SOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION P.O. BOX 2360 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96804

Date: 02/10/2014

Committee: House Education

Department:	Education
Person Testifying:	Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education
Title of Bill:	HB 2008 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.
Purpose of Bill:	Appropriates funds to the Department of Education to operate and implement the Future Farmers of America Program. Effective July 1, 2014.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports HB 2008 and appreciates the continued program support provided by the Legislature for the Future Farmers of America Program to educate and encourage youth to pursue agricultural careers.

This measure provides a year 2 appropriation to assist with school-level program implementation in school year 2014-15 as we would not have the means to do so under our budget appropriation. Respectfully, the Department would also like to ensure that HB 2008 would not replace or adversely impact priorities set forth in the Department's Supplemental Budget.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 10, 2014 8:31 AM
То:	EDNtestimony
Cc:	tabalos@hsta.org
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB2008 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

HB2008

Submitted on: 2/10/2014 Testimony for EDN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanya Abalos-Arceneaux	HSTA	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.



National FFA Center 6060 FFA Drive P.O. Box 68960 Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960 Phone: 317-802-6060 Fax: 317-802-6061

NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION

February 9, 2014

Chairman Takumi and distinguished members of the House Education Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2008. It is a privilege for the National FFA Organization to support the intent and purpose of this bill. The National FFA Organization stands with measures across the US that provide needed additional funding for agricultural education and FFA. My sincere thanks to the authors of this bill for taking notice of a vital need that supports ag education and career and technical education in Hawaii.

The National FFA Organization sees value in this bill to help support agriculture education programs directly at the local level. Hawaii ag ed programs have a systematic and long-standing need for direct monies to support program building at the local level. The National FFA Organization stands in support of discretionary dollars flowing to the local level to support program growth, curriculum enhancement, and teacher professional development.

One of the core tenants of ag education is the student supervised agricultural experience (SAE). The National FFA Organization supports HB2008 with hope that monies can be directed to local ag educators and their schools to grow SAE and work-based learning as an intracurricular component of the classroom and overall ag ed program. Furthermore, the National FFA Organization will continue to provide direct, on-site professional development for Hawaii agricultural educators at no charge. Successful passage of legislation such as HB2008 provides added incentive for strong professional development as requested by local teachers and in concert with Hawaii Department of Education officials.

Thank you for your time and consideration of HB2008.

Ben Meyer

Ben Meyer National FFA Organization Western US LPS Specialist

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 09, 2014 11:15 AM
То:	EDNtestimony
Cc:	kellensmith@placeshawaii.org
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2008 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

HB2008

Submitted on: 2/9/2014 Testimony for EDN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kellen Smith	University of Hawai'i PALS and PLACES	Support	No

Comments: Aloha House Committee on Education, I support this bill. I work for a project, place-based learning organization that regularly partners with the agriculture teacher at Nanakuli High School. One of the complaints from ag teachers across the state is that there are not funds available for schools to enter the Future Farmers of America Program. With an annual budget of \$1200 for the ag program at Nanakuli High, \$800 of it would go to FFA registration, leaving very little for seeds, tools, soil ammendments, or various other supplies needed to sustain a decent ag program. I know that this particular school we get involved again in FFA if is was financially feasible for them. Thank you for your time. Malama Pono, Kellen Smith

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

February 10, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

TESTIMONY ON HB 2008 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 309 2:00 PM

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,832 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

HFBF strongly supports HB 2008, which appropriates funds to the Department of Education to support FFA Program.

Hawaii's FFA program is vitally important to the future of agriculture in Hawaii. The passion and direct interaction of teachers, volunteer farmers and ranchers with young people will help grow and perpetuate the ranks of the next generation of farmers and ranchers. Programs such as the FFA address sustainability on social, economic and environmental levels. The FFA program has a proven track record of not only exposing and educating young people to positive, hands on experience in agricultural production, but is also a program that instills leadership and life skills in a wide variety of projects.

It is clear that we must strongly support agricultural education for our young people if we are to increase Hawai`i's long-term resilience and sustainability.

Please support HB 2008 as a continuing step towards rebuilding the vitality of the FFA program.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



4 Ag Hawai'i

Hawai'i Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association

Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools

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

Malama Kaua'i

Maui School Garden Network

Ulupono Initiative

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION Monday, February 10, 2014 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 309

The Local Food Coalition <u>Strongly Supports</u> HB 2008, Relating to Agriculture

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am general partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Honolulu-based impact investment firm, which is working to improve the quality of life for Hawai'i residents by investing in projects that create more locally grown food, increase renewable energy and reduce/recycle waste. We are representing on behalf of the Local Food Coalition, which is an organization comprising farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawai'i's food supply.

The Local Food Coalition <u>strongly supports</u> **HB 2008**, which requests a state budget appropriation to help build the next generation of Hawai'i agriculture leaders by helping to fund Future Farmers of America (FFA) and their support for careers in agriculture. We ask that the legislature consider similar support for school garden programs that nurture our youngest students with experienced-based learning and complements the FFA agricultural education.

Ulupono recognizes the vital importance of FFA with their long history of educating and training the sustainable farmers and ranchers of our community. FFA helps address sustainability on social, economic and environmental levels as they provide hands-on help in providing the next generation with the practical tools they need to succeed. Supporting FFA will help revitalize local agriculture by providing the experience and skills needed to take on the rigorous but rewarding work faced by farmers and ranchers in Hawai'i.

As part of the Local Food Coalition, Ulupono is very pleased to support proposals designed to help grow more local food. Our group's members came together last year with one common goal: to promote the local production of food in a sustainable and economically sound manner to benefit Hawai'i's people through the revitalization and expansion of our state's agricultural sector. This year the Coalition is continuing to pursue this comprehensive approach because it is the most effective way for Hawai'i to develop its resources for diversified food production, as well as lessen its dependence on importing that which can be grown, raised and processed locally.

The Coalition includes the Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation, the Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council, Inc., Hawai'i Famers' Union United, 4 Ag Hawai'i, the Hawai'i Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association, the Kohala Center, Hawai'i Food Manufacturers Association, Hawai'i Food Industry Association, Hawai'i

The Local Food Coalition Supports All Forms of Agriculture.

Local Food Coalition Testimony – Strong Support for HB 748 "Local Food Bonds" Page 2

Association of Independent Schools, Maui School Garden Network, Malama Kaua'i, and Ulupono Initiative.

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

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta General Partner Ulupono Initiative

Email: communications@ulupono.com

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Saturday, February 08, 2014 10:03 PM
То:	EDNtestimony
Cc:	nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB2008 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

HB2008

Submitted on: 2/8/2014 Testimony for EDN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Nancy Redfeather	The Kohala Center	Comments Only	No	

Comments: I propose an amendment that creates a Report to the Legislature to be submitted not less than 20 days before the Session begins in 2015. How was this funding spent? What was last year's funding spent on? Last year, many of the Teachers didn't have enough funds (only 7 programs left in the State) to take their students to State Conference. The DOE Weighted Student Formula is not recommended to distribute these funds, and a report on how the funds were used is essntial. FFA needs at least a PTT position to administrate the funding correctly.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 07, 2014 3:52 PM
То:	EDNtestimony
Cc:	mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB2008 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

HB2008

Submitted on: 2/7/2014 Testimony for EDN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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