, local food producers and Hawaiian cultural practitioners.* Since then, the Market has expanded to three locations along the Waianae Coast, serving about 2,000 people each week. The Makeke Markets were one of the first in the State to enable a SNAP recipient to use their EBT cards to purchase produce and other nutritious foods. In 2018, the Market did over \$158,000 in SNAP sales (the highest in the State) and doubled over \$90,000 of that amount on fresh locally sourced foods, like fruits, vegetables, poi, meats, fish and dairy.

Numerous reports on programs across the U.S. that incentivize nutritious produce purchases among SNAP recipients, such as the "Double Bucks" programs, indicate that they are an effective way to encourage more fruit and vegetable purchasing, reduce hunger and supporting healthy diets. In light of these reports, in 2013, WCCHC sought and received its first grant enabling the WCCHC Farmer's markets to provide matching "Double Bucks" type produce coupons to SNAP recipients and those participating in WCCHC chronic disease management programs. The program has been very popular and very successful in motivating Waianae community members to purchase more fruits, vegetables and locally sourced proteins.

The ongoing challenge has been acquiring the funding to sustain these effective incentive programs. Our Health Center has spent a great deal of time and effort to try to keep the program continuously funded, with mixed success.

As such, we strongly support **SB390 SD2 HD1**, which will expand and sustain incentive-based produce purchasing programs for SNAP recipients, among our most vulnerable families in Hawaii.

Thank you for allowing us to provide this testimony.



March 27, 2019

To: Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

From: Laura Nevitt, Policy Director
Hawaii Children's Action Network

Re: **S. B. 390, SD2, HD1– Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Program
Incentives Capitol, Room 308, March 29, 2019 2:00 PM**

On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network (HCAN), I am writing in SUPPORT of S.B. 390, SD2, HD1, which requires the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program who use their benefits to purchase Hawaii-grown produce. Appropriates funds.

The program would give SNAP users a dollar-for-dollar match for the purchase of fresh, local fruits and vegetables, doubling their purchasing power, and channeling federal funds into the pockets of local farmers.

These programs are a triple win for families, farmers, and the local economy. Local fruits and vegetables are often only affordable to the more affluent residents of Hawaii, putting both low-income families AND local farmers at a disadvantage. SB 390 would channel existing federal funds into local agriculture and businesses that would have normally been spent on food shipped from the mainland.

Research shows that these programs are effective. They not only increase fruit and vegetable consumption, but can actually lower healthcare costs. In addition, pilot programs in Hawaii have already channeled hundreds of thousands of dollars into the pockets of local farmers.

Double Up Food Bucks programs have been shown to:

Reduce food insecurity. Double Up doubles the purchasing power of Hawai'i's low-income families, freeing up room in their budget for other expenditures like housing and healthcare.

Improve dietary behaviors among low-income families. Evaluation data from programs in other states have shown that families eat more fruits and vegetables, eat a larger variety of fruits and vegetables, and eat fewer chips, candy, and cookies.

Support farmers. Nutrition incentives increase sales and farm income and increase farmers' customer base. Pilot programs in Hawaii have already channeled hundreds of thousands of dollars to local farmers.

Boost the local economy. Double Up is an effective way to keep federal funding circulating in the local economy. A \$1 million investment on behalf of the State would generate nearly \$3.6 million in economic activity.

For these reasons, HCAN asks that you pass S.B 390, SD2, HD1.

HCAN is committed to building a unified voice advocating for Hawaii's children by improving their safety, health, and education.

Friday, March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM
Conference Room 308

House Committee on Finance

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs

Re: **Testimony in Support of SB 390, SD2, HD1
Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives**

My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

I write in support of SB 390, SD2, HD1 which requires the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to purchase Hawaii-grown produce.

We believe increasing fruit and vegetable intake is a means of preventing chronic disease and improving overall health. However, access to fresh produce for individuals on a limited income is difficult and is one of the reasons why they have poorer diets and higher risks of chronic disease. The nutrition assistance program proposed in SB 390 would increase the eligible SNAP recipient's purchasing power when the benefits are used to purchase local fruits and vegetables.

Nutrition incentive programs are prevalent around the United States and similar laws have been passed in 20 states. The program would also provide economic benefits to local farmers participating at farmers' markets, roadside stands, CSA programs, grocery stores and other food retailers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAI'I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Amplify the Power of Giving

March 28, 2019

To: Hawai'i State House, Committee on Finance

Re: S.B. 390

Dear Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee,

In 2016 the Hawai'i Community Foundation commissioned a study of the "State of Hunger" in our State. The findings were appalling: nearly 1 in 7 residents are at-risk of going hungry including more than 20% of our keiki and 10% of seniors. In response HCF organized funding from 9 private donors and foundations to fund a 3-year effort to help reduce hunger in our community.

Over the past year, 13 organizations calling themselves the *Hawai'i Hunger Action Network* (Blue Zones, Good Food Alliance, Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development, Hawai'i Appleseed, Hawai'i Community Foundation, Hawai'i Foodbank, Hawai'i Food Basket, Kapi'olani Community College, Kōkua Kalihi Valley, Lanakila Pacific, Maui Food Bank, Parents & Children Together and Sustainable Moloka'i) have been meeting to identify the most effective ways to ensure that all people in Hawai'i have enough food to live healthy, dignified and productive lives.

In terms of resources for quality food and nutrition for low-income individuals and families, *Double Up Food Bucks programs* have been shown to:

- **Reduce food insecurity.** Doubles the purchasing power of Hawai'i's low-income families, freeing up room in their budget for other expenditures like housing and healthcare.
- **Improve dietary behaviors among low-income families.** Evaluation data from programs in other states have shown that families eat more fruits and vegetables, eat a larger variety of fruits and vegetables, and eat fewer chips, candy, and cookies.
- **Support farmers.** Nutrition incentives increase sales and farm income and increase farmers' customer base.
- **Boost the local economy.** Is an effective way to keep federal funding circulating in the local economy. Using the USDA's economic multiplier coefficients, the \$1.6 million in SNAP at Hawai'i farmers' markets (2016) generates nearly double the economic impact, by encouraging more consumer spending at local businesses.

On behalf of HCF and our partners at the Hawai'i Hunger Action Networks I wholeheartedly support S.B. 390.

Sincerely,

Christine van Bergeijk

Senior Vice President

Strategies, Initiatives & Networks



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American Heart Association testimony in SUPPORT of SB 390, SD2, HD1 "Relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives"

The American Heart Association strongly supports SB 390, SD2, HD1.

The Agriculture Act of 2014 authorized the USDA to provide Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentives (FINI) grants to eligible organizations to design and implement projects to increase produce purchases among low-income consumers participating in SNAP by providing incentives at point of purchase. Several Hawaii communities are currently receiving FINI grants to implement "double-bucks" programs and allow for the use of EBT payments for SNAP purchases at certain farmers' markets and commercial retailers. SB 390, SD2 would supplement federal funding with state funding to expand those programs and to insure their sustainability.

"Double-bucks" programs match SNAP dollars spent on fresh fruits and vegetables with a financial benefit to local growers and food retailers. Low-income families bring home more healthy food, area farmers gain new customers and make more money, and more food dollars stay in the local economy. Food markets participating in the program would see increases in fresh produce sales. In addition, state supplemental funding would be potentially matched by federal funding adding yet another benefit to Hawaii's investment in these important programs.

For more than 50 years, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP – formerly Food Stamps) has been vital in addressing food insecurity and nutrition in the United States. It has an impact on health, educational attainment and economic self-sufficiency. The program helps more than 45 million Americans struggling through underemployment and low or stagnant wages. The majority of benefits go to households with children, older adults or those with disabilities.

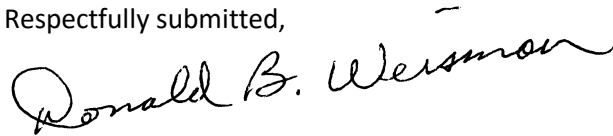
Food insecurity and poor nutrition remain problems for millions of American households. Research shows that SNAP benefits are often not adequate to last a family the entire month. A 2016 report by the Food Research and Action Center summarized the important role SNAP plays in addressing food insecurity. Importantly, the majority of SNAP recipients who are eligible for work do so while on the program, underscoring that many recipients are using the program to overcome underemployment or temporary job loss.

Although diet quality has been steadily improving in the U.S. during the past two decades, overall dietary quality is still poor. Most significantly, there is a widening gap associated with education and income. Despite the important role SNAP plays in addressing hunger, additional data indicate that SNAP recipients have worse diet quality

than income-eligible non-participants. The incentives provided through “double-up” programs can help to change that.

The American Heart Association urges legislators to support SB 390, SD2, HD1 and restore the suggested allocation of \$1,000,000 to the bill to help reduce health disparities in our state by expanding access to fresh fruit and vegetables to those who might be economically challenged to afford access to those foods vital to improved health and reduced obesity.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald B. Weisman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line above the name.

Donald B. Weisman

Hawaii Government Relations/Communications Director



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Friday, March 29, 2019 – 2:00 PM - Room 308
Agenda #1

RE: SB 390 SD2 HD1 - Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives – In Support

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 School Garden Network
Ulupono Initiative
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources - University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee:

The Local Food Coalition **strongly supports SB 390 SD2 HD1**, which requires the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to purchase Hawaii-grown produce.

This collaborative program helps low-income residents afford more fresh, local foods by providing a one-to-one match for every dollar of SNAP benefits spent at participating locations. The goal of the program is to provide local people with limited means, access to healthy fruits and vegetables, while supporting local farmers and Hawaii's economy.

This successful incentive program has been implemented in more than 20 states and will promote healthy eating among Hawaii's low-income families.

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

We respectfully request your support of SB 390 SD2 HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

John Garibaldi
808-544-8319
jgaribaldi@wik.com



1050 Bishop St. PMB 235 | Honolulu, HI 96813
P: 808-533-1292 | e: info@hawaiiifood.com

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Paul Kosasa, ABC Stores, *Advisor*
Barry Taniguchi, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*
Derek Kurisu, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*

TO:
Committee on Finance
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: March 29, 2019
TIME: 2pm
PLACE: Conference Room 308

RE: SB390 SD2 HD1 Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Position: Support

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

We believe this program is important both as a means to support healthy eating, and as a way to support Hawaii's agricultural sector. Fruits and vegetables tend to be more expensive per calorie than less healthy foods, which makes eating healthy a challenge for those with limited food budgets. Doubling the purchasing power for SNAP users when buying local produce makes it easier to choose fruits and vegetables when shopping. Data has shown that families using this program in other states have eat more fruits and vegetables, and a greater variety of fruits and vegetables, and fewer unhealthy foods like chips and cookies. Getting more fruits and vegetables for each SNAP dollar also means that low income families will have more in their budget to spend on things like housing and healthcare.

By prioritizing local produce this program also helps Hawaii farmers, who face many challenges of their own, and incentivizes retailers to continue to stock Hawaii produce. This is an infusion of funds into our local economy and a \$1 million investment from the state can generate nearly \$3.6 million in economic activity. The grocery stores where SNAP participants can take advantage of this program provide a network of access to healthy food from around the entire state, all year round. Making sure that SNAP users have access to all our great local fruits and vegetables, and supporting our local Hawaii farmers are goals we all share. We encourage you to vote yes on this measure.

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2019 4:29:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Caron	Young Progressives Demanding Action	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke,

Young Progressives Demanding Action strongly supports SB390 SD2 HD1 to expand access to local produce for the families who need it most.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nearly 170,000 Hawai'i residents with monthly benefits to purchase food. The program is an important stepping stone out of poverty for families who otherwise would not be able to pay for things like education or reliable transportation to work.

SNAP nutrition incentives like Double Up Food Bucks are a way to take the SNAP program further and maximize their impacts on our community. Double Up Food Bucks matches the purchase of locally-grown produce dollar-for-dollar by offering SNAP users a coupon or voucher that doubles their purchasing power when they purchase locally-grown fruits and vegetables.

This model doubles the participant's purchasing power—so \$10 of benefits would be worth \$20 of produce—and doubles the income for grocers and farmers. These initiatives encourage healthier diets while also amplifying the multiplier effect of SNAP in the local economy.

Please support and pass SB390!

March 27, 2019

To: Chair Luke
Vice Chair Cullen
House Committee on Finance

Re: **Support for SB390 SD2 HD1**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, members of the House Committee on Finance:

Thank you for your dedication to our community and for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of SB390 SD2 HD1, relating to supplemental nutrition assistance program incentives.

Kaho'omiki, the Hawai'i Council of Physical Activity and Nutrition, believes in programs that support and encourage lifelong healthy lifestyles through physical activity and good nutrition and enhance the quality of life of Hawai'i residents. Along those lines, SB390 truly increases equitable access to healthy foods and can make a significant difference for many families.

In Hawai'i and across the country, access to fresh fruits and vegetables can be a major financial challenge, preventing many low-income families from incorporating these foods into their diets. We also know that diet-related diseases are disproportionately higher in low-income communities. Through both the USDA guidelines and multiple studies, fresh fruits and vegetables have extensive health benefits; fruits and vegetables supply dietary fiber, vitamins, minerals, and phytochemicals that function as antioxidants, phytoestrogens, and anti-inflammatory agents.^{1,2}

Kaho'omiki believes the double up food bucks incentive program can significantly remove major barriers to fresh fruits and vegetables and can support our families, our farmers, and the economy. Twenty-four states have already established double up incentive programs, and in these states, SNAP recipients have increased their spending towards local agriculture by 70%, while supporting thousands of farmers.³

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Colby Takeda
President, Kaho'omiki

¹ Slavin, J. L. & Lloyd, B. (2012). Health benefits of fruits and vegetables. *Advanced Nutrition*, 3(4).

² USDA and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, 2010. 7th ed. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office; 2010.

³ Fair Food Network. (2018). *Double Up Food Bucks National Overview*.

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2019 3:35:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Ka Ohana O Na Pua	Support	No

Comments:

This is a proven nation wide program that will increase fresh foods for low income households, and be an economic incentive for Hawaii's Farmers. Mahalo for bringing this Bill forward....



HIPHI Board

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Research Office

En Young, MBA
Sansei, Lanai

Date: March 28, 2019

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the Finance Committee

Re: Strong Support for SB390 SD2, HD1, Relating to Supplemental
Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00pm at Conference Room 308

The Obesity Prevention Task Force of the Hawai'i Public Health Instituteⁱ is in **Strong Support of SB390 SD2, HD1**, which creates a matching incentive program for the beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

HIPHI supports the requested appropriation amount of \$1M requested in the original draft of SB390, which is necessary to draw down federal matching dollars.

Creating a dollar-for-dollar matching local produce incentive program is a simple yet powerful policy solution.

SB390 is modeled after Double Up Food Bucks, a national program started by the Fair Food Network in 2009. Double Up Food Bucks provides a dollar-for-dollar match on the value of SNAP when spent on local fresh fruits and vegetables. Double Up is a win/win/win: low-income families bring home more healthy food, local farmers gain new customers and bring in more income, and more food dollars stay in the local economy. Double Up is a successful model being implemented in more than 20 states and does not violate interstate commerce due to market-participant exception from the law, where state and local government may act as a market participant for the purchase of locally grown foods.

Expanding this incentive program will benefit hundreds of families across the State.

In Hawaii Island, a local pilot program was implemented through the Food Basket's *DA BUX: Double Up Food Bucks* program. In partnership with KTA superstores, SNAP customers receive a 50% credit incentive at checkout. The four-month pilot in East Hawaii has brought in \$40,000 of sales of Big Island produce with \$20,000 of federal nutrition dollars going back into our local economy. Individual DA BUX

transactions have brought in an average sales increase of nearly 20% on incentivized produceⁱⁱ with little to no advertising. DA BUX was offered one week per month in the Big Island. An expansion of a similar statewide pilot program can improve healthy produce access to SNAP families in other islands and improve local agriculture in those communities. As of December 2018, there were 161,550 individuals or 82,806 households that participated in SNAP.

An incentive program will improve the health and well-being of Hawai'i families.

Incentivizing the use of SNAP dollars for fresh fruits and vegetables not only stretches food dollars for families, but it also brings home nutritious food that the entire family can enjoy. Crediting SNAP dollars creates room in the families' budget for other household and healthcare expenses so that food dollars can be spent on locally grown food such as taro, papaya, Hamakua mushrooms, and other produce instead of cheaper, unhealthy alternatives. With more than 25% of children 10-17 years old and 58% of adults in Hawai'i overweight, or obese, SB390 can help to improve healthier dietary behaviors.

SB390 is a powerful and innovative measure that brings together Hawaii families, farmers, and local markets. It is a triple win for health, agriculture, and the local economy. We are in strong support of this measure and respectfully ask you to **pass SB390 SD2 HD1** out of committee.

Mahalo,



Trish La Chica, MPA
Policy and Advocacy Director

ⁱ Created by the legislature in 2012, the Obesity Prevention Task Force is comprised of over 60 statewide organizations, and works to make recommendations to reshape Hawai'i's school, work, community, and health care environments, making healthier lifestyles obtainable for all Hawai'i residents. The Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) convenes the Task Force and supports and promotes policy efforts to create a healthy Hawai'i.

Hawai'i Public Health Institute is a hub for building healthy communities, providing issue-based advocacy, education, and technical assistance through partnerships with government, academia, foundations, business, and community-based organizations.

ⁱⁱ Data collected from September to December 2017, with 2983 individual DA BUX transactions over 4 months (one week per month).



MA`O ORGANIC FARMS

a non-profit `āina-based project of the Wai`anae Community Re-Development Corporation

P.O. Box 441, Wai`anae, Hawai`i 96792 • Tel/Fax. 808-696-5569

info@maoorganicfarms.org • www.maoorganicfarms.org

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

Wednesday, March 27

Support for SB390 SD2 HD1

MA`O Organic Farms is a social enterprise in Wai`anae, O`ahu committed to reconnecting young people to their heritage to build a future of mā`ona (plenty) through college-career pathways, community-based social entrepreneurship, production-oriented organic farming, and the daily practice of aloha `āina (caring for the land/that which feeds).

We strongly support SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives, which would create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for SNAP beneficiaries who use their benefits to purchase Hawai`i-grown produce. This model, also known as 'Double Up Bucks' doubles the participant's purchasing power—so \$10 of benefits would be worth \$20 of produce—and doubles the income for farmers. Designating state funds for Double Up Bucks also opens up matching federal funds, effectively quadrupling the state's investment for local farmers. These initiatives encourage healthier diets while also amplifying the multiplier effect of SNAP in the local economy.

In food insecure communities, including Wai`anae, the lack of financial and physical access to fresh health food contributes to poor nutrition. Compounded by high levels of stress and depression, low levels of physical activity, and health care disparities, this leads to high levels of obesity and preventable diseases that undermine individuals and the community, contributing to inter-generational cycles of ill-health and poverty. Improving access to fresh healthy food is vital to shifting this trend, and to building community health and well-being.

Though MA`O Organic Farms is located in Wai`anae, the majority of our produce is sold at markets in the more affluent communities of Honolulu and Kailua. Fortunately, the introduction of the Double Up Bucks program at the Wai`anae farmer's market has contributed significantly to the steady increase in our sales at this market, from \$23,500 in 2013 to \$35,000 in 2018. Based on our experience, growing the Double Up Bucks program will enable community members to purchase more fresh produce in Wai`anae and other food insecure communities throughout Hawai`i. Not only will this improve the community's physical health, it will also contribute to the flourishing of Hawai`i's farms and the development of a vibrant, diverse local economy.

We urge the committee to pass SB390 SD2 HD1. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Friday, March 29, 2019 at 2:00 P.M.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol**

**RE: SB 390 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
INCENTIVES**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii (“The Chamber”) **supports** SB 390 SD 2 HD 1, which requires the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to purchase Hawaii-grown produce.

The Chamber is Hawaii’s leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the “Voice of Business” in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state’s economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

SNAP offers nutrition assistance to millions of eligible, low-income individuals and families and provides economic benefits to communities. It is also the largest program in the domestic hunger safety net, and works with State agencies, nutrition educators, and neighborhood and faith-based organizations to ensure that people eligible for nutrition assistance can make informed decisions about applying for the program and accessing the benefits.

Individuals on low incomes have a difficult time trying to get access to fresh produce. By including Hawaii-grown produce, as proposed in this bill, we will be able to allow these individuals the means to obtain healthy and fresh produce. This will also provide economic benefits to our local farmers and encourage retailers to continue to stock local produce in their stores.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



March 28, 2019

Senator Sylvia Luke
Chair, Finance
Senate District 25
Hawaii State Capitol
Room 306

**RE: In Support of Double Bucks SB No. 390
RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
INCENTIVES.**

Senator Luke:

Blue Zones Project—Wahiawa (BZP) is pleased to provide this letter of support for Senate Bill 390, RELATING TO SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INCENTIVES. The support and implementation of this bill is an essential part of achieving a healthy Hawaii.


Blue Zones Project was brought to Hawaii by HMSA to help increase the overall well-being of our communities and to make Hawaii a healthier, happier place to live, work and play. To accomplish that goal, we work with people, places, and polices in areas of well-being including healthy food access, built environment and tobacco.

Blue Zones Project, Wahiawa has worked with our community partners going back to 2016. Initiatives such as Double Bucks is supported by all of its community partners. We see the program as a valuable component to the CSA and farmers markets programs that we support in our Wahiawa community and a wonderful opportunity to increase our residents' exposure to healthy fruits and vegetables.

Blue Zones Project strongly supports this bill and appreciates all of the legislature's efforts to reduce obesity and chronic disease in Hawaii. SB 390 is a significant step towards helping our community live longer, healthier, happier.

Please contact me with any questions at Jeffrey.alameida@sharecare.com or (808) 375.6219.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Alameida, CFP
Community Program Manager
Blue Zones Project—Wahiawa
P.O. Box 861191
Wahiawa HI 96786

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SB390
FIN
Friday, March 29, 2019
2:00 p.m.
Room 308

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

March 28, 2019

Re: SB390 Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives In Strong Support

Dear Rep. Luke, Rep. Cullen and members of the Committee:

This bill is needed to qualify Hawaii for federal matching funds from the USDA

- Hawaii's economy benefits four ways:
1. Federal matching funds from the USDA
 2. Matching funds provided by this bill
 3. Spending on healthy local produce by SNAP customers
 4. Increase in SNAP spending due to incentives

This bill supports healthful eating habits as well as encouraging sustainable agriculture



Several other states have successful “double bucks” incentive programs to encourage low income recipients of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to purchase healthy locally-grown produce. This bill is intended to create the framework for a statewide matching program in Hawaii that would potentially also attract federal funds.

Encouraging the purchase of healthy fruits and vegetables is an intervention that is understood to **reduce the incidence and social cost of obesity and diseases such as diabetes**. Once shoppers become familiar with using the range of fresh produce available they will rely less on highly processed sugar- and salt-laden prepared food.

How incentive programs work

Incentive programs, in their simplest form, provide SNAP participants with matching funds to purchase SNAP-eligible produce.

USDA Awards Nation's Largest Grant to Expand California Healthy Eating Program to More Farmers' Markets

August 9, 2017 by Ecology Center



[PRESS RELEASE] – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has awarded the California Department of Agriculture (CDFA) and its partners a \$3.9 million Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) grant – the largest in the country. FINI grants are designed to increase the

purchase of fruits and vegetables among low-income people participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (aka SNAP, formerly food stamps).

Some programs provide a dollar-for-dollar match while others establish limits.

The possibility of private or federal grants is very real because the USDA is actively supporting these matching programs.

In 2017 the USDA awarded a \$3.9 million Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) grant—the largest in the country—to California, to expand their healthy eating program. The stated purpose of the FINI grant was to incentivize low-income shoppers to spend their SNAP benefits on locally-grown fruits, vegetables and nuts at farmers markets. Another objective was to encourage SNAP recipients to become life-long produce consumers. Clearly, forming the habit of shopping for fresh produce and cooking it at home will have a positive impact on health.

This bill establishes the groundwork for Hawaii to qualify for these grants.

The health and economic benefits are clear

Providing a dollar-for-dollar match of SNAP benefits when used to purchase locally-grown produce has been shown here and in other states to be effective in several ways: **besides encouraging healthy eating, it benefits low-income households who may have to choose between buying good food, paying rent or paying medical costs.**

An additional benefit of increased SNAP sales for locally-grown produce is that **federal money remains in Hawaii and circulates in the economy.** SNAP and incentive programs increase the income of local food producers—especially at farmers markets.

Each \$1 in SNAP is calculated to provide \$1.79 in local economic activity. Farmers pay for supplies and labor using the federal funds SNAP brings to the state. **Matching programs help increase farm income** and widen their customer base. Strengthening farm income contributes to goals related to farm sustainability in Hawaii.

Larry Geller, Project Co-Director
Nanette Geller, Project Co-Director
GreenWheel Food Hub
Honolulu



HAWAII APPLESEED

CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Supporting SB 390 – Relating to SNAP Incentives
House Committee on Finance
Scheduled for hearing at Friday, March 29, 2019, 2:00PM, in conference room 308

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SB 390**, which would appropriate funds for a healthy food matching program for participants in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

SNAP incentives are a powerful community investment. Over 160,000 Hawai'i residents draw down between \$460 and \$500 million in federal SNAP funds annually to purchase food. While SNAP is an important program for ensuring the food security of low-income Hawai'i households, the benefit is often still not enough to afford fresh fruits and vegetables. This results in most of these economic stimulus funds leaving the islands—right into the pockets of major mainland food companies, rather than getting channeled into our local agriculture industry. Passing this bill would be an impact investment for the State, channeling much-needed capital into local businesses and farms.

The original draft of the bill requests an appropriation amount of \$1 million, a conservative amount that would be enough for 10 percent of Hawai'i's SNAP households to receive \$10 in incentives per month for a year. This amount can also be leveraged to draw down additional federal funds authorized through the recently passed Farm Bill¹. In essence, should the legislature pass SB 390, this investment could be quadrupled: First matched with federal matching funds, and then the sum total matched through the purchases made by SNAP consumers.

SNAP incentives are a win for everyone—families, farmers and local businesses. The State stands to gain significantly, but only to the degree with which it decides to invest in this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

¹ The 2018 Farm Bill authorized \$250 million over five years for the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive, a program administered by the USDA. These funds are only available with a match.

The Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice is committed to a more socially just Hawai'i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. We change systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice through policy development, advocacy, and coalition building.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

March 29, 2019 2:00 PM Room 308

In **SUPPORT** of **SB 390 SD2 HD1**:

Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters and as a member of the Common Good Coalition, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **strongly supports SB 390 SD2 HD1**, which requires the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program who use their benefits to purchase Hawaii-grown produce and appropriates funds.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i supports efforts to keep food sustainability strong and thriving, as well as making locally-grown produce accessible for all of Hawai'i's residents. Giving "double bucks" for Hawai'i-grown produce incentivizes SNAP participants to purchase nutritious fruits and vegetables- which in turn helps local farmers and our agricultural economy, improves SNAP participants' health, and supports greater local food production into the future.

One of the Sustainable Hawai'i Initiatives is to double local food production by 2020, yet 90% of the state's food is imported and 80% of local production is exported¹. Passage of this bill would increase demand for local produce, while also improving the health of lower-income communities and encouraging sustainable agricultural practices.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in **support of SB 390**.

Mahalo,

Jodi Malinoski, Policy Advocate

¹ <https://mauimagazine.net/empty-isles/>

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 3:01:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
McKenna Ross	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This would be very beneficial for families in Hawaii. Buying fresh local produce can be very costly, especially here on the islands. Often times, discouraging low-income families from buying locally. It is very important to me that everyone has the equal access to healthy choices, such as local fruits and vegetables. Not only will this help the all residents of Hawaii, it will also boost our economy. Knowing many people on food stamps, I can personally understand the benefits this will provide to our community.

Date: March 27, 2019

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Re: **Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1**, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

Aloha House Committee on Finance,

I am writing in **strong support of SB390 SD2 HD1**, that requires the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to purchase Hawai'i-grown produce; and appropriates funds.

This matching incentive program, sometimes called "Double Up Food Bucks", makes healthful eating more accessible to Hawai'i's low-income families, increases sales and farm profits, and keeps money in the community.

Double Up Food Bucks is good for Hawai'i's families, farmers, and the local economy.

I **strongly support SB390 SD2 HD1** and respectfully ask you to pass this bill out of committee.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Forrest Batz, PharmD
Keaau, HI

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2019 2:01:40 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danicole Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a volunteer with Aloha Harvest, I have seen how the Double Up Food Bucks program has helped our most vulnerable communities while helping us achieve food security for the state. I support SB 390 for the following reasons:

- **Reduce food insecurity.** Double Up doubles the purchasing power of Hawaii's low-income families, freeing up room in their budget for other expenditures like housing and healthcare.
- **Improve dietary behaviors among low-income families.** Data shows that participants in Double Up eat more fruits and vegetables, eat a larger variety of fruits and vegetables, and eat fewer chips, candy, and cookies.
- **Support farmers.** Double Up increases sales and farm income and increase farmers' customer base. Pilot programs in Hawaii have already channeled hundreds of thousands of dollars to local farmers.
- **Boost the local economy.** Double Up is an effective way to keep federal funding circulating in the local economy. A \$1 million investment on behalf of the State would generate nearly \$3.6 million in economic activity.

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2019 2:08:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hunter Heavilin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2019 3:09:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa DeSantis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SB 390**, which would appropriate funds for a healthy food matching program for participants in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

This bill provides an unprecedented opportunity to support local businesses, local farmers, and low income families all at the same time. Our state currently draws down between \$460 and \$500 million in federal SNAP funds annually for food purchases. However, very little of this federal stimulus funding is spent on locally-grown produce. This is a missed opportunity to channel these funds into our local economy. Passing this bill would be an impact investment for the State, infusing much-needed capital into local businesses and farms.

This bill also opens up opportunities for additional matching funds. The recent Farm Bill appropriates additional funds for SNAP incentives, which can only be unlocked through a match. Should the legislature pass SB 390, this investment could essentially be quadrupled: First matched with federal matching funds, and then the sum total matched through the purchases made by SNAP consumers.

SNAP incentives are a win for everyone—families, farmers and local businesses. There is no downside. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2019 6:06:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Daclison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

About one-third of the US population is considered obese. One of the reasons for that maybe that convenient and cheap food are unhealthy, for example, McDonald's. You can get a quick meal of a burger, fries, and a drink for approximately \$5. However, at the local grocery store, it's more difficult because local vegetables, fruits, and ingredients are more expensive when totaled together. In addition, you have to go through cooking for about 30 minutes to get your meal. Now, it would be easier to support our local farmers, especially to low-income families who just purchase cheap, unhealthy goods.

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 8:11:35 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelsie Cajka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support bill SB390 in providing families in need matching dollars for healthy food choices. Individuals should not be limited in what foods they can share with thier families in respect to income level alone. This bill provides healthy options to all. Thank you for your support in passing this bill.

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2019 12:16:18 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kirstin Kahaloa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support!

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 8:47:24 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Tabata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 8:51:42 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Hayashi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 8:37:26 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Yarberry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Let's support Hawaiian-grown produce!

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 8:56:19 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Molly Mamaril	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 9:08:18 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keolamalie McComber	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 9:13:28 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Royce Fukuroku	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 11:36:27 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Delfin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 10:08:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol R. Ignacio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Kakou,

First of all thank you for your service to our communities. Your hard work is very much appreciated.

SB390 maybe one of the most important Bill you pass this session with improving the health of the most vulnerable populations in our state. The Double Bucks program started here on Hawaii Island and it is working. The partnership between The Food Basket, Hawaii Island's Foodbank, and KTA Superstores is one of the most effective programs on our island. Please support and pass SB390. Thank you in advance for your support.

Carol R. Ignacio

District 1

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 9:39:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Takitani Leahey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 9:40:10 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jamil Folio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This bill will improve health, strengthen our food economy, and support our local farmers. Please pass this bill through committee.

Respectfully,

Jamil Folio

Kula, Hawaii

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 11:32:31 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laksmi M Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

3/28/2019

Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

I am writing in strong support of SB390 SD2 HD1, which improves access to affordable, healthy, and local fresh fruits and vegetables by creating a matching incentive program for beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

A matching incentive program, sometimes called a "Double Up Food Bucks" program, is a triple win for families, farmers, and the local economy. It makes healthy eating more accessible to Hawaii's low-income families, increases sales and farm profits, and keeps money in the community.

Double Up Food Bucks is a triple win for Hawaii's families, farmers, and the local economy. I strongly support SB390 SD2 HD1 and respectfully ask you to pass this measure out of committee.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Fleck
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

3/28/2019

Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

This is a huge benefit for struggling families. Please support!!

I am writing in strong support of SB390 SD2 HD1, which improves access to affordable, healthy, and local fresh fruits and vegetables by creating a matching incentive program for beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

A matching incentive program, sometimes called a "Double Up Food Bucks" program, is a triple win for families, farmers, and the local economy. It makes healthy eating more accessible to Hawaii's low-income families, increases sales and farm profits, and keeps money in the community.

Double Up Food Bucks is a triple win for Hawaii's families, farmers, and the local economy. I strongly support SB390 SD2 HD1 and respectfully ask you to pass this measure out of committee.

Mahalo,
Tulsi Greenlee
Haiku, HI 96708

3/28/2019

Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

I am a medical student and I strongly support SB390, which is a triple win for Hawaii's agriculture economy, healthy eating, and affordability for those who need nutritional assistance.

I am writing in strong support of SB390 SD2 HD1, which improves access to affordable, healthy, and local fresh fruits and vegetables by creating a matching incentive program for beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

A matching incentive program, sometimes called a "Double Up Food Bucks" program, is a triple win for families, farmers, and the local economy. It makes healthy eating more accessible to Hawaii's low-income families, increases sales and farm profits, and keeps money in the community.

Double Up Food Bucks is a triple win for Hawaii's families, farmers, and the local economy. I strongly support SB390 SD2 HD1 and respectfully ask you to pass this measure out of committee.

Mahalo,
Jason Huynh
Honolulu, HI 96814

3/27/2019

Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

Huge amounts of money can be saved by creating avenues to get fresh produce to SNAP persons. Best for farmers also to have a way to make 2nds available.

Mahalo,
Kate Paine
Honolulu, HI 96828

3/28/2019

Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

Aloha Representatives Luke and Cullen,

I am writing in strong support of SB390 SD2 HD1, which improves access to affordable, healthy, and local fresh fruits and vegetables by creating a matching incentive program for beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

I support this measure because a matching incentive program, sometimes called a "Double Up Food Bucks" program, is a triple win for families, farmers, and the local economy. It makes healthy eating more accessible to Hawaii's low-income families, increases sales and farm profits which helps small farmers, and keeps money in the community perpetuating the cycle of farm to family.

I strongly support SB390 SD2 HD1 and respectfully ask you to pass this measure.

Mahalo

Mary Santa Maria M.P.H.,
Makawao, Hawaii

3/28/2019

Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

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A matching incentive program, sometimes called a "Double Up Food Bucks" program, is a triple win for families, farmers, and the local economy. It makes healthy eating more accessible to Hawaii's low-income families, increases sales and farm profits, and keeps money in the community.

Double Up Food Bucks is a triple win for Hawaii's families, farmers, and the local economy. I strongly support SB390 SD2 HD1 and respectfully ask you to pass this measure out of committee.

Mahalo,
Amy agbayani
Honolulu, HI 96819

3/28/2019

Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

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Double Up Food Bucks is a triple win for Hawaii's families, farmers, and the local economy. I strongly support SB390 SD2 HD1 and respectfully ask you to pass this measure out of committee.

Mahalo,
Joanne Amberg
Kailua, HI 96734

3/28/2019

Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

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Double Up Food Bucks is a triple win for Hawaii's families, farmers, and the local economy. I strongly support SB390 SD2 HD1 and respectfully ask you to pass this measure out of committee.

Mahalo,
Cherie Andrade
Kailua, HI 96734

3/28/2019

Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

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A matching incentive program, sometimes called a "Double Up Food Bucks" program, is a triple win for families, farmers, and the local economy. It makes healthy eating more accessible to Hawaii's low-income families, increases sales and farm profits, and keeps money in the community.

Double Up Food Bucks is a triple win for Hawaii's families, farmers, and the local economy. I strongly support SB390 SD2 HD1 and respectfully ask you to pass this measure out of committee.

Mahalo,
Judith Armstrong
Honolulu, HI 96815

3/28/2019

Strong Support of SB390 SD2 HD1, Relating to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: March 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM in Capitol Room 308

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Mahalo,
Helen Barrow
Makawao, HI 96768

3/27/2019

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Mahalo,
Patricia Blair
Kailua, HI 96734

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Mahalo,
Shay Chan Hodges
Haiku, HI 96708

3/28/2019

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Mahalo,
Camille Chong
Honolulu, HI 96826

3/28/2019

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Honolulu, HI 96826

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Mahalo,
Stuart COLEMAN
Honolulu, HI 96815

3/27/2019

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Mahalo,
Michael deYcaza
Honolulu, HI 96815

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Mahalo,
Suzanne Ellis
Hauula, HI 96717

3/28/2019

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Mahalo,
MARILYN J. Gagen
Kamuela, HI 96743

3/28/2019

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Mahalo,
Michelle Gray
Honolulu, HI 96825

3/27/2019

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Mahalo,
Tenaya Jackman
Honolulu, HI 96815

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Mahalo,
Michael Kellar
Honolulu, HI 96821

3/28/2019

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Mahalo,
Michelle Kwock
Honolulu, HI 96813

3/28/2019

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Mahalo,
Selene LeGare
Kahului, HI 96732

3/27/2019

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Mahalo,
Mark Levin
Honolulu, HI 96822

3/28/2019

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Mahalo,
Lauren Loor
Kahului, HI 96732

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Mahalo,
Shayda Marciel
Lihue, HI 96766

3/28/2019

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Mahalo,
Bryan Mih
Honolulu, HI 96822

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Mahalo,
Deborah Millikan
Honolulu, HI 96815

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Mahalo,
Cynthia Okazaki
Kaneohe, HI 96744

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Mahalo,
Diane Omura
Kula, HI 96790

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Mahalo,
Jun Shin
Honolulu, HI 96814

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Mahalo,
Alan Trinh
Hilo, HI 96720

3/28/2019

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Mahalo,
Leila Ventar
Lihue, HI 96766

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 1:05:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carissa Holley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Double Up Bucks. Please give more access to healthy foods for our families!

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 11:46:51 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keikilani Uehara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha! I am a constituent of Rep Eli and am in support of this bill. Mahalo nui!

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 12:21:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joan Pan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony in SUPPORT of SB390, Double Up bucks for SNAP, that will benefit the health of families, farmers, and our local economy. The successful passing of SB390 will also align Honolulu with a growing Double Up Food Bucks movement nationwide. Thank you.

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 3:15:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bonnie Oda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony. I am submitting this as a private citizen in favor of SB-390.

Healthy foods are often more expensive than mass-produced options. SB-390 will make fresh fruits, vegetables and other healthy, nutritional items affordable to those on limited budgets.

I support SB-390 because I believe that every person, regardless of income level, should be able to afford healthy choices. The money spent for our state's department of agriculture to develop and administer a healthy food incentive program should be viewed as an investment in the health and well-being of our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bonnie L. Oda

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 3:46:12 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeanelle Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

From: Chris Villanueva <gri1979@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 2:19 PM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: Testimony in Support, SB390, FIN 3/29

Dear Finance Testimony,

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I am in support of this measure. A program very similar to this has been working well in areas around our state and I believe that spreading this opportunity all Hawaii SNAP users is the right thing to do.

Unfortunately today there are a lot of obstacles to healthy eating. The high cost of fresh fruits and vegetables is definitely a challenge for a lot of Hawaii residents, especially those on a limited food budget. Our locally grown produce is fresh and healthy, and delicious, but getting a lot of produce can be cost prohibitive for people who are trying to make every SNAP dollar count when feeding their family. This bill helps promote healthy eating by ensuring that SNAP users can afford plenty of locally grown fruits and vegetables.

This bill is also an important way to support Hawaii agriculture. Because SNAP customers can take advantage of this program at their local grocery stores they'll have access to produce from a range of Hawaii farms all year round. This is good for Hawaii SNAP users, good for Hawaii farms, and good for Hawaii grocers, and I encourage you to pass this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Chris Villanueva
1753 Alewa Dr
Honolulu, HI 96817
gri1979@gmail.com

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 5:04:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Winslow	Hawaii Farmers Union	Support	No

Comments:

March 27, 2019

LATE



To: House Committee on Finance

Fr: Kristin Frost Albrecht, Executive Director
The Food Basket, Hawaii Island's Food Bank

Testimony in Strong Support of SB 390 SD2 HD1, Relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Incentives

Dear Chair Luke and Vice Chair Cullen and members of the Committee:

My name is Kristin Frost Albrecht and I am the Executive Director of The Food Basket Inc., Hawaii Island's Food Bank. Our mission is to "End hunger in Hawaii County". We strongly support this bill.

The Food Basket has been pioneering dollar for dollar matching programs for locally grown produce on the Big Island since 2014. We deeply believe the passage of this bill will provide much needed food cost relief for low income families and access to locally grown fresh vegetables and fruit that they otherwise couldn't afford.

We base our opinion on our success of the nutrition incentive programs we deliver that expand affordable access to Hawaii grown produce to beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as described below.

The Food Basket operates a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program called *Ho'olaha Ka Hua* "DA BOX" that provides a box of produce featuring 7-8 locally grown vegetables and fruit once a week, year round and island wide. We source produce from over 55 Big Island farmers and provide SNAP customers an incentive price that allows them to access locally grown produce that otherwise would be too expensive to purchase on a weekly basis. (SNAP stands for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program formerly known as food stamps.) With the nutrition incentive dollar for dollar matching program we've grown our program to nearly 200 customers a week, with over half of those being SNAP customers.

We have also completed a pilot project with KTA Superstores with our Double Up Food Bucks "DA BUX" program that provides a 50% discount on Big Island grown produce on the third week of the month at Point of Sale (POS) at the grocery store check-out for SNAP customers. In our 4 month pilot we saw the SNAP sales of eligible DA BUX produce increase nearly 20% on average - and with little to no advertising. Our DA BUX program is now again being implemented on the first and third weeks of the month at two KTA Superstores and will be expanded to all seven stores island-wide beginning April 3rd.

We also operate DA BUX at specific farmers markets on Hawaii Island - providing a \$1 for \$1 match on Hawaii Island grown produce to SNAP customers one day of the month.

Finally, we implement our DA BUX nutrition incentive program with our DA BUS Mobile Market program that delivers Hawai`i island-grown produce to residents in our isolated rural areas within the 12 USDA designated low income/low access (formerly known as ‘food deserts’) that make up half of Hawai`i Island. We provide a \$1 for \$1 match on local produce to SNAP customers of DA BUS as well.

During our initial 4 month pilot period in East Hawaii, our programs brought in \$40,000 on sales of Big Island grown produce with \$20,000 of that being federal nutrition incentive dollars going back into our local economy, benefitting our island farmers, low income residents and improving food security. Given both grocery store sales and farmers market sales were limited to one week and one day of the month respectively, expansion of this program statewide with multiple outlets and extended program implementation times, will be hugely beneficial for farmers and low income consumers.

Why we support this bill:

- Double Up Food Bucks helps Hawaii’s low-income families eat more fruits and vegetables while supporting Hawaiian farmers and growing local economies.
- It provides an immediate incentive for cash-strapped families to purchase quality fresh produce. For instance, if a family spends \$20 in their SNAP benefits at the farmers market, they get \$20 in Double Up Food Bucks to spend on locally grown fruits and vegetables. This means they bring home \$40 of healthy food for just \$20.
- Double Up Food Bucks is a win/win/win and provides great benefits to 3 sectors: Low-income families eat more healthy food, our farmers gain new customers and make more money, and more food dollars stay in our local economy. Each has a positive ripple effect of benefits.

Communities & Farm Income:

- Double Up helps our local family farmers and island communities.
- With this program, farmers gain new customers and make more money. This stimulates production and sends positive economic ripples throughout our local farms.
- Double Up Food Bucks DA BUX also provides an important market for beginning farmers, helping them grow their businesses.

- **Fact: Last year, our Double Up Food Bucks DA BUX program benefitted over 55 farmers on the Big Island. Our greatest success story is from Dimple Cheeks farm in Mt. View - Dimple Cheeks farm increased their sales 80% due to our DA BUX programs and allowed them to build 4 new green houses to expand their production.**

•

Economic Development:

- Double Up Food Bucks is a powerful way to stimulate our local economy.
- Doubling federal nutrition benefits on locally grown produce keeps more food dollars circulating in our community, creating jobs and economic opportunity.

The Public Health Benefits:

- Double Up Food Bucks is designed to meet families' immediate needs for healthy food while also supporting healthier communities by addressing the underlying causes of poor diet in both urban and rural communities.
- With Double Up, federal nutrition dollars work harder—simultaneously reducing hunger while supporting healthier diets for SNAP households, which can support long-term healthcare savings.

Hunger:

- Low-income families should not have to choose between being hungry and being healthy. With programs like Double Up Food Bucks, they don't have to make that choice.
- This is a practical, bipartisan approach to improving the health impact of the SNAP program in our state.

What our customers say about Double Up Food Bucks DA BUX:

"The DA BUX Double Up Food Bucks program has been the best food option for our family because it allows us to bring home and prepare twice as many healthy meals. I support state funding to expand the DA BUX Double Up Food Bucks program to connect with more families who want to prepare healthier meals.

Steve Motherwell (Big Island)

I LOVE DA BUX program as it helps us to purchase more fresh, healthy foods and experience new foods we wouldn't normally try.

Mahalo!

Laura (Big Island)

We respectfully ask your committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Kristin Frost Albrecht



To: The House Committee on Finance
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Friday, 3/29/19

In strong support of SB 390 SD2 HD1

Aloha FIN Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. On behalf of our 6,000 members and supporters, 350Hawaii.org **strongly supports SB390 SD2 HD1.**

This bill will help us keep money in the state and boost local farming. It will also incentivize SNAP participants to eat more nutritious fruits and vegetables – thereby promoting good health for families, as well as improving the health of our planet by avoiding the greenhouse gases that would have been emitted from shipping produce in.

Please pass SB390 SD2 HD1 so that we can reap all these benefits!

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 7:51:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Mulinix	Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 6:44:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John NAYLOR	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 6:55:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Teshima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

From: Kit Okimoto <kit@okimotocorp.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 7:11 PM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: Testimony in Support, SB390, FIN 3/29

Dear Finance Testimony,

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I am in support of this measure. A program very similar to this has been working well in areas around our state and I believe that spreading this opportunity all Hawaii SNAP users is the right thing to do.

Unfortunately today there are a lot of obstacles to healthy eating. The high cost of fresh fruits and vegetables is definitely a challenge for a lot of Hawaii residents, especially those on a limited food budget. Our locally grown produce is fresh and healthy, and delicious, but getting a lot of produce can be cost prohibitive for people who are trying to make every SNAP dollar count when feeding their family. This bill helps promote healthy eating by ensuring that SNAP users can afford plenty of locally grown fruits and vegetables.

This bill is also an important way to support Hawaii agriculture. Because SNAP customers can take advantage of this program at their local grocery stores they'll have access to produce from a range of Hawaii farms all year round. This is good for Hawaii SNAP users, good for Hawaii farms, and good for Hawaii grocers, and I encourage you to pass this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Kit Okimoto
85-936 Imipono St
Waianae, HI 96792
kit@okimotocorp.com

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 9:43:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Stover	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 9:56:41 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 10:00:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2019 10:02:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Hastings	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 10:04:38 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Helmut Klauer	A'a Li'i Farm	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 10:02:03 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cyrus Howe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 9:36:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary	Slow Money Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

This bill is good for local agriculture as it will help small farmers grow sales and hence, their businesses, helping Hawaii move toward Gov Ige's stated goals for food security.

This bill is good for SNAP recipients as it gives them an opportunity to improve their family's health and nutrition, improving health outcomes and potentially reducing health care costs. Feeding children in poverty more nutritious and fresh food can have a generational impact and move them toward a life of greater independence.

Please support SB390

Aloha,

Mary Spadaro

Volunteer Director, Slow Money Hawaii

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 8:56:45 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

STRONG SUPPORT

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 8:48:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 8:15:40 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Timothy Johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 6:23:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jo Kimm	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 6:11:34 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Genevieve N Neumann	Lokoea Farms	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 5:25:17 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suellen Barton	Maui Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 12:01:12 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara L. George	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORT! This bill would achieve 2 wins by doubling the value of SNAP (food stamps) when they are used to purchase locally-grown produce: incentives for SNAP users to purchase and eat healthier foods; support for locally-grown food.

LATE

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 10:37:43 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sunny Savage-Luskin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-390-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 2:37:18 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	HFUU	Support	No

Comments: