



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

Date: 02/07/2022

Time: 03:20 PM

Location: CR 229 + videoconference

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Interim Superintendent Keith Hayashi
Hawaii State Department of Education

Title of Bill: SB 3190 RELATING TO FISH HATCHERY EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Requires DOE to establish a native fish hatchery pilot program at Waianae high school. Appropriates funds.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 3190 and appreciates the positions and funding to establish the native fish hatchery pilot program. The Department does ask that any additional funding does not affect the Department's top budget priorities to restore funds that were reduced as a result of the fiscal fallout from COVID-19 and the funding of existing budget shortfalls that were included in the Department's supplemental budget request. Without those funds, the Department will face severe constraints on its ability to continue to promote equity and access to needed resources and support for all students.

The native fish hatchery pilot program at Waianae High School will provide hands-on and real-world experiences focused on aquaculture and native fish propagation to students on the Waianae coast and will support Hawaii's sustainable future and food security efforts. The partnership between industry professionals and teachers will increase student learning opportunities that are critical to post-secondary and workforce success.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 3190.



Testimony Before The
Senate Committee on Education
IN SUPPORT OF SB 3190
Monday, February 7, 2022, 3:20PM, Room 229

My name is Kevin Chang and I am the Executive Director of [Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo \(or KUA\)](#). KUA works to empower grassroots rural and Native Hawaiian mālama 'āina groups to celebrate their places and pass on their traditions to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being.

KUA employs a community-driven approach that currently supports a statewide network of 36 mālama 'āina community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), 40 fishpond projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a, and a growing group of over 60 Limu practitioners and supporters called the Limu Hui. Participants in our networks have had long term dreams of bringing fishponds, food fish and limu back to our shorelines and dinner tables.

KUA supports SB 3190 as an incremental step on a pathway towards 'āina momona.

This bill would require DOE to establish a native fish hatchery pilot program at Wai'anae high school and appropriate the funds to do so.

KUA's coordinators and network participants in all three of our networks have built stronger connections to the education community, including the DOE, the DLNR and the aquaculture community knowing very well that to reach a vision of greater food self-sufficiency we need to transform our culture, values and institutions together. Participants in our Limu Hui have long worked to continue the legacy of the Marine Science Learning Center to support this kind project in Wai'anae, a place literally known as "mullet water" for the 'anae or mullet that was once abundant there. This existing program at Wai'anae High School has much of the infrastructure, curriculum, and experience to implement this pilot program.

As the bill mentions, several reports have already articulated the need for native fish hatcheries to support the ongoing restoration efforts of loko i'a, traditional Hawaiian fishponds. Many practitioners envision a future when loko i'a can be stocked again from natural populations of prized species such as 'anae, but since those fisheries are depleted in many areas across Hawai'i, hatchery-raised fingerlings are an important component of the restoration efforts for loko i'a and their surrounding waters. In our conversations with the Hui Mālama Loko I'a, practitioners from over 20 loko i'a on 5 different islands have indicated this opinion in the past several years.

Indeed, as we look to the future our communities are raising the kupa'āina who want to have jobs focused on mālama 'āina. I am sure some of the submitted applications that recently inundated and exceeded the capacity of the DOCARE Academy enrollment portal came from these young people. We appreciate this creative and collaborative approach that builds the capacity and skills of the next generation with intention, and in a way that benefits ongoing community efforts at loko i'a.

The communities we work with are committed to ensuring the long-term health of our biocultural resources. They have depended on them for generations. We believe our environment,

the foundation of our very existence, is about long-term investment and a vision of 'āina momona. To get there it requires among other things taking the steps toward greater self-sufficiency, development of a pipeline of new and more innovative career pathways, mindsets, relationships and resource flows for mālama 'āina. Passing this bill out of your committee will open a pathway toward reaching this vision.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support.

Aloha 'Āina Momona.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3190

February 7, 2022
3:20 p.m.
Room 229 and Videoconference

RELATING TO FISH HATCHERY EDUCATION

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 3190 requires the Department of Education to: 1) establish a native fish hatchery pilot program at Waianae High School; 2) submit a report on the progress of the pilot program and any findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2023, 2024, and 2025; and 3) cease the pilot program on June 30, 2025. The bill also establishes 3.00 full-time equivalent positions and appropriates \$855,000 in general funds for FY 23 for purposes of this measure.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



To: The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair,
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

Re: **SB 3190 – RELATING TO FISH HATCHERY EDUCATION**

Hearing: Monday, February 7, 2022, 3:20 P.m., Room 229 & videoconference
Position: Support

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the Senate Committee on Education:

The Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports SB 3190. This measure would require the DOE to establish a native fish hatchery pilot program at Waianae high school and appropriate funds for this pilot program.

The Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports this bill as it will enhance the effort of local communities and grassroots nonprofit organizations working across the State to restore traditional fishponds for cultural, educational, and food production purposes. This measure will provide an opportunity to develop a regenerative mullet hatchery program as part of a broader effort to restock fishponds while simultaneously supporting place-based and future-focused career and technical education natural resource pathways in the department of education.

The marine science learning center at Waianae high school is a functioning aquaculture facility with a saltwater well which has been the central focus of the science curriculum delivered to students for over a quarter of a century. The saltwater well will provide an essential ecological condition for a mullet hatchery program. Most importantly, this hatchery would educate youth, residents, and visitors through experimental training while assist in providing the community with food security and resiliency. Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify on this bill. Please pass it.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ *Melodie R. Adyja*

Chair, Health Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Contact: legislativepriorities@gmail.com (808) 258-8889

LATE

SB-3190

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 10:05:16 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/7/2022 3:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This alternative hands-on education experiences for the Waianae High School students will encouraged them that they are “community/student” contributors in a place that they call home. I hope the students successfully endeavors will surpass everyone’s expectations. Fish is one of the Hawaiian diets, and hopefully with this type of production, the cost of fresh fish cost can be lowered.

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry in **SUPPORT** of SB 3190.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

LATE

SB-3190

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 12:28:45 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/7/2022 3:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kehaulani Lum	Testifying for Ali`i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, My name is Kehaulani Lum, and I am the President of Ali`i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club, which holds a MOA with the US Navy to restore the 400 year old Loko i`a Pā`aiau, in Pu`uloa (Pearl Harbor).

Pu`uloa is known traditionally as the place where the mullet spawn and mature, until they leave the harbor and take their journey around the island. The fish schools were once so abundant that they created dark masses atop the waters off of O`ahu's shores, as they circumnavigated. Resident fishery caretakers, along the way, welcomed them with great gratitude, for the gifts that they provided for the community.

Over the past century and more, however, those numbers have greatly diminished, along with the great fishpond system and a sustainable method of raising fish for O`ahu's residents. The pilot project envisioned in SB3190 will help to turn the tide towards a future of abundance.

SB 3190 is an incremental step on a pathway towards `āina momona, which is at the heart of our efforts.

Wai`anae, is literally known as "mullet water," for the `anae, or mullet, that was once abundant there. This existing program at Wai`anae High School has much of the infrastructure, curriculum, and experience to implement this pilot program.

Many practitioners envision a future when loko i`a can be stocked again from natural populations of prized species such as `anae, but since those fisheries are depleted in many areas across Hawai`i, hatchery-raised fingerlings are one important component of the restoration efforts for loko i`a and their surrounding waters.

In our conversations with the Hui Mālama Loko I`a, practitioners from over 20 loko i`a on 5 different islands have indicated this opinion in the past several years. We dream of a day when the ponds will be filled with the anae, again.

Our communities are raising the kupa`āina who want to have jobs focused on mālama `āina. We believe our environment, the foundation of our very existence, is about long-term investment and a vision of `āina momona. To get there it requires taking the steps toward greater self-

sufficiency, development of a pipeline of new and innovative career pathways, mindsets, relationships and resource flows for mālama ‘āina.

Passing this bill out of your committee will open a pathway toward reaching this vision.

We strongly support this measure and thank you for your serious consideration.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kehaulani Lum

LATE

SB-3190

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 1:05:17 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/7/2022 3:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Rufus Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in full support of SB3190. As a 1996 graduate of Waianae High School I was able to participate in their Marine Science Learning Center program. What I learned during those years assisted me both in college on the mainland and when I returned to Oahu to develop a marine ornamental aquaculture company. Hawaii should be at the forefront of all types of aquaculture - yet we are sorely lacking when compared to many other coastal locations. Establishing a fish hatchery for the students of WHS to learn practical life and science skills is possibly one of the most pro-active things that the State Legislature can do for the Leeward community at this time.