

SR80

Measure Title: REQUESTING THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP A COORDINATED FRAMEWORK OF SUPPORT FOR PRESCHOOL THROUGH POST-SECONDARY AGRICULTURE EDUCATION.

Report Title: Agriculture Education; P-20 Education

Description:

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HEA

Introducer(s): CHUN OAKLAND, Kidani, Ruderman, Taniguchi

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
3/13/2015	S	Offered.
3/23/2015	S	Referred to HEA.
3/27/2015	S	The committee(s) on HEA has scheduled a public hearing on 03-31-15 2:00PM in conference room 224.

S = Senate | H = House | D = Data Systems | \$ = Appropriation measure | ConAm = Constitutional Amendment

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
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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

March 31, 2015
2:00 P.M.
Conference Room 224
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 133
and
SENATE RESOLUTION 81

Chairperson Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Concurrent Resolution 133 and Senate Resolution 81 requesting that the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources convene a working group to develop a coordinated framework of support for preschool through post-secondary agriculture education. The Department supports the resolution but defers to the University of Hawaii.

Agricultural education is vital in developing future generations to be agriculturally literate and aware of the connection between agriculture and the food we eat. Furthermore, a comprehensive and coordinated agricultural education framework will expose students to agriculture and by doing so hopefully increase the number of those students who will one day become the farmers who grow our food. Recent numbers from the 2012 U.S. Agricultural Census has found the average age of farmers in Hawaii is over 63 years old. A coordinated framework can be the start to reverse this graying of our agricultural workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





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March 31, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS

TESTIMONY ON SCR 133/ SR 80
REQUESTING THAT THE UH MANOA CTAHR CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP A
COORDINATED FRAMEWORK OF SUPPORT FOR PRESCHOOL THROUGH POST-
SECONDARY AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

Room 224
2:00 PM

Aloha 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 interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB supports the intent of SCR 133/ SR 80 and offers the following comments:

It is commonly known that the average age of a farmer in Hawaii is approximately 60 years old. For agriculture to be sustainable, and to produce more local crops we, as a society, must cultivate the next generation of farmers and ranchers.

DLIR, under Director Takamine's and HDOA Chair Kokubun's leadership, undertook a series of facilitated meetings with farmers, ranchers, educators and a diverse group of stakeholders across the state between 2007 and 2011. Its report was published. This report: Hawaii Agriculture Skill Panel Report, made a number of recommendations, of which several common themes emerged. #1 of those themes is 'Increasing youth education and training'.

In 2013, the Hawaii State Legislature saw fit to establish the Agriculture Workforce Advisory Board via HB 749 of that year. This Board convened, in part, to execute the recommendations of Hawaii Agriculture Skill Panel Report. HB 853 is a product of the Advisory Board is currently moving through the Senate. It establishes a program by which educators and school administrators can be exposed and incentivized to adopt existing broad-based agricultural curriculums. This is an important step toward the future of agriculture in Hawaii.

SCR 133 seeks to build upon the expertise of CTAHR and create a coordinated effort to address Ag education. It bears mentioning that CTAHR currently serves on the Ag Workforce Development Advisory Board.

Hawaii Farm Bureau believes that having another group working independently (with significant overlap of participants) would not be the most efficient model and suggests that a relationship be formed between the existing Advisory Board and the additional stakeholders outlined in SCR 133/ SR 80. HFB believes this capability already exists with the framework of the existing Advisory Board.

However, should the legislature decide to convene such a group under the leadership of the University, Hawaii Farm Bureau is eager to participate.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 2:00 pm

By

Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor

And

Maria Gallo, Dean

And

J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SCR 133 / SR 80 – REQUESTING THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP A COORDINATED FRAMEWORK OF SUPPORT FOR PRESCHOOL THROUGH POST-SECONDARY AGRICULTURE EDUCATION.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SCR 133 / SR 80.

The University of Hawai'i supports development of a coordinated framework of support for P-20 agricultural education in Hawai'i, and our campuses and colleges have been working towards that end with the parties named in the resolution. The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, is prepared to convene the requested working group.



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Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui



Coordinated through The Kohala Center

TESTIMONY
Senate Committee on
Higher Education and the Arts
March 31, 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

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

The Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui **strongly supports SCR133 and SR80**, which request the University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to convene a P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group.

Providing access to quality agriculture education for students of *all* ages, from preschool through elementary, middle, and high school, and into post-secondary levels of education will be of great benefit to our state for the purposes of raising successive generations of local farmers and nurturing an understanding of and respect for food, agriculture, and 'āina among all of Hawai'i's citizens.

Grassroots efforts to reconnect students with agriculture in Hawai'i began to resurface in earnest about 10 years ago, and over the years these efforts have organized into island-level farm to school and school garden networks and the creation of the statewide Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui in 2010. Our Hui looks forward to communicating and collaborating with other stakeholders involved in agriculture education through the convening of this Working Group.

With increased activity around agriculture education and a broad interest in this topic, our state is poised for the development of the coordinated effort that this resolution puts forth, with a specific focus on the creation of a holistic path for agriculture education and input from a broad coalition of stakeholders. Hawai'i's keiki and youth of all ages are as eagerly willing to seize every opportunity to explore the natural world through school gardens and to become involved in the creation of vibrant and sustainable community food systems across our state.

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

SCR133

Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

In Support of SCR133/SR80

Dear Members of the Committee,

Please support SCR133/SR80 which requests the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to convene a P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group. As an agricultural educator for students K-12, I have seen firsthand the import role that agriculture and school garden programs play in our children's education. When students are engaged in something so innate, growing food, they are empowered to take care of themselves, take care of others, and take care of our 'aina. Please support more school gardens and agricultural programs for Hawaii's keiki.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Mahalo,
Debbie Millikan