



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3807
Fax: (808) 586-2536
Web: energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Tuesday, March 2, 2021
9:35 A.M.

House conference room via videoconference

Comments in consideration of
SB 1311 SD1
RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS.

Chairs Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on SB 1311 SD1, which requires the department of education to establish food waste and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the sustainable schools initiative including annual reports to the legislature.

SB 1311 SD1 aligns with the State's efforts to expand strategies and mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the reduction of energy use, adoption of renewable energy, and control of air pollution among all agencies, departments, industries, and sectors, including transportation. Emissions from ground transportation account for the largest share of energy sector emissions in the state accounting for over 4 million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents per the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Inventory. For Hawaii to meet its statutory target "to sequester more greenhouse gases than emitted as soon as practicable but no later than 2045", policies that support the adoption of cleaner transportation options are necessary and tremendously important.

In 2020 the State of Hawaii along with 14 other states and the District of Columbia were signatories of the Multi-State Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero Emission Vehicle Memorandum of Understanding (MDHD ZEV MOU). The signatories who

represent 50% of the U.S. economy agreed to strive to make sales of all new medium- and heavy-duty vehicles in their jurisdictions zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) by no later than 2050. In order to ensure adequate progress toward the 2050 goal, the Signatory States strive to make at least 30 percent of all new medium- and heavy-duty vehicle sales in their jurisdictions ZEVs by no later than 2030.

SB1311 SD1 addresses an important action within the State's power that will advance the goals of the MDHD ZEV MOU. Converting school buses to ZEVs sends a clear signal to the market on Hawaii's commitment to the decarbonization of the ground transportation sector. Per the ICCT October 2020 report "RACE TO ZERO: How manufacturers are positioned for zero emission commercial trucks and buses in North America"¹ battery electric school busses are now available in the market to support a transition of that ground transportation sector. In 2018 Blue Bird was the first legacy OEM to offer a fully electric school bus in the market. Since then Thomas Built Buses (Daimler) and IC Bus (Navistar) have introduced battery-electric busses. Zero-emission vehicle manufacturers GreenPower offers the Synapse 72 School Bus and Lion Electric has three models (LionA, LionC, LionD) covering the various types of school buses.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

¹ <https://theicct.org/sites/default/files/publications/Canada-race-to-zero-EN-oct2020.pdf>



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/02/2021

Time: 09:35 AM

Location: Via Videoconference

Committee: Senate Judiciary

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 1311, SD1 RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the department of education to establish food waste and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the sustainable schools initiative. Requires annual reports to the legislature. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) offers comments on SB 1311, SD1.

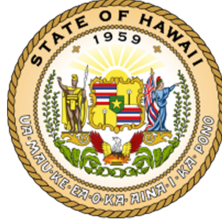
While the Department supports setting more comprehensive goals to achieving the aims of the Sustainable Schools Initiative, significant financing will be required for successful implementation of the program. This is especially true to achieve the proposed targets related to net-zero energy consumption, zero-emissions vehicles, locally sourcing school meals, and food waste outlined in this measure.

Currently, the Department receives no funding from the legislature for the Sustainable Schools Initiative pursuant to Hawaii revised Statutes, Section 302A-1510 and \$300,000 for the Resource Recovery Program pursuant to Act 207, SLH 2018. The important pursuits in these statutes are vital to effectively meeting the goal of creating more sustainable environments at Department campuses and the Department appreciates the legislature's commitment to further expanding sustainability efforts.

The Department urges the legislature to consider the provision of funding for the Department in ensuring the successful implementation of the important goals in existing law and those proposed in this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.



Testimony on behalf of the
Hawai'i State Youth Commission

IN SUPPORT OF SB1311

March 2, 2021

To: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Jarett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Taylor Quanan
And Commissioners of the Hawai'i State Youth Commission

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate,

My name is Taylor Quanan and I am one of fifteen Hawai'i State Youth Commissioners. The Hawai'i State Youth Commission wholeheartedly supports SB1311 to sustain generations of dreamers, innovators, and achievers.

Hawai'i is regarded as the Mesopotamia of the Pacific and has the potential to sustainably nourish our children. The Commission acknowledges the urgency to innovate policies to achieve sustainable schools. Hawai'i needs an evolving education to meet the needs of today without compromising the youth of tomorrow. This bill nurtures discussions of policy to create a conscious educational environment.

The Hawai'i State Youth Commission is equipped to work with our elected officials, the Department of Education, and other organizations to create and expand curriculum to achieve food sovereignty.

The health of the youth direly depends on the health of Hawai'i.

Mahalo nui loa,
Taylor Quanan

SB-1311-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2021 6:47:23 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dyson Chee	Testifying for Hawai'i Youth Climate Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice-chair Keohokalole, and members of the JDC Committee,

My name is Dyson Chee, I am 18 years old, and I am submitting written testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Youth Climate Coalition (HYCC) in support of SB1311.

HYCC is a youth-led, youth-founded organization dedicated to taking on the climate crisis through just and equitable means. It is critical that we set goals for food and transportation if we are to better our education system into one that is sustainable. Thankfully, teachers are beginning to input the importance of climate action into their classes, yet most schools are host to unsustainable practices. Because all of our members are youth, many of them have ongoing efforts to make their schools sustainable, and SB1311 would truly recognize their efforts by assisting their goals. We hope that this committee will pass SB1311, and mahalo for considering our testimony.

Sincerely,

Dyson Chee

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association

PO BOX 6310

Hilo, HI 96720

hawaiidriveelectric@gmail.com



February 26, 2021

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee On Judiciary,

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association is in SUPPORT of SB1311 SD 1 (RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS).

The electrification of our school buses will not only enable our state to achieve its decarbonization goals more aggressively, but it will also allow our keiki to not be exposed to unhealthy exhaust associated with internal combustion engine vehicles.

It is well-established that diesel exhaust is filled with particles and gases that are toxic and carcinogenic¹ and that air pollution associated with the burning of fossil fuel contributes to significant death across the globe². Today's fleet of school transportation exposes our kids to these dangerous exhaust fumes as they wait for, board, ride, and unboard these buses. It behooves us to stop exposing our young bus riders and bus drivers to this air pollution and to do so with urgency.

Electric buses will also allow for a lower total-cost-of-ownership for bus fleet operators. These buses have moving parts and is easier to maintain, compared to internal combustion engine buses. In the long-run, electric buses are more economical to operate, compared to their diesel counterparts³. There are other counties in the nation that have already transitioned their school bus fleet or are in the process of doing so⁴ - we will be in good company as we make our transition.

The electrification of our school buses is inevitable – it will ultimately happen. However, there is much to gain by accelerating the transformation of our fleet, particularly by our school children.

Please support **SB1311 SD 1**.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Noel Morin - President

Hawaii EV Association is a grassroots non-profit group representing electric vehicle owners in Hawaii. Our mission is to accelerate the electrification of transportation through consumer education, policy advocacy, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure expansion. For more information, please visit hawaiiev.org.

¹ Diesel Exhaust and Cancer - cancer.org/cancer/cancer-causes/diesel-exhaust-and-cancer.html

² Fossil Fuels Kill Nearly 9 Million Annually, More Than Twice Previous Estimate, Study Finds - ecowatch.com/fossil-fuels-air-pollution-deaths-2650416201.html?rebellitem=1#rebellitem1

³ Electric buses for mass transit seen as cost effective - publicpower.org//periodical/article/electric-buses-mass-transit-seen-cost-effective

⁴ Miami-Dade Starts Transition to Electric School Bus Fleet - cleantechnica.com/2021/01/18/miami-dade-starts-transition-to-electric-school-bus-fleet/

TESTIMONY OF PLANIT ENVIRONMENTAL VISION + BRANDING
IN REGARD TO SB1311,
RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS TO BE HEARD BY SENATE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021 9:35AM

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Daniela Torres, and I am an account manager for PlanIt, an environmental vision and branding agency located in Honolulu, Hawai'i. We work with businesses that are sustainable but need help with content and messaging as well as businesses which would like to become sustainable. Many of our clients are local businesses with keiki in school, and while they are working hard to change the way businesses operate, there is a major roadblock in education when it comes to an individual's environmental impact- and that needs to start at a young age in school. It is crucial to support the sustainable school's initiative outlined in SB1311 for the future of our keiki, the environment, and the resiliency of our islands. We need to provide the keiki with every possibility opportunity, but maintain the deep roots that come from āina-based knowledge and respect.

The elements of the Sustainable Schools initiative are not only feasible, but already underway. While COVID-19 has provided a major set back due to regulation from the DOH and state funding, this is a temporary set back and we will recover, here and everywhere else. It is also important to set metrics in place for the DOE so that they have goals and a clear path that will not falter with the changing of staff. Working alongside HIDOE, I have seen their push towards decreasing waste, increasing local food use, and incorporating more environmental elements, such as school gardens and outdoor learning spaces. Take Flight **supports** SB1311.

Setting 60 percent local food goals can increase food security, create local jobs, support the growth of local agriculture, and decrease Hawai'i's carbon footprint.

Prior to COVID-19, HIDOE was on track for 40 percent local food by 2024 and upon discussion with Dexter Kisha, the previous HIDOE Farm to School Coordinator whose position has still not been filled, a goal of 60 percent local produce and 60 percent local animal proteins is entirely achievable. As an island, we are currently importing roughly 90%¹ of the foods we consume as a whole at a cost of approximately \$3 billion, leaving our islands and schools vulnerable, should

¹ http://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/op/spb/INCREASED_FOOD_SECURITY_AND_FOOD_SELF_SUFFICIENCY_STRATEGY.pdf

an unpredictable shipping problem occur. HIDOE, however, had already been incorporating 30 percent local ingredients into school meals and working with farmers statewide to supply more food items based upon FDA food requirements, increasing both jobs and food security. If they could do it previously, they will be able to do it again.

The goals of HIDOE are in line with an overall growing trend in the federal DOE that shares a push towards local foods. According to the USDA, they already “encourage a push for school districts to use locally-produced foods in school meals and to use "farm-to-school" activities to spark students' interest in trying new foods.” They even established an official Farm to School Grant Program² as well as a grant program to help schools purchase kitchen equipment to help them provide healthier school meals. Hawai’i is one of the only states that has a growing season of 365 days/year and having this advantage truly allows for HIDOE to focus on local food production.

Setting local food production goals for proteins and produce means that both local farmers and fisherman can benefit. Currently, HIDOE offers no seafood options, but in their quest for local foods and the knowledge that seafood is more readily available than any other protein source, they are already testing seafood dishes. Additionally, 100% of HIDOE’s had always been (prior to COVID-19 restrictions) fresh beef products, which are already locally produced, so a shift from proteins like chicken to seafood could allow HIDOE to easily hit a 60 percent target.

There is a large environmental impact attached to food imports, and low prices provided through massive companies abroad undercut the prices of local farmers. By making these shifts to more local foods through HIDOE, we are paving the path for increased local food production and support overall for the entire state. Additionally, by adding this requirement we are creating an increased demand for local produce which will further stimulate the local farming economy, and with economies of scale, should drive down prices.

There is a direct correlation between local ingredients, fresh food, and local recipes, and overall waste reduction.

In 2018, Mililani Schools launched a pilot program that analyzed the effects of changing ingredients and recipes on waste reduction. Traditionally, DOE schools serve prepackaged meals with minimal prep, but with food waste rates so high, Mililani wanted to test “scratch cook,” or, cooking with fresh ingredients, in the schools to see how the change would impact waste. After a food waste audit was conducted, the research showed that Mililani high school students wasted 19 percent of their meal daily, while students at Mililani Uka elementary schools wasted 35 percent, and Mililani Waena Elementary School wasted 32 percent. When the scratch cooking program was tested, the percentages of food changed from 60 percent processed to 60 percent scratch cooking, with an increase from 20 percent to 40 percent local ingredients. These menu

² <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/farm-school-grant-program>

changes reflected in a 40 percent waste reduction overall. To measure scratch cooking meals directly against processed meals within the same time period, styles of food were interspersed throughout the week. The audit during this time revealed that students threw away 9–21 percent less food on days they were served freshly prepared meals.

Making shifts to local ingredients and fresh foods additionally provides an opportunity for schools to teach students about nutrition, local agriculture, Hawaiian culture, food waste, plant life cycles, and more.

A zero emissions goal for all school transportation is feasible and essential to decrease our dependency on oil and move towards a net zero carbon state.

As a state, we have some of the highest fuel costs in the country. These costs are due to the distance oil must travel to Hawaii, a state that produces NO fossil fuels, but endless renewable energy sources- sun, wind, hydro, and geothermal. It only makes sense as a community to use the energy sources we have been provided with, which happen to also cause little to no harm in comparison to fossil fuels. School buses only last so long, so requiring that any new school buses purchased are electric, will not lead to any wasted vehicles, and will not be an extraordinary ask. Ultimately, these buses will save the schools money, which is something essential for a state operating at a \$5 billion deficit. Additionally, buses emit a lot more hazardous fumes than cars due to their size and the amount of fuel used. Eliminating gasoline-powered buses will also provide cleaner air for us to breathe.

It is only fitting that the school transportation move to zero emissions when the buildings have already set the target of net zero energy, and that happened six years ago.

Integration of sustainability into curriculum allows for more creative freedom for teachers, Hawaiian place-based learning, project-based learning, increased environmental awareness, and increased student engagement.

In 2010, the Hawai'i Farm to School Hui was formed and in 2017 it became a part of Hawai'i Public Health Institute.³ This hui provides resources to HIDOE schools including garden safety, foodservice tips, curriculum ideas, Āina Pono, and the Garden to Cafeteria Program. While this Hui is already there, it is underutilized as a whole and requires more support from a state level to reach its full potential and provide what it can for all HIDOE schools.

This bill will give that further support and resources for the hui, students and teachers, and provides aid to those looking for a way to start these changes.

³ <https://www.hiphi.org/farmentoschool/>

According to the Green Schools Alliance,⁴ “students spend the majority of their day in a school building during their most crucial developmental years. [...] The journey to that goal begins with educating students in a healthy and sustainable environment.” The underlying goal for this bill is to make all DOE schools Net Zero Energy Green Schools by 2035, a first attempt of its kind in the nation. As defined by USGBC Center for Green Schools, “All green schools share three common goals: reduced environmental impact, increased health and well-being, increased environmental and sustainability literacy for all graduates.”⁵ Our children are already more environmentally aware than many adults and it is a topic amongst the youth thanks to global youth leaders such as Greta Thunberg and local leaders such as Hawaii Youth Climate Coalition. Students around the world are demanding sustainability education in schools and working with their schools and student body to find ways to decrease their school’s environmental footprint.

PlanIt **supports** SB1311 and we urge these committees to pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Daniela Torres
PlanIt Environmental Vision + Branding

⁴ <https://www.greenschoolsalliance.org/home>

⁵ <https://www.centerforgreenschools.org/what-green-school>



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Tuesday, March 2, 2021 — 9:35 a.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports SB 1311 SD 1, Relating to Sustainable Schools

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

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

Ulupono supports SB 1311 SD 1, which requires the Department of Education (DOE) to establish food waste and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the Sustainable Schools Initiative.

Ulupono supports the State's efforts to increase energy efficiencies, clean transportation, and local food procurement. The State currently maintains goals for 100% clean energy by 2045 and doubling local food production by 2030. Each state department and agency should find ways to lead by example in meeting these sustainable goals. The DOE can make a strong impact for the State by making these statements and policies a reality through the Sustainable Schools Initiative. The DOE can also benefit from teaching our keiki about the importance of clean energy and transportation and local food production, creating a more resilient future for all.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS

John Bickel, President
Alan Burdick, Vice President
Dave Nagajji, Treasurer
Doug Pyle, Secretary

DIRECTORS

Melodie Aduja
Juliet Begley
Stephanie Fitzpatrick
Jan Lubin
John Miller
Jenny Nomura
Stephen O'Harrow
Lyn Pyle

MAILING ADDRESS

Bill South
Zahava Zaidoff
P.O. Box 23404
Honolulu
Hawaii 96823

February 28, 2021

TO: Chair Rhoads and members of JDC Committee

RE: SB 1311 SD1 Relating to Sustainable Schools

Support for hearing on March 2

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support SB 1311 SD1 as it would require the Department of Education to establish food waste and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the Sustainable Schools Initiative.

Both sustainable food programs and reduction of the carbon footprint are among the responsible things to do to leave the next generation a livable planet.

Thank you for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,
John Bickel, President





SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

March 2, 2021, 9:35 A.M.

Video Conference

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1311 SD1

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee:

Blue Planet Foundation **supports SB 1311 SD1**, which sets goals for the Department of Education to locally source food in school meals and transition to zero-emission vehicles for school-related transportation as part of the Sustainable Schools Initiative.

Blue Planet Foundation is a Hawai'i-based nonprofit organization. We work to clear the path for local, clean, renewable power. Through our advocacy for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean transportation, we seek to make our communities stronger, our energy more secure, our environment healthier, and our economy more robust.

Adding additional goals for clean transportation and local food sourcing can create healthier communities and reduce our persistent, costly, and carbon-intensive reliance on imported fossil fuels to power our school vehicles and imported food to feed our keiki. What's more, by adding these goals to the Sustainable Schools Initiative's existing target of achieving net-zero energy use, SB 1311 encourages the state government to lead by example in our transition to a more resilient future. In turn, students are offered valuable lessons about health, culture, and the climate impacts of our food and transportation choices.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-1311-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2021 6:39:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kawaiolaakealii Kili Kapuni	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to support this bill because we need to instill sustainability at all levels of our community. It's the only way we can reach true success.

SB-1311-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2021 6:48:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lucy Fagan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Keohokaloe, and members of the JDC Comittee,

My name is Lucy Fagan and I am a 17 year old public school student living in Kaimuki. I would like to voice my support for SB1311 that would help make our schools more sustainable.

School is a large part of my life, and almost any other youths. Choosing to make school's more sustainable would be a huge step of support for local agriculture, our environment, and help students feel good about their breakfasts and lunches, something they often have no say over. Taking action to adress our climate crisis and building resillency is going to be crucial. If COVID-19 has taught us anything, it is that we need to be prepared and ready for anything to come. I have a little sister who is three years old, and I would love to know that her schools are working to be more sustainable.

Thank you for looking out for me and my peers future.

SB-1311-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2021 7:25:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tyler Jessica Levine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Right now we as a human species are at a crossroads we have the choice to continue scarring the earth or take care of the earth planting seeds of sustainability for a future of hope. I believe that sustainable schools are a beautiful start as each school signifies the living legacy of the seeds of our future, the youth, the keiki o ka ania. We the children are the seeds of the future who deserved to be nourished with fresh locally grown goodness and the true education of honoring our earth, through the teaching of gardens, composting, zero-waste, and more.

When I envision a sustainable school I see an ecosystem a circular economy a sustainable food system. I see a growing forest of biodiversity and resilience. When I envision sustainable schools I see practices from my former elementary school Kaohao public charter school being applied, including vermicomposting, aquaponics, static aerated composting, and more.

Imagine an ecosystem, diseased, polluted, and heavily extracted. The land is bare and lifeless. Mountains of plastic dominate the dry desert. No more trees or vegetation of any kind. No more people that once roamed the land, hunting, fishing, farming, making a healthy living off the abundance of nature. The sun beats down on the landscape. Muddy and congested rivers bring plastics and fertilizers from the factories of humanity. The faint melody of the wind carries with it, the sound of the past and the desolation and loss of the present.

How do you even begin healing this ecosystem that once teemed with life? How can we even envision it. The solution does not lie in replanting the trees and reintroducing the flora and fauna of the past. Not in the toxic mountains or in the bare cracked Earth. Nothing can survive in this landscape for long. And yet that is the pattern of humanity, instating laws and regulations to hold back the resentment and fear that forever mark people's lives. No law will ever solve climate injustice. People must heal within themselves before all else. What the goal should really be is targeting the foundation, the roots, the seeds. We need to address education. We need to address the prevailing environment that people are right now growing up in, right now!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



LATE

HIPHI Board

*Kilikina Mahi, MBA
Chair
KM Consulting LLC*

*Michael Robinson, MBA, MA
Immediate Past Chair
Hawaii Pacific Health*

*JoAnn Tsark, MPH
Secretary
John A. Burns School of
Medicine, Native Hawaiian
Research Office*

*Debbie Erskine
Treasurer
Kamehameha Schools*

*Keshia Adolpho, LCSW
Molokai Community Health
Center*

*Keawe'aimoku
Kaholokula, PhD
John A. Burns School of
Medicine, Department of
Native Hawaiian Health*

*Mark Levin, JD
William S. Richardson School
of Law*

*Rachel Novotny, PhD, RDN,
LD
University of Hawaii at
Mānoa, College of Tropical
Agriculture and Human
Resources*

*May Okihiro, MD, MS
John A. Burns School of
Medicine, Department of
Pediatrics*

*Misty Pacheco, DrPH
University of Hawaii at Hilo,
Department of Kinesiology
and Exercise Sciences*

*Garret Sugai
Kaiser Permanente*

*Catherine Taschner, JD
McCorriston Miller Mukai
MacKinnon LLP*

Date: March 1, 2021
To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary
From: Lydi Bernal, Hawaii'i Farm to School Hui Coordinator
Re: SUPPORT for SB1311 SD1, Relating to Sustainable Schools
Hearing: March 2, 2021 at 9:35am Via Videoconference

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of SB1311 SD1**, which requires the department of education to source 60% of the animal protein and produce for school meals locally by 2035, to establish zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the sustainable schools initiative, and to report annually to the legislature.

Hawaii'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) works to advance policy and systems change to reduce disparities and improve the health of Hawaii'i residents. HIPHI is home to and testifies here on behalf of the Obesity Prevention Task Forceⁱ and the Hawaii'i Farm to School Huiⁱⁱ, which **collectively represent over 60 organizations from across the islands.**

Increased procurement of locally-grown foods for consumption by Hawaii's students will have a positive impact on the health of children and youth and the development of sustainable food systems in Hawaii'i. We appreciate the addition of food as part of the vision and plan for sustainable schools.

We also affirm the **critical importance of curricular integration** of sustainability concepts and practices, as a foundation for Hawaii's social, economic, and environmental recovery and resiliency.

Thank you for your strong support of sustainable schools through farm to school!

Me Ke Aloha,
Lydi Bernal
Hawaii'i Farm to School Hui Coordinator

ⁱ Created by the legislature in 2012, the **Obesity Prevention Task Force** comprises of over 40 statewide organizations, and works to make recommendations to reshape Hawaii's school, work, community, and health care environments, making healthier lifestyles obtainable for all Hawaii'i residents.

ⁱⁱ Founded in 2010, the **Hawaii'i Farm to School Hui** is a statewide network comprising five island-level networks, community organizations, schools, state agencies, and other food systems stakeholders with a collective mission to strengthen Hawaii's farm to school movement. The three pillars of successful farm to school programs are: 1) school gardens and on-campus farms, 2) education, and 3) school food improvements through local procurement.

LATE

SB-1311-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2021 4:08:09 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

Please support SB1311. Schools generate an incredible amount of food waste.

Thank you,

Andrea Quinn