

STATE OF HAWAII STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

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TESTIMONY
OF
BONNIE KAHAKUI, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATON
FEBRUARY 16, 2021, 2:00 P.M.

HOUSE BILL 702, HD 1
RELATING TO FARM TO SCHOOL PROCUREMENT

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 702 HD1.

The State Procurement Office (SPO) appreciates that the House Draft 1 of this bill reflects comments we made in previous testimony.

Thank you.

DAVID Y. IGE Governor

JOSH GREEN Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
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 EDUCATION

FEBRUARY 16, 2021 2:00 P.M. VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

HOUSE BILL NO. 702 HD1 RELATING TO FARM TO SCHOOL PROCUREMENT

Chairperson Woodson and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 702 HD1, relating to farm to school procurement. This bill would require the department of education to establish rules for the procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products. The department supports the further incorporation of local agricultural products into State-run institutional food service programs but defers to the department of education on the operational impact of the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 2360 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96804

Date: 02/16/2021 **Time:** 02:00 PM

Location: 309 Via Videoconference **Committee:** House Education

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: HB 0702, HD1 RELATING TO FARM TO SCHOOL

PROCUREMENT.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the department of education to establish rules for the

procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food

products. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of HB 702, HD1 to facilitate an increase in locally grown and locally raised food products from Hawaii. The Department will require operational and system changes to successfully implement the mandates of this measure as currently drafted, particularly as it relates to internal procurement processes.

Establishing a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products will require close coordination between the Department's Office of Operations and Facilities and the Office of Fiscal Services to ensure compliance with both federal and state procurement requirements. The Department must ensure that the adoption of new rules affecting procurement do not violate any current statutory or administrative regulations that may put existing funding sources in jeopardy.

Equally critical to note are factors that are beyond the Department's control that affect its ability to procure locally grown products, such as fluctuating market conditions that dictate supply and price factors.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony 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.



February 12, 2021

Representative Justin Woodson, Chair Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair House Committee on Education

Testimony in Support of HB 702, H.D.1, Relating to Farm to School Procurement (Requires the Department of Education [DOE] to adopt rules for the procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products; effective 7/1/2050.)

Tuesday, February 16, 2021, 2:00 p.m., in Conference Room 309, via Videoconference

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers, and utility companies. One of LURF's missions is to advocate for reasonable, rational, and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 702**, **H.D.1**, and to offer comments.

HB 702, H.D.1. The purpose and intent of this bill is to require the DOE to adopt rules for the procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised agricultural products, thereby facilitating the increased use and consumption in schools, of locally grown and raised food products from Hawaii farmers, ranchers, and food producers and to allow school complexes to regionalize their menus.

LURF's Position. LURF members include farmers, ranchers and landowners who own, maintain, and engage in agricultural enterprises, and who consider programs such as that proposed by this bill significant to the conduct of their operations and to help sustain their businesses. These landowners and agricultural stakeholders believe HB 702, H.D.1 will greatly assist with the effort to achieve long-term sustainability of Hawaii's food supply, economic growth, and disaster preparedness, including increased production of food for our schools. Assuring incorporation and use of locally grown food into school food programs will also assist by acquainting students to healthy local food options and stimulating their interest in agricultural careers.

House Committee on Education February 12, 2021 Page 2

The purpose of this bill is consistent with the underlying intent and objectives of the IAL laws (Hawaii Revised Statutes, Sections 205-41 to 52), which were enacted to fulfill the mandate in Article XI, Section 3, of the Hawaii State Constitution, "to conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands."

LURF therefore appreciates the objective of HB 702, H.D.1, which is to support agriculture and instigate further collaboration between the DOE and agriculture-related operations through effective procurement policies and procedures. Passage of the long-awaited IAL legislation would be meaningless without implementation of such measures.

By recognizing the significance of, and need to assist the local agriculture industry, and implement measures which help to support the growth and maintenance of agriculture in the State, this bill significantly helps to promote economically viable agriculture and food self-sufficiency in Hawaii.

For the reasons stated above, LURF is in **support of HB 702**, **H.D.1**, and respectfully urges your favorable consideration of this bill.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION Tuesday, February 16, 2021 — 2:00 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports HB 702 HD 1, Relating to Farm to School Procurement

Dear Chair Woodson 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 <u>supports</u> **HB 702 HD 1**, which requires the Department of Education (DOE) to establish rules for the procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products.

Ulupono supports the DOE's Farm to School efforts and believes that adopting policies that further advance local food procurement in school meals is important for the success of the DOE's 'Aina Pono program. Based on the pilots performed at the Kohala Cafeteria Complex and the Mililani Cafeteria Complex, geographic preference can play a major role in increasing student meal participation, supporting healthy lifestyles, and connecting keiki and kupuna to local food. Sourcing from local, regional farmers may also help provide fresher, more nutritious options more efficiently with lower costs for procurement.

These pilots have been successful at modeling how local food procurement can be expanded to state institutional purchasing when there is buy-in across various state and local entities, community companies and organizations, and the overall community as a whole. This effort can be extremely important in supporting our local food production goals while also increasing the State's food security.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata Director of Government Affairs



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 16, 2021

HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

TESTIMONY ON HB 702, HD1 RELATING TO FARM TO SCHOOL PROCUREMENT

Conference Room 309 2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice-Chair Kapela, 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 1,800 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 HB 702, HD1, which requires the department of education to establish rules for the procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products. Except for the provision relating to Hawaii products, exempts the department's food program from the Hawaii public procurement code.

HFB strongly supports the increased use of locally grown agricultural products, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, and poultry products in our schools.

In 2009, the State enacted ACT 175 which gave Hawaii agricultural products a price preference and included Hawaii agricultural products under the State's procurement code. HFB believed that agricultural producers' price preference for bidding presented a competitive advantage. This included enjoyment of the small business preference rule that permits an agency to identify certain contracts for competition among small businesses or requires a large business to subcontract with small businesses to provide the products. We believed that the preference helped cultivate a level playing field with out-of-state bidders and created additional market opportunities for Hawaii's farmers and small businesses.

HFB suggested the changes because farmers and ranchers were having a difficult time entering into state supply contracts. During our involvement with this process, it became

clear that education at all levels, not just within our group of farmers and ranchers, but even within the procurement office, as needed. Although HFB attempted to move everyone in this direction, the training was never accomplished.

In previous sessions, there have been measures proposed to remove the preference and ease the process required for governmental bodies to acquire local agricultural commodities by exempting Hawaii agricultural producers from the procurement code. This would change the current code back to where it was before HFB's requests to the Legislature modified the language, resulting in the current code. When bills were introduced that would revert to exempting locally-grown agricultural products from the procurement code, HFB has requested clear metrics to help determine the success of the procurement code with the exemption.

Many formal and informal studies have been done addressing farm to school programs. Our farmers and ranchers have tried to work with the procurement system and can speak to the shortcomings of the system. For example, supplying a school or schools within a geographic area is feasible. Providing to the entire school system is not. The focus should now be on working with the procurement system to make institutional markets accessible while considering the capacity of farmers and ranchers in Hawaii. Assistance to farmers on how to navigate the system should also be a priority.

The proposed geographic preference will provide the flexibility that should help increase the purchase of more locally-grown agricultural products, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, and poultry products for our Farm to School program.

HFB is committed to working with the department of education to implement a procurement program that will allow Hawaii farmers and ranchers to source more products for Hawaii's Farm to School program.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



February 15, 2021

RE: SUPPORT for HB702 HD1

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice Chair <u>Kapela</u>, and Members of the House Committee on Education:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of **HB702 HD1**, requiring the Hawai'i State Department of Education establish rules for the procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products.

Blue Zones Project was brought to Hawai'i 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 address ways that we can lower obesity rates, tobacco use, and chronic diseases.

Our statewide school structure, stringent procurement policies, and unique geographies makes it exceptionally challenging for schools to source foods locally, despite the availability of fresh produce in many areas. This bill will help to better facilitate local food procurement, which is one of the top ways to make school meals healthier. It is well recognized that most U.S. youth do not meet the recommendation of eating 2.5 to 6.5 cups of fruits and vegetables daily, but exposing more students to fresh produce can shift student's perceptions about healthy foods and influence eating behaviors, both in and out of the school environment.

This bill can substantially improve student diets while supporting our local agriculture community. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of **HB702 HD1**.

Colby Takeda Senior Manager

¹ National Farm to School Network. http://www.farmtoschool.org/







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

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Beau Oshiro, C&S Wholesale Grocers, Advisor
Toby Taniguchi, KTA Superstores, Advisor

TO:

Committee on Education Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair Rep. Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: February 16, 2021

TIME: 2pm

PLACE: Via Videoconference

RE: HB702 HD1 Relating to Farm to School Procurement

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.

HFIA is in support of this measure. Increasing the use of locally grown food in our schools has a range of benefits. Making sure that Hawaii's school kids to have access to fresh, healthy, Hawaii grown fruits, vegetables, fish, poultry, and meat is good for kids. Providing a stable, consistent, large scale buyer is good for our local farmers. This measure is a win win. We encourage you to pass it and we thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION February 16, 2021 – 2:00 PM – Via Videoconference

RE: HB 702 HD1 - Relating to Farm to School Procurement – 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 Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela and members of the Committee:

The Local Food Coalition **supports**, HB 702 HD1 which requires the department of education to establish rules for the procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products.

This bill will help improve the procurement process for local food and support the DOE's Aina Pono programs, an effort to use more products from the local agricultural community in school meals. In addition to the health benefits for students, increasing locally grown and locally raised food products in school meals has economic benefits, providing a long-term revenue stream for farmers and ranchers.

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 HB 702 HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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



Testimony to the House Committee on Education Tuesday, February 16, 2021; 2:00 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 309 Via Videoconference

RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 0702, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO FARM TO SCHOOL PROCUREMENT.

HOUSE BILL NO. 0767, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO THE FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, 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 <u>SUPPORTS</u> House Bill No. 0702, House Draft 1, RELATING TO FARM TO SCHOOL PROCUREMENT., and House Bill No. 0767, House Draft 1, RELATING TO THE FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.

As received by your Committee, House Bill No. 0702, would exempt the purchase of goods and services by the Department of Education (DOE) for food programs at public schools and incorporate geographic preference for unprocessed locally-grown and locally-raised food products from Hawaii farmers, ranchers, and food producers. This bill would also allow school complexes to regionalize their menus.

House Bill No. 0767, would:

- (1) Transfer the Farm to School Program (Program) from the Department of Agriculture to the DOE;
- (2) Establish the Farm to School Coordinator position who would oversee the Program; and
- (3) Direct the Program to ensure that 30% of food served in public schools consist of locally-sourced products by 2030.

Testimony on House Bill No. 0702, House Draft 1, and House Bill No. 0767, House Draft 1 Tuesday, February 16, 2021; 2:00 a.m. Page 2

Both bills would take effect on July 1, 2050, to facilitate continued discussion on this issue.

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines in rural and underserved 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 healthcare.

Over the past four years, HPCA has served as a member of the Obesity Prevention Task Force, and as such has joined 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.

The HPCA also asserts that the COVID-19 pandemic has severely threatened the health and welfare of our citizens, especially Hawaii's underprivileged and rural communities. With so many people unemployed, entire families are struggling to put food on the table on a consistent basis. All one needs to do is visit one of our member FQHC's food distribution events and see the line of cars stretch for miles and the large number of people who wait for hours to receive some surplus food.

The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly exacerbated the need for a program like this. Our over-reliance on tourism has weakened our ability to bounce back from COVID's dire economic realities.

The only way for us to protect ourselves from the next global pandemic is for Hawaii to diversify its economic base and become more self-sufficient. And for us to do that, we need to grow more food.

The HPCA understands that the State is experiencing its worst financial crisis since the Great Depression and appreciates how difficult your job will be in deciding where very limited resources will go over the next two years. But to merely perpetuate the status quo will fail to address the underlying problems that created the situation that we currently find ourselves in.

Support for agriculture is bold. Support for these bills in our time of crisis is bold.

We urge your favorable consideration of these bills.

Lastly, because both bills appear to complement one another, this committee may want to consider combining both bills into a single vehicle -- House Bill No. 0767, which appears to have a title broad enough to include the subject matter of both bills.

Testimony on House Bill No. 0702, House Draft 1, and House Bill No. 0767, House Draft 1 Tuesday, February 16, 2021; 2:00 a.m. Page 3

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Public Affairs and Policy Director Erik K. Abe at 536-8442, or eabe@hawaiipca.net.

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:01:01 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Sam Kakazu	BEES>me	Support	No	

Comments:

Aloha

Establishing food systems from local ag operators and value added producers to school cafeterias or centralized kitchens can lead to supplier assurances, incentives and food chain reliability. Expediting the procurement process will ultimately lead to fresher, healthier and safer options for our e.g. School Food Service Managers and brokers. This bill is an important step in that direction.

Mahalo

Sam Kakazu. HIDOE (retired) former farmer, former USDA Field Agent, Blue Zones Project (Ko'olaupoko)



February 14, 2021

To: House EDN Committee

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 702

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Brian "loane" Jahn and I am writing to express my support for HB 702 - Relating to Farm to School Procurement.

This is an extremely important topic as many Hawai'i families rely on the public school system for up to two-thirds of their keikis' sustenance throughout the school week. With such a large amount of food coming from public schools, reliance upon outside sources for this food might lead to a serious lack of food access and food security in the event shipping is disrupted.

Because locally sourced food tends to be more nutritious, and because processed foods are known to lack important nutrients, there are several health advantages to localizing these relationships between schools and producers. By focusing on partnerships that "regionalize the menu," keiki will have access to more culturally appropriate foods, such as kalo, sweet potatoes, breadfruit, local bananas, etc., as well as a greater understanding of production operations at local farms; many keiki do not know where or how their food grows, so there is an educational aspect involved with this familiarization. In 2017, the average age of a farmer in Hawai'i was roughly 60 years old, indicating farming itself is in danger of experiencing extreme shortages of producers. By creating more opportunities for keiki to become familiar with farming, there might be an increase in interest about these foundational practices within our local communities, helping to ensure traditional agriculture practices do not completely fade away over time.

Finally, these closer proximity relationships will undoubtedly improve the true costs associated with agriculture production. By reducing importation, carbon emissions will lower on a global proportion, and packaging waste stands to be diminished significantly.

The Food+ Policy internship develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawai'i communities.

In 2021, the pilot cohort of interns are juniors, seniors, and recent graduates of the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu's Sustainable Community Food Systems program. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, and Hawaiian culture.



Me ke aloha, Brian "loane" Jahn & the Food+ Interns

The Food+ Policy internship develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawai'i communities.

In 2021, the pilot cohort of interns are juniors, seniors, and recent graduates of the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu's Sustainable Community Food Systems program. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, and Hawaiian culture.

Tuesday, February 15, 2021

House Bill 702 Testifying in Support

Aloha Chair Woodson; Vice Chair Kapela and members of the House Committee on Education:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii stands in support of HB 702 which establishes rules for procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products. The Environmental Caucus supports this bill because it allows children a more direct connection to their food system, enhancing community pride and connection to place/identity.

- . By focusing on local relationships that "regionalize the menu", children will have greater access to more culturally appropriate and nutritious foods: i.e., kalo, sweet potatoes, breadfruit, etc.
- . Closer proximity relationships will reduce carbon emissions related to shipping and packaging waste associated with importation from the mainland.

The State of Hawaii will save money by decreasing costs for school meal programs and support our local farmers.

Passage of HB 702 will help schools and communities enhance their educational and nutritional programs.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Jeff McKnight

Chair, Food Security and Agriculture Committee Vice Chair., Environmental Caucus







HIPHI Board

Kilikina Mahi, MBA

Chair

KM Consulting LLC

Michael Robinson, MBA, MA Immediate Past Chair Hawai'i 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

Keaweʻaimoku 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 Hawai'i 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 Hawai'i at Hilo, Department of Kinesiology and Exercise Sciences

Garret Sugai Kaiser Permanente

Catherine Taschner, JD McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP Date: February 15, 2021

To: Representative Justin Woodson, Chair

Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Lydi Bernal, Hawai'i Farm to School Hui Coordinator

Re: SUPPORT for HB702 HD1, Relating to Farm to School Procurement

Hearing: February 16, 2021 at 2:00pm in Conference Room 309

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of HB702 HD1**, which requires the department of education (HIDOE) to establish rules for the procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products, and exempts the department's food program from the Hawaii public procurement code (except for the provision relating to Hawaii products).

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

Increased procurement of locally-grown and raised 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 Hawai'i.

It is apparent that certain federal and state procurement provisions are not being effectively put to use by HIDOE, and therefore we encourage collaborative inter-agency attention to this critical issue.

Thank you for your strong support of farm to school!

Me Ke Aloha,

Lydi Bernal Hawai'i Farm to School Hui Coordinator

(continued on next page)

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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 Hawai'i residents.

Founded in 2010, the **Hawai'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.



Patrick Shea - Treasurer • Lena Mochimaru - Secretary Nelson Ho • Summer Starr

Monday, February 15, 2021

Relating to Farm to School Procurement Testifying in Support

Aloha Chair and members of the committee,

The Pono Hawai'i Initiative (PHI) **supports HB702 HD1, Relating to Farm to School Procurement.** This measure requires the Department of Education to establish rules for the procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products.

This measure would substantially help local farmers and local food producers. This would help to keep jobs and money on our islands while also increasing the fresh produce available to our keiki and reducing greenhouse emissions.

For these reasons, we urge you to vote in favor of HB702, HD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity,

Gary Hooser
Executive Director
Pono Hawai'i Initiative



House Committee on Education

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: HB702 HD1

Tuesday, February 16th, 2021 2:00 p.m.

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela and Members of the Committee,

HAPA strongly supports HB702 HD1, which we believe helps to provide a tangible solution to help address gaps and missed opportunities in our local food system, while supporting our farmers and food producers and our local economy.

HB702 requires the department of education to establish rules for the procurement of goods and services related to the administration of food programs at public schools that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products. This measure will help schools and communities improve health education, nutrition and understand the value of sourcing local food.

By focusing on local relationships that "regionalize the menu," children will have greater access to more culturally appropriate and nutritious foods, such as kalo, sweet potatoes and others while becoming more connected to where their food comes from.

These closer proximity relationships will in turn also reduce carbon emissions related to shipping and packaging waste associated with importation from the United States.

HB702 also saves the state money by decreasing costs for school meal programs while supporting our local farmers and helping our economy.

Most importantly, HB702 allows kids a more direct connection to their food system, enhancing their community pride and connection to place and identity.

Please support HB702 to help grow our local food economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Anne Frederick
Executive Director



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair Rep. Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

HB702 HD1

RELATING TO FARM TO SCHOOL PROCUREMENT.

DATE: Tuesday, February 16, 2021

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council <u>supports HB702 HD1</u> relating to farm to school procurement. Ranchers support the Farm to School program and want to see it prosper, for both the health of our students as well as the health of our economy. Any processes that make purchasing local products easier is important to ensuring the program succeeds. There is a need for the procurement process to be streamlined. We are aware of several groups working towards supporting Farm to School and Farm to State, and the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council is participating in these efforts so that both purchasers and producers are educated in how to navigate procurement, and we can increase local purchasing.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this issue.

Nicole Galase Hawaii Cattlemen's Council Managing Director









Hawaii Cattlemen's Council Position Statement on Local Beef Production

One of the core strengths of any society lies in its ability to be self-sufficient, to feed itself. Hawaii's beef producers are committed to providing wholesome food for its community that is safe, secure and sustainable.

For most of its existence, Hawaii's beef industry has followed a conventional model with production, harvest and processing occurring within state. In the early 1990's, a combination of rising costs and inefficiencies led Hawaii producers to shift to an export calf model which remains dominant today. However, with increasing consumer demand for locally sourced food, there is renewed focus on expanding local beef production. Several private labels have emerged over the last 10 years, raising the flavor and tenderness profile for local beef, further driving demand. The groundwork for expansion has been set.

In recent years, Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) recognized limited harvest capacities as one of the primary constraints for expanding local beef production. It has been HCC's position that each island should have access to a full complement of harvest and processing facilities. The economic benefit of efficiencies achieved with consolidation should be balanced with the unique challenges Hawaii's beef industry faces. These include;

- the vulnerability of interisland transportation of perishable goods and/or live animals as it relates to;
 - -food security and safety, animal welfare, affordable shipping rates, labor disputes and equipment failure
- the need to develop and maintain a diversified economic base and skilled labor force on outer islands
- limited competitive markets
- o quasi-public responsibility of state-owned food processing facilities

Among other things previously identified (see attached, "A Livestock Harvest Facility for Hawaii"), the ideal model should address;

- Flexible marketing direct sale vs retained ownership
- o Increased capacity/access for all producers to harvest, process and market
- o Growth of market share through "coopetition" vs direct competition
- Compliance with regulatory planning concepts and concerns, especially as related to environmental issues
- Preservation of the integrity of locally labeled beef
- Opportunity to expand locally branded products

Our producers continue to provide high-quality grass-fed beef year-round, which serves a loyal, sustainability-minded customer base that increasingly want to know where their food comes

from. HCC supports a business model that facilitates infrastructure that allows each island to maintain autonomy over its beef production from gate to plate.

A Livestock Harvest Facility for the State of Hawaii Hawaii Cattlemen's Council



Senate Bill 1257 provides \$1.5M for the planning and design of a livestock harvest facility within the state of Hawaii. This is an ambitious initiative that represents our strong belief in the future of our industry and our commitment to building infrastructure that will help grow and expand our local markets.

Our critical need for this project is based on the following;

- a. increased consumer demand for local beef
- b. increased market demand created by expanding programs, such as our schools' Aina Pono initiative
- c. availability for producers' strategic culling programs
- d. security for animal welfare in the face of disease or drought

The Request for Proposal (RFP) for planning and design should include the following key components and deliverables from firms who will respond;

- An analysis of a viable business/feasibility plan that addresses expected throughput, revenues, expenses and return on investment related to the operation of a new facility. Our initial recommendation for Hawaii Island is for a 5,000 head capacity that can be expanded to 10,000 head/year. This will be varied island by island. We see this information as critical to attracting capital to our state and industry.
- 2. Schematics and drawings of the layout of a new facility that can be adapted to meet different environmental conditions for each island and can scale up or down to meet production needs.
- 3. Analysis and review of technologies to support the remote locations and sensitive environments in which this facility will operate.

4. Review of the following key features of the facility itself. These features will ensure that the proposed model will meet our goal of creating a facility that serves the sustainability needs of our industry addressed through these economic, social and environmental considerations.

Economic	Capacity (target steady state, initial, and ramp up)
	Scalable/modular
	Marketing partner
	Added value/processing
	Certification for specialty markets – i.e. export, BRC, GFSI
	Management expertise
	Transportation costs
	Flexible marketing – direct sale vs retained ownership
	Innovation and technology
	Useful life
	Potential for multi-species use
	Scope of facility—slaughter, processing, and further processing capabilities
	Value Added Products and Processing
Social	Food safety
	Worker safety
	Animal well-being
	Employee engagement
	Central location
	Affordable housing
Environmental	Renewable energy
	Waste disposal - bio digester
	Water resources and requirements
	Critical path for permits
	Environmental Impact Statement
	Air emissions/odor
	Proximity to existing infrastructure and need for establishment of new
	connections to electrical, water, wastewater, and roadways.

HCC believes our industry and agriculture as a whole are at a critical crossroads. There is a great deal to be optimistic about including consumer demand for more locally sourced food, public officials who have declared a commitment to improve Hawaii's food security, an advocate in our HDOA administration who believe in the need for Hawaii's agriculture to thrive and people within the ranching community with the will to move our industry forward. These things combine to create powerful synergy to keep our industry and agriculture a vibrant and relevant part of our state's economy and landscape. This project is the result of that synergy and a real, tangible move forward for the beef industry.

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 12:51:57 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelsey Amos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support as this bill makes room for culturally relevant foods, and also decreases carbon emissions from imported food.

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 2:09:13 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Present a Position Hearing	
Kevin Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I do not have the time or specific of this bill. The psirirt of this bill, to get our kids more informed and engaged with a locally sourced diet I think is a good thing. Iam not an absolutist but I do want to see new more suitable alternatives developed for our kids. I had enough sloppy joes and chicken sandwiches to last a lifetime.

Mahalo

Kevin

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 7:08:59 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Will Caron	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

Please support this important farm to school procurement bill. Requiring that 30% of foods served in public schools be locally sourced by 2030 is an admirable and achievable goal that will have a three-fold benefit to Hawai'i: It will boost the demand for local food, helping local farmers to expand production; it will increase the amount of fresh, healthy food our keiki consume, reducing long term healthcare costs; and it will keep more money circulating in our local economy, strengthening and sustaining our local economy as we diversify away from tourism.

It's high time we got a move on toward food justice and food independence, and the legislature needs to set benchmarks like this one and require state agencies like the DOE to take the lead.

Mahalo!

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 8:21:54 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha legislators,

Healthy local food means healthy local minds and a healthy local economy!

mahalo,

Cory Harden

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 11:24:58 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherry Pollock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Legislators,

Please pass this important bill. Supporting local food production is one of the most important issues up for the residents of Hawaii. It makes sense.

Mahalo!

Sherry Pollock, Anahola, Kauai

<u>HB-702-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/14/2021 11:26:35 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization		Present at Hearing
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	No

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Good idea.

<u>HB-702-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/14/2021 11:29:05 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

in strong support

<u>HB-702-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/14/2021 11:57:44 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judith Perino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this bill.

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 1:15:51 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo and I'm a lifelong resident of the Hawaiian Kingdom, my ancestral lands. I'm writing in strong support of HB702.

We need to change our school lunch procurement process so we can get fresh, local food food on our kids' plates and support our local farmers!

Building famr to school connections can improve student access to healthy, local foods, provide numerous public health benefits, and contribut to the local agricultural industry.

This geographic preference for local food will make buying local for our public school the default rather than the exception.

HB702 will help us establish the use of the federally allowable geopreference as the mandated default procurement, which will simplify the process for procurement staff.

Please support this bill.

me ke aloha 'Ä∙ ina, Nanea Lo

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 1:39:20 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Greg Puppione	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Whatever we can do to support and strengthen our food system, we should. This is a great way to do it and a wonderful way to provide more nutrious food to our keiki.

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 3:18:29 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shanna Dean	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the DOE to establish rules that incorporate a geographic preference for non-processed locally grown and locally raised food products. Let us support local production and have our young minds eat better food.

<u>HB-702-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/14/2021 4:33:12 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly support!

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:35:50 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Kissida	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Hawaii Legislature,

Please support the HB702 Farm to School Procurement, Requires the DOE to establish rules that incorporate a geographic preference for unprocessed locally grown and locally raised food products. It provides a lot of benefits for our state and local communitites (1) greater food security and builds important relationships between producers and consumers, (2) allows kids a more direct connection to their food system, enhancing their community pride and connection to place/identity, (3) by "regionalizing the menu," kids will have greater access to more culturally appropriate and nutritious foods; i.e. kalo, sweet potatoes, banana, breadfruit, etc., (4) reduces carbon emissions from shipping, packaging, and waste from imports, and (5) saves money by decreasing costs for school meal programs.

Consider all the benefits of a teaching sustainability, direct connections to food sources, and minimizing resource use to Hawaii's keiki now and all the positive effects on Hawaii's future.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Jonathan Kissida, Teacher at Kilauea Elementary School on Kauai, with a child in 2nd grade at Kilauea El.

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 9:51:54 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
janice palma-glennie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

aloha,

please support HB 702 which requires the DOE to establish rules that incorporate a geographic preference for non-processed locally grown and locally raised food products.

mahalo and sincerely,

janice palma-glennie

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 11:01:58 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

Making local food the geographic preference for school food sourcing is good for schools, students, public health, farmers, local agriculture, and the local economy. We should be looking at all options to improve farm-to-school and other sustainable solutions.

Thank you,

Dylan Ramos

96816

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:45:52 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This is Joan Gannon from West Hawaii asking you to vote for HB702. This bill requires DOE to establish rules that incorporate a geographic preference for non-processed locally grown and locally raised food products.

Thank you JoanGannon

<u>HB-702-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:50:16 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Thomas Brandt	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

Strongly support!

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:58:01 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Maki Morinoue	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

Aloha

I support HB702.

This geographic preference will make sure the farms within the district or nearest can help provide to our local schools. It will create more local vegetable farmers and get the entire community moving towards backyard sustainability. Lowering our carbon footprint.

Thank you

Maki

<u>HB-702-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:11:21 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

SUPPORT!

<u>HB-702-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:12:28 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this important legislation.

<u>HB-702-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:31:24 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael deYcaza	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This will be a big help to farmers and provide better quality food to the kids.

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:46:38 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meredith Buck	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB702 and would love to see that my students are able to access locally grown, unprocessed foods when they come to school.

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:20:03 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Jahn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai kĕ kou,

My name is Brian "loane" Jahn and I am writing to express my support for HB 702 - Relating to Farm to School Procurement.

This is an extremely important topic as many Hawai'i families rely on the public school system for up to two-thirds of their keikis' sustenance throughout the school week. With such a large amount of food coming from public schools, reliance upon outside sources for this food might lead to a serious lack of food access and food security in the event shipping is disrupted.

Because locally sourced food tends to be more nutritious, and because processed foods are known to lack important nutrients, there are several health advantages to localizing these relationships between schools and producers. By focusing on partnerships that "regionalize the menu," keiki will have access to more culturally appropriate foods, such as kalo, sweet potatoes, breadfruit, local bananas, etc., as well as a greater understanding of production operations at local farms; many keiki do not know where or how their food grows, so there is an educational aspect involved with this familiarization. In 2017, the average age of a farmer in Hawai'i was roughly 60 years old, indicating farming itself is in danger of experiencing extreme shortages of producers. By creating more opportunities for keiki to become familiar with farming, there might be an increase in interest about these foundational practices within our local communities, helping to ensure traditional agriculture practices do not completely fade away over time.

Finally, these closer proximity relationships will undoubtedly improve the true costs associated with agriculture production. By reducing importation, carbon emissions will lower on a global proportion, and packaging waste stands to be diminished significantly.

Me ke aloha,

Brian "loane" Jahn

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:25:17 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Norris Thomlinson	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

It is critical to support local food systems, both to strengthen our economy in a way independent of unreliable external dollars, and to build towards true sustainability and self-sufficiency for when the ships stop coming. Leveraging the purchasing power of government entities including schools is an easy way to provide such support. Further, feeding kids whole foods grown locally is likely to provide them better nutrition. It also connects our newest generation with historical and emerging local food traditions, an important part of relocalization.

Please support HB702. Mahalo!

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:42:04 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Setsuko Morinoue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha

I support HB702.

This geographic preference will make sure the farms within the district or nearest can help provide to our local schools. It will create more local vegetable farmers and get the entire community moving towards backyard sustainability. Lowering our carbon footprint.

Thank you

Setsuko Morinoue

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:46:35 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Eileen K Nanni	Individual	Support	No	ı

Comments:

Aloha Senate Representatives,

I strongly support HB767!

Having experienced the non nourishing, uninspiring canned, highly processed and frozen food first hand as a local kid here in our public schools, as a volunteer to help families in need of food for our public schools, volunteer to assist public school teachers in class and as a community organizer I help hui with gardeners and farmers to get food to those in need. For years it has made me feel, a full circle lesson is necessary for ALL public education. The STOP for action is that our FDA approved vegetable washing facility is far away. That is the only hurdle to enable us to give fresh harvest to our local public school. How shortsided is that when we are surrounded by farmers.

Bigger vision for our Hawai'i's future. If we invest in public school gardens, local farmers markets, cleaning facilities onsite and equipment to expedite processing time we could instil nourishment for their brains and bodies, teach them how to respect nature and food. Give them a sense of pride in the place they are from. Instill the passion to protect our land for many generations to come.

This to me supports the local economy, boosts education in public schools, boosts health and wellness through good habits and creates advocates of our aina.

Aloha

Eileen Kiyoko Nanni

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 4:25:32 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jane E Arnold	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support HB702. Thank you.

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:09:12 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fern Anuenue Holland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Mahalo Representatives for hearing this bill! My 'ohana and I strongly support HB702. Mahalo!

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 7:03:44 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raelyn Reyno Yeomans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strong support. A benefit for the keiki and our economy!

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:11:06 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Shon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Many families rely on school lunches for their children. Sourcing more food from local sources addresses food insecurity in our communities by making sure everyone - including those who need it most - can regularly benefit from healthy, culturally appropriate, and nutritious food.

This bill will also help students to feel more connected with their environment and community, increase interest among young people in environmental sustainability and food security, and support local farms by providing new markets.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important issue.

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:39:36 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
kelii ho	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

I support this bill for the keiki

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 11:50:36 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Pappas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear EDN Committee,

Please encourage the Farm-to-School connection. It benefits both parties immensely and makes for a healthier Hawaii.

Thank you,

Jan Pappas

Aiea, Hawaii

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 1:43:02 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandra Herndon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill. I believe that a healthy connection between the Farming community and the School programs lead to healthier students, a healthier environment and a healthier economy. Mahalo!