

SCR109

Testimony

Measure Title: DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR AS "FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH" IN HAWAII TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVES IN HAWAII'S SCHOOLS.

Report Title: Farm to Table Month; October

Description:

Companion:

Package: Local Food Caucus, Keiki Caucus

Current Referral: HEA

Introducer(s): CHUN OAKLAND, HARIMOTO, RUDERMAN, Baker, Keith-Agaran, Kim, Shimabukuro, L. Thielen, Wakai

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



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

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS

April 2, 2015
2:00 P.M.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 109

Chairperson Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

Thank for the opportunity to testify on Senate Concurrent Resolution 109 that designates the month of October of each year as "Farm to School Month" in Hawaii to strengthen and support farm to school initiatives in Hawaii's schools. The Department supports this measure.

The Department believes in the importance of providing Hawaii's youth with the education and exposure to become agriculturally literate. Creating a connection between food and the farm from which it came is vital for students to appreciate the importance of agriculture within their own lives. Furthermore, experiences across the nation have shown that farm to school initiatives also result in increased student health and nutrition. By mirroring the national designation of "Farm to School Month" by the United States House of Representatives, Hawaii is expressing its support of greater student health and increased agricultural literacy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 04/02/2015

Time: 02:00 PM

Location: 224

Committee: Senate Higher Education and
the Arts

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 109 DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EACH
YEAR AS "FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH" IN HAWAII TO
STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVES IN
HAWAII'S SCHOOLS.

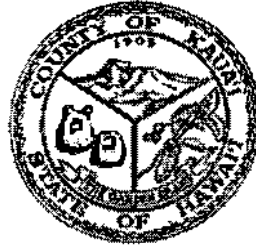
**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Department of Education supports SCR 109, designating October as "Farm to School" month. The initiatives relating to agriculture and food recognizes and strengthen the connection between fresh produce, healthy choices, and long-term benefits for our students.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

COUNTY COUNCIL
Mel Rapozo, Chair
Ross Kagawa, Vice Chair
Mason K. Chock
Gary L. Hooser
Arryl Kaneshiro
KipuKai Kuali'i
JoAnn A. Yukimura



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Ricky Watanabe, County Clerk
Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone (808) 241-4188
Fax (808) 241-6349
Email cokcouncil@kauai.gov

Council Services Division
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209
Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii 96766

March 31, 2015

**TESTIMONY OF JOANN A. YUKIMURA
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON**

**SCR 109, DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR AS
"FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH" IN HAWAII TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT
FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVES IN HAWAII'S SCHOOLS**

Senate Committee on Higher Education and The Arts

Thursday, April 2, 2015

2:00 p.m.

Conference Room 224

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of SCR 109, Designating the Month of October of Each Year As "Farm To School Month" In Hawaii To Strengthen and Support Farm To School Initiatives In Hawaii's Schools. My testimony is submitted in my capacity as a Councilmember of the Kauai County Council.

Designation of the month of October as "Farm to School Month" in Hawaii builds awareness of the program's initiatives in our schools. It empowers children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy and contributing to the community.

For the reasons stated above, I strongly encourage the Senate Committee on Higher Education and The Arts to support this measure. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

JOANN A. YUKIMURA
Councilmember, Kauai County Council

AO:cy



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

April 2, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION & THE ARTS

TESTIMONY ON SCR 109
DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR AS "FARM TO SCHOOL
MONTH" IN HAWAII TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL
INITIATIVES IN HAWAII'S SCHOOLS

Room 224
2:00 PM

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,932 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.

Hawaii Farm Bureau is in strong support of designating October as "Farm to School Month in Hawaii"

HFB believes that learning where food comes from is an important part of our children's education. Agriculture education involves more than just learning the basics of food production, it provides the opportunity for our children to understand and appreciate the importance of agriculture.

HFB supports programs and initiatives such as Farm to School programs because they help to educate and reconnect our children with agriculture. Through Farm to School programs, our children will gain an understanding and appreciation for agriculture which will result in healthier eating habits, stronger support for Hawaii's agriculture industry and will contribute to Hawaii's food security.

We still have a long way to go to educate our children about agriculture. This initiative is another tool that will help in the education process. It is an investment to having well informed consumers and supporters of Hawaii's agricultural industry in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui



Coordinated through The Kohala Center

TESTIMONY
Senate Committee on
Higher Education and the Arts
April 2, 2015, 2:00 p.m.

Kaua'i

Tiana Kamen
Farm to Keiki Preschool Program

Keone Kealoha
*Mālama Kaua'i
Kaua'i School Garden Network*

O'ahu

Hunter Heavilin
O'ahu Farm to School Network

Natalie McKinney
Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation

Debbie Millikan
Iolani School

Elysa Ermatinger
Hoa 'Āina O Makaha

Mahealani Matsuzaki
*Kamehameha Schools
'Āina-Based Education*

Terri Langley
MA'O Organic Farms

Jayne Grzebik
*University of Hawai'i
Master Gardeners*

Moloka'i

Harmonee Williams
*Sustainable Moloka'i
Moloka'i School Garden Network*

Mauī & Lana'i

Lehn Huff
Mauī & Lana'i School Garden Network

Nio Kindla & Kirk Surry
Grow Some Good

Hawai'i Island

Nancy Redfeather & Donna Mitts
*The Kohala Center
Hawai'i Island School Garden Network*

Statewide

Jennifer Ryan & Leimomi Dierks
Hawai'i Department of Health

Dexter Kishida
Hawai'i Department of Education, SFSB

Jennifer Dang
Hawai'i Department of Education, HCNP

Lillian Coltin
Hawai'i Department of Education

Andrea Snow
FoodCorps

Pacific Region

Dr. Koh Ming Wei
Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

SCR109: DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR AS "FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH" IN HAWAII TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVES IN HAWAII'S SCHOOLS.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui **strongly supports SCR109**, which establishes October as Farm to School Month in Hawai'i.

Formed in 2010, the Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui is a statewide network comprised of five island-level networks, along with representatives of the Hawai'i Departments of Education and Health, whose mission is to strengthen Hawai'i's statewide farm to school and school garden movement.

National Farm to School Month was designated by Congress in 2010 to demonstrate the growing importance of farm to school programs as a means to improve child nutrition, support local economies, and educate children about the origins of food.

The designation of October as Farm to School Month in Hawai'i is an important action by the Hawai'i State Legislature in recognition of the power of farm to school as a catalyst for positive change in our state. This designation provides a significant opportunity to raise awareness, interest, and participation in Hawai'i's growing farm to school and school garden movement among schools, families, and communities, including businesses and government entities.

Examples of activities that take place during Farm to School Month include:

- Nutrition education and garden-based learning activities;
- Healthy school fundraisers using locally grown foods;
- Taste tests, healthy snacks, and featured meal items using locally grown foods;
- Field trips to farms, farmers markets, food co-ops and grocery stores;
- Cooking demonstrations and chef visits to classrooms;
- School and community-wide events focusing on health, agriculture, quality education, and vibrant local food systems.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lydi Morgan Bernal
Coordinator

Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui
schoolgardenhui@kohalacenter.org
www.hawaiischoolgardenhui.org

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR109 on Apr 2, 2015 14:00PM
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 8:00:55 PM

SCR109

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for HEA on Apr 2, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	Support	No

Comments: The passage of this Resolution would bring Hawai'i closer to being in alignment with the 20 other states in the US with Farm to School Programs. Farm to School Programs are usually featured in the fall during harvest time, to bring attention to the important work of the farmers and food producers, fishermen, and dairymen in the state. Our keiki are the future, and they are important enough for us to truly care about their food. Local food is more nutritious and tastes better, and we support all of Hawaii's Producers! Let's celebrate Hawaii's producers every October and be in line with the rest of the US!

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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: annie@projectvisionhawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR109 on Apr 2, 2015 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 6:58:50 AM

SCR109

Submitted on: 3/31/2015

Testimony for HEA on Apr 2, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ELIZABETH A HILLER VALENTIN	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Kelvin Ho
PO Box 769,
Lawai Hawaii 96765
808. 3327263
kelkauai@gmail.com

March 31, 2015

Aloha Legislators

I am writing in support of SCR 109 to help to establish October as Farm to School month. I have worked with youth at risk at Hale Opio Kauai Inc for 15 yers and see a great need to reconnect youth with the land. As a therapy, and place based ,culturally connected learning experience. This is well worth funding and supporting. For our youth and the future, please pass this bill as awareness will be raised with our youth and communities.

Kelvin Ho

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: tiana@farmtokeiki.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR109 on Apr 2, 2015 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 10:52:20 PM

SCR109

Submitted on: 3/30/2015

Testimony for HEA on Apr 2, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiana Kamen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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