

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DEXTER KISHIDA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

**FEBRUARY 12, 2024
2:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 312 & VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2129
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairs Gates, Vice Chair Kahaloa and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill No. 2129 relating to agriculture. This bill includes single-ingredient products as a purchasing option for certain state departments and entities to fulfill their local food purchasing requirements and defines "single-ingredient product". The Department strongly supports this bill.

HDOA stands ready to assist State departments in achieving the stated goals in HRS 27-8 to purchase 50% local in certain food categories by 2050. The Department can assist in connecting the state's food service operations with the agriculture sector, suggest product replacements for imported items and conduct data analysis on their purchasing history.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



WENDY L. GADY
Executive Director

RECEIVED
Date & Time
Feb 12, 2024, 10:38 am

LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
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Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

TESTIMONY OF WENDY L. GADY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
& FOOD SYSTEMS

Monday, February 12, 2024
2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 325 & Videoconferencing

HOUSE BILL NO. 2129
RELATING TO AQUACULTURE

Chairperson Gates, Vice Chair Kahaloa, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 2129, which includes single-ingredient products as a purchasing option for certain state departments and entities to fulfill their local food purchasing requirements. Defines "single-ingredient product".

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) supports the intent of this bill because it focuses on creating new markets and revenue stream for our local producers, which helps them maintain and create jobs and expand and invest in their agribusinesses by securing large institutional contracts.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

Rep. Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair

Rep. Kirstin Kahaloa, Vice Chair

HB2129

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Monday, February 12, 2023, 2:00 PM
Conference Room 312 & Videoconference

Chair Gates, Vice Chair Kahaloa, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports HB2129** which includes single-ingredient products as a purchasing option for certain state departments and entities to fulfill their local food purchasing requirements. Defines "single-ingredient product".

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council supports the purchasing of locally sourced food, and Hawaii's ranchers are ready to contribute to that by providing local beef, a nutritious protein. When state departments commit to purchasing local beef, our local ranchers benefit by knowing there will be a reliable market for their cattle. This confidence will help their confidence to grow their business so that local beef is available for the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four county-level Cattlemen's Associations. Our member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of over 750 thousand acres of land in Hawaii, or 20% of the State's total land mass. We represent the interests of Hawaii's cattle producers.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director





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February 12, 2024

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

TESTIMONY ON HB 2129
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Conference Room 312 & Videoconference
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice-Chair Kahaloa, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau provides comments on HB 2129, which includes single-ingredient products as a purchasing option for certain state departments and entities to fulfill their local food purchasing requirements and defines "single-ingredient product".

HFB strongly supports the increased use of locally grown agricultural products, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, and poultry products in our state institutions and appreciates the Legislature's support of the Farm to State program within Act 176 (SLH 2021).

We believe that policies, investments, and resources that support agriculture are necessary to ensure that Hawai'i's farmers and ranchers can supply the produce and food products to meet the goals established in Act 176 SLH and this measure.

We are concerned with the inclusion of single-ingredient products, as defined on Page 6, Line 4, in HB 2129

"Single-ingredient product" means a product that is primarily made up of one main ingredient, even if the product undergoes value-added processes, and is one hundred percent grown, raised, manufactured, or produced in Hawai'i.

Does a product that is one hundred percent manufactured in Hawai'i, with no local agricultural ingredient, qualify as a local food purchase?

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important subject.