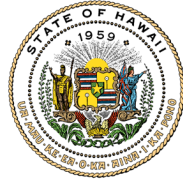


**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
Governor

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
Lt. Governor



State of Hawai'i  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & BIOSECURITY**  
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI A KIA'I MEAOLA  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9560 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**SHARON HURD**  
Chairperson  
Board of Agriculture & Biosecurity

**DEAN M. MATSUKAWA**  
Deputy to the Chairperson

**WRITTEN ONLY**

**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND BIOSECURITY**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS  
AND ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026**

**9:00 AM**

**CONFERENCE ROOM 325**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2110, SENATE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

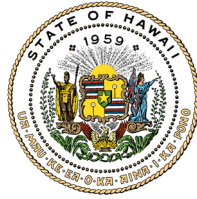
Chairs Chun and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kusch and Perruso and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2110, Senate Draft 1 that establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. An annual report and a triennial program evaluation are required. There is an appropriation request. The Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity (DAB) supports the intent of this measure to the extent that the program to be developed tangibly increases local food production and the economic viability of participating agricultural operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE  
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES  
ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of  
LEAH LARAMEE  
Climate Change Coordinator on behalf of  
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission  
Co-Chair Ryan K. P. Kanaka'ole**

**Before the House Committees on  
AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS  
and  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Wednesday, March 25, 2026  
9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 2110, SENATE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Senate Bill 2110, Senate Draft 1 proposes to establish a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, require an annual report to the Legislature and, appropriate funding. **The Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this measure.**

The Commission consists of a multi-jurisdictional effort between 20 departments, committees, and counties with the purpose of promoting ambitious, climate-neutral, culturally responsive strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Soil health is closely tied to ecosystem health and climate change resilience. Climate-smart land management practices that focus on building soil health, combined with stable land tenure, can provide ecological and economic resilience for agricultural communities throughout the islands and increase food system resilience.

Since 2022, the Commission has supported similar efforts through the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Climate Smart Land Manager Assistance Pilot Program which provided incentives to land managers to implement climate smart practices on their lands. The Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program will continue this work to support local farmers, ranchers, and foresters while protecting the longevity of productive soils through building resilience in our agricultural and natural lands. The Climate Smart Land Manager Assistance Pilot

Program was well received. Fifty-two applications were submitted in the last funding cycle, requesting \$4.2 million, demonstrating that land managers are hungry for additional support in these areas.

Resilient local food systems are imperative as increasingly frequent severe storms will interrupt importation of food. With only a seven day to two-week supply of food on island, it is vital that we support local food production by encouraging regenerative practices. This program supports regenerative soil practices, enhanced aquifer recharge, reduced soil erosion, and the protection of productive lands.

This program will also assist the State in meeting its commitment to achieving net-negative carbon emissions by 2045 by actively investing in reducing emissions and greenhouse gas generation. Regenerative agriculture, forests, wetlands, and our nearshore waters and reefs serve as the State's only carbon sinks, removing carbon from the atmosphere. Increasing carbon sequestration and improving healthy soils will assist the State in meeting food security and carbon emission goals.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM**

**‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII**

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems  
and  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

By  
Parwinder Grewal, Dean  
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience  
and  
Vassilis L. Syrmos, Interim Provost  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 2110 SD1 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairs Chun and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kusch and Perruso, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2110 SD1, relating to Agriculture.

The measure establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. Requires an annual report to the Legislature and appropriates funds.

For several years, University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience (CTAHR) faculty and Cooperative Extension personnel have conducted research and applied the findings to assist farmers, ranchers and cultural practitioners with climate smart agricultural practices, conservation practices and culturally appropriate practices to improve local food production and protect our environment. CTAHR looks forward to collaborating with the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to provide technical assistance and education that supports the adoption of science-based conservation practices and support local food production and economic viability.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the measure.



OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

‘Ōlelo Hō‘ike ‘Aha Kau Kānāwai

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2110 SD1**

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Ke Kōmike Hale o ka ‘Oihana Mahi‘ai a me ka ‘Ōnaehana Mea‘ai  
(House Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems)

Ke Kōmike Hale o ke Ikehu a me ka Ho‘omalua Ao Kūlohelohe  
(House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection)

Ke Kapikala o Hawai‘i  
(Hawai‘i State Capitol)

Malaki 25, 2026

9:00AM

Lumi 325

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Aloha e Chairs Chun and Lown, Vice Chair Kusch and Perruso, and Members of the House Committees on Agriculture and Food Systems and Energy and Environmental Protection:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS SB2110 SD1**, which establishes a Soil Health Incentive Program to support the adoption of science-based conservation practices that improve soil health, water retention, and climate resilience.

Healthy soil is the foundation of all agricultural production. The use of pesticides and the proliferation of invasive species have depleted Hawai‘i’s soil health and exacerbated issues of watershed resilience and erosion. Supporting our farmers to incorporate ecological and agricultural practices that strengthen soil health creates both healthier environments and healthier agricultural products.

Additionally, OHA supports equitable access to incentives for small farms and socially disadvantaged farmers, and specific support for projects grounded in Native Hawaiian ecological practices. By ensuring all farmers benefit from incentives, this program fosters a more resilient agricultural community.

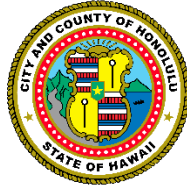
For the reasons stated above, OHA respectfully urges this committee to **PASS SB2110 SD1**.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this critical issue.

OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY  
*KE KE'ENA LOLI ANIAU MĀLAMA 'ĀINA A ME KE OLA LOA*  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 11<sup>th</sup> FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 768-2277 • EMAIL: [resilientoahu@honolulu.gov](mailto:resilientoahu@honolulu.gov) • WEBSITE: [resilientoahu.org](http://resilientoahu.org)

RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR  
*MEIA*



KEALOHA FOX, Ph. D.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &  
CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER  
*PO'O HO'OKŌ & KAHU OLA LOA*

VACANT  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR &  
DEPUTY CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER  
*HOPE PO'O & HOPE KAHU OLA LOA*

TESTIMONY OF KEALOHA FOX, PH.D.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND  
RESILIENCY AND CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS AND  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

**Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 9:00 AM**  
**Conference RM 325 and Via Videoconference**

TO: Rep. Cory Chun, Chair, Rep. Nicole Lowen, Chair, and Members of the  
Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Energy & Environmental  
Protection

RE: SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2110, SD1, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

The City and County of Honolulu's ("City") Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency ("Resilience Office") **supports** Senate Bill 2110, SD1, which establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

Agriculture is both a contributor to and a recipient of the impacts of climate change, and healthy soils are foundational to climate resilience and a secure local food system. Conservation practices that improve soil health can enhance water retention, reduce erosion, increase carbon sequestration, and strengthen long-term agricultural productivity. These outcomes directly advance statewide food security and climate goals.

The Resilience Office's Food Security and Sustainability Program works to expand local food production, strengthen supply chain resilience, and support equitable access to healthy, locally grown food. Advancing conservation agriculture practices, including Indigenous knowledge practices, is critical to sustaining local farmers and increasing the viability of local food production.

By providing financial and technical assistance and prioritizing small and socially disadvantaged farmers, this measure helps address key barriers to adopting agroecological production practices. This measure will complement and strengthen City efforts to build a more resilient, equitable, and self-sufficient food system while advancing broader climate adaptation and mitigation objectives.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **support** of SB2110, SD1.



## Carbon Cashback

March 21, 2026

Re: AGR/EEP hearing of SB2110 SD1 on March 25, 2026, at 9:00 am

Position: Support

Aloha e Chairs Chun and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kusch and Perruso, and members of the House Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Energy & Environmental Protection:

*Carbon Cashback Hawai'i advocates for legislation that reduces carbon emissions and strengthens Hawai'i's energy independence while protecting vulnerable kama'aiana families.*

SB2110 SD1 achieves these goals as it establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC), which will lead to a healthier and more sustainable agricultural sector and improve the health of our economy and our environment by improving the ability of our soils to sequester carbon.

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawai'i make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, Carbon Cashback Hawai'i urges you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committees.

We urge you to pass this bill out of your committees.

Mahalo nui loa.

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 1:13:32 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
laurel brier	Kauai Women's Caucus	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Healthy soils = healthy economy = healthy residents means a healthier Hawaii

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 4:47:13 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Colehour Bondera	Kanalani Ohana Farm	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee Members:

Please support SB2110.

As a long-time and full time organic farmer, it is serious and important that all decisions start with and are built upon a healthy soil.

Without a healthy soil program in place it is very hard for folks like myself to receive a response from Hawaii government regarding this basic topic.

Our soil affects our crops and our human health, and affects our environment and immediately impacts our surrounding ocean health.

Please give due consideration to this effort and support this vital piece of legislation so that Hawaii can grow from healthy soils as our foundation for well being for all affected, be they humans, plants, and other species of terrestrial and aquatic animals and beings....

Sincerely,

Colehour Bondera

KANALANI OHANA FARM

Honaunau, 96726



*Farmer owned, 'āina grown*

Aloha Chair Chun, Vice Chair Kusch, and Members of the House Agriculture & Food Systems (AGR),

This testimony provided on behalf of the Hawai'i 'Ulu Producers Cooperative is in **strong support** of SB 2110, which establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

## About Us

The Hawai'i 'Ulu Co-op (HUC) is an agricultural producer cooperative representing over 220 farmer-members across Hawai'i Island, Maui, O'ahu, and Kaua'i. Our mission is to revitalize 'ulu (breadfruit) as a dietary staple to enhance Hawai'i's food security and environmental resilience. For our members, farming is not just about production—it is about stewardship. Many of our farmers utilize traditional and modern agroforestry practices that naturally sequester carbon and rebuild soil health.

## Why This Program is Essential

For years, local farmers have wanted to transition toward more regenerative practices—such as cover cropping, compost application, and expanded agroforestry—but the high upfront costs of infrastructure and technical implementation are often prohibitive. SB 2110 provides the bridge needed to make these transitions viable.

- **Financial & Technical Support:** By providing cost-share incentives and technical assistance, this bill removes the financial risk for farmers moving toward carbon-smart land management.
- **Focus on Equity:** We strongly support the bill's prioritization of small-scale, beginning, and socially disadvantaged farmers. In Hawai'i, the agricultural landscape is defined by family farms that often lack the administrative capacity to access federal conservation funds; this state-level program fills that critical gap.
- **Climate Resilience:** Healthy soil acts as a sponge, increasing water retention during droughts and reducing runoff during heavy rains. For a cooperative focused on long-term food security, these are essential protections against our changing climate.

## The Role of Agroforestry



**Hawai'i 'Ulu Producers Cooperative**

79-1017 E Honalo Rd, Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740 | 808-238-8869 | [eatbreadfruit.com](http://eatbreadfruit.com) | [info@eatbreadfruit.com](mailto:info@eatbreadfruit.com)

As an organization centered on 'ulu, we see firsthand how agroforestry systems serve as one of the state's most effective carbon solutions. By incentivizing reforestation and multi-story cropping systems, SB 2110 aligns agricultural production with the state's climate mitigation goals.

### **Support for the Measure**

We believe that consolidating these conservation efforts under the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission will provide the cross-sector expertise necessary to scale these programs effectively. This bill represents a major step toward an ecologically sound and economically viable farming environment that benefits all of Hawai'i.

We respectfully urge the committee to pass SB 2110 to support our farmers in their role as the frontline stewards of our islands' natural resources.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,



Dana Shapiro  
Hawai'i 'Ulu Cooperative Co-founder and CEO



**Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.**

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS**

Rep. Cory M. Chun, Chair  
Rep. Matthias Kusch, Vice Chair

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair  
Rep. Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

**SB2110 SD1**

**RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

March 25, 2026, 9:00 AM  
Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

Chais Chun & Lowen, Vice Chairs Kusch & Perruso, and Members of the Committees,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports SB110 SD1** which establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. Requires an annual report to the Legislature.

Soil health is a key measure of overall health of an ecosystem. Well-managed cattle can contribute to increased soil health, in turn improving water retention and carbon sequestration. This program seeks to provide incentives, technical assistance, and education for these practices, which will make it more feasible for a wider range of producers to adopt practices that benefit the land.

This concept is similar to the Partnerships for Climate Smart Commodities, a USDA grant that was cancelled in 2025 - the second year of a 5 year contract. What we learned is that there is a demonstrated need for this funding to assist producers in purchasing equipment, obtaining technical assistance, and funding practices that help food production and land stewardship.

In our experience, both established ranches as well as new and small ranches could benefit from this support. A program like this is strategically proactive, providing the tools needed for our agricultural producers to continue their work for the community and future generations, improving with better practices.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four county-level Cattlemen's Associations. Ranchers produce a high-quality protein and are the stewards of almost 750 thousand acres of land in Hawaii, or nearly 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





**Chair Chun**  
**Vice Chair Kusch**  
**House Committee on Agriculture**

**Chair Lowen**  
**Vice Chair Perruso**  
**House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection**

**Wednesday, March 25, 2026**  
**9:00 AM**

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB2110 SD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Aloha Members of the House Committees on Agriculture and Energy & Environmental Protection,

The Hawai‘i State Youth Commission was first created through Act 106 in 2018, “to advise the governor and legislature on the effects of legislative policies, needs, assessments, priorities, programs, and budgets concerning the youth of the State.” The Hawai‘i State Youth Commission’s Education legislative committee is in **strong support** of **SB 2110 SD1**.

Dependent on foreign exports, Hawai‘i lacks sustainable agricultural systems; our access to locally grown food exacerbates our state’s long-standing issue of self-sufficiency. This bill is a necessary step to encourage supportive, localized farming systems on our islands. Moreover, it is essential to promote agriculture in Hawai‘i that can support its inhabitants and growing youth. The conservation agriculture and soil health incentive program will aid the Hawai‘i State

Department of Education's goal to have 30% of school meals sourced locally by 2030.<sup>1</sup> Within the past few years, schools across the state have increased their reliance on local farms. In the 2022-23 school year, over 165,000 students were routinely fed by farm-to-school programs.<sup>2</sup> Hence, incentivizing local farmers to use sustainable and climate-friendly techniques is integral for our learning youth and our future economy. The Youth Commission recognizes the necessity of SB2110 in combating agricultural degradation in Hawai'i, which has a significant impact not only on the State's economy, but also on the entire livelihoods of our communities. As youth, we feel the necessity of promoting a financially stable agricultural system for the health of our islands and their future generations.

Therefore, the Hawai'i State Youth Commission strongly urges the committee to **PASS SB2110 SD1.**

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

The Hawai'i State Youth Commission  
hawaiiistateyc@gmail.com

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<sup>1</sup> 1 Hawai'i State Department of Education. (2025). *Hawai'i Farm to School Plan*.

<sup>2</sup> 2 USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2023 Census of School Food Authority (SFA) in Hawai'i.



## **House Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems**

## **House Committee on Energy and Environment**

### **Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: SB2110 SD1**

Wednesday, March 25th, 2026 9:00 a.m. Conference Room 325

Aloha Chair Chun, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Kusch, Vice Chair Perruso and Members of the Committees,

HAPA supports SB2110 SD1 which establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

This measure proposes to provide farmers with capacity to invest in the infrastructure to adopt practices that contribute to soil health and conservation. The practices supported in this bill prevent soil erosion by wind and water which can further enhance air and water quality and have cascading positive impacts in our environment.

Profit margins in farming are thin, incentives in this proposed program can reduce barriers to adopting a more productive system of agriculture that decreases dependence on expensive, fossil based inputs and pesticides that are subject to market volatility.

Healthy soil is the foundation of a healthy and resilient food system. In recent decades we have learned a great deal about the importance of microbial life, and soil biodiversity. Healthy soils support more pest and climate change resistant crops and more nutrient dense food. Heavy industrial practices dating back to the plantation era have depleted our local soil health for over a century, by sterilizing lands with pesticides and herbicides which not only kill pests but kill all the beneficial microbes and life<sup>1</sup> that support healthy crops. SB2110 SD1 provides critical support for farmers seeking to implement practices that enhance the biodiversity of insects and microbes that are beneficial to soil health<sup>2</sup> and the environment. Transitioning from conventional, pesticide intensive practices to a regenerative system can be challenging because it requires considerable effort to rehabilitate depleted soil and often requires a different kind of infrastructure.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/pesticides-are-killing-the-worlds-soils/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.emnz.com/article/how-pesticides-affect-soil-microbes>



Soil biodiversity provides fertile ground for advancing global sustainability because it integrates so many challenges including climate resilience, water quality, pollution remediation<sup>3</sup>, food and fiber production, and habitat for organisms above ground and underwater.<sup>4</sup>

Healthy soil is by far the most biologically diverse part of Earth. The soil food web includes beetles, springtails, mites, worms, spiders, nematodes, fungi, bacteria, and other organisms. These organisms improve the entry and storage of water, resistance to erosion, plant nutrition, and breakdown of organic matter. These vital ecosystem services are often forgotten and destroyed through intensive industrialized agriculture<sup>5</sup>.

HAPA believes that SB2110 SD1 can help to address a range of important issues we face related to degraded and damaged soils, restore and improve soil biodiversity, while also improving the overall quality of our environment by preventing harmful run-off into marine environments, and conserving soil as a resource for a productive food system. SB2110 SD1 is therefore not just important for our local food production agricultural sector but is good for our local environment.

Please support SB2110 SD1 and healthy soils for Hawai'i.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is positioned below the text 'Respectfully,'.

Anne Frederick  
Executive Director

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.civilbeat.org/2025/12/hawaii-farmers-look-back-to-the-future-to-deal-with-climate-change/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/earth-and-planetary-sciences/soil-biodiversity>

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2\\_050947.pdf](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_050947.pdf)



To: The House Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems (AGR)  
and  
The House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection (EEP)  
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org  
Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 9am

**In strong support of SB2110 SD1**

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kusch and Perruso, and Committee members,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org **strongly supports SB2110 SD1** that establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. This bill would incentivize farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils, land management practices that sequester carbon, as well as educating farmers and providing technical assistance to achieve these goals.

Improving Hawaii's soil health is crucial for combating climate change and achieving food self-sufficiency. Supporting the adoption of science-based conservation practices that improve soil health, water retention, and climate resilience; increase carbon sequestration; and reduce our reliance on external inputs, including synthetic fertilizers and fossil fuels, are a win-win for the climate and local food production. If we are serious about addressing the climate crisis, we need to move forward on efforts such as those described in SB2110 SD1, and we need to do them in earnest.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this important legislation.

Sherry Pollack  
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org



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

March 25, 2026

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

**TESTIMONY ON SB 2110, SD1  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Conference Room 325 & Videoconference  
9:00 AM

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen, Vice-Chairs Kusch and Perruso, and Members of the Committees:

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 supports SB 2110, SD1**, which establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program to assist farmers with the adoption of conservation practices that support long-term agricultural viability.

HFB supports efforts that promote soil health, conservation, and resilient farming practices. Many farmers already invest in soil health practices to manage costs, improve productivity, and sustain long-term farm operations. These approaches can provide benefits to agricultural productivity, resource stewardship, and farm sustainability when programs are designed with practical, on-the-ground implementation in mind.

As this measure moves forward, HFB encourages close coordination with existing agricultural agencies and partners to ensure that the program is accessible, easy to navigate, and responsive to the operational realities faced by farmers and ranchers. Clear communication, streamlined application processes, and effective technical assistance will be critical to ensuring that farmers can participate without unnecessary administrative burden.

HFB also encourages continued engagement with the agricultural community as program details are developed to ensure that incentives align with a wide range of farming operations, scales, and production systems across the State. A flexible, farmer-focused implementation approach will be essential to the program's success.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



## Officers

Kaipo Kekona  
State President

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Maureen Datta  
Secretary

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Puna, Hawai'i

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Hāna, Maui

Mason Scharer  
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Kaipo Kekona  
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Wai'anae, O'ahu

Rachel LaDrig  
Waimānalo, O'ahu

Vincent Kimura  
Honolulu, O'ahu

Natalie Urminska  
Kaua'i

Aloha Chair Chun, Vice Chair Kusch, and Members of the House Agriculture & Food Systems Committee,

The Hawai'i Farmers Union is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawaiian Islands. **HFU strongly supports SB2110.**

SB2110 is crucial for strengthening Hawaii's agricultural landscape by establishing a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program.

This initiative underscores the need for equity and accessibility, ensuring that smaller-scale and socially disadvantaged farmers receive adequate support. By prioritizing these groups, the bill aligns with our union's commitment to fostering a diverse and resilient agricultural community.

The integration of native knowledge into agricultural practices marks a significant advancement in promoting culturally sensitive and ecologically sustainable farming methods. Encouraging projects that incorporate traditional Native Hawaiian ecological knowledge taps into a wealth of time-tested wisdom that can bolster conservation efforts. Practices such as cover cropping and crop rotation not only enhance soil health but also contribute to water conservation and reduced dependency on external inputs. By incentivizing these practices, SB2110 paves the way for a farming environment that is both ecologically sound and economically viable, benefiting the entire agricultural community in Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Hunter Heavilin  
Advocacy Director  
Hawai'i Farmers Union

**TESTIMONY ON SENTATE BILL 2110, SD1 RELATING TO**  
**HEALTHY SOILS**

Position: **Support**

To Representative Cory Chun, Chair; Representative Matthias Kusch, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems:

Simonpietri Enterprises LLC (SEL) **SUPPORTS** the intention to establish conservation agriculture and soil health incentive program.

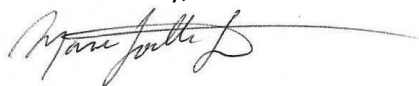
SEL is an O'ahu-based small business developing innovative ways to recycle some of Hawai'i's most challenging wastes into renewable fuels and other beneficial recycled-material products for use in Hawai'i. For the last 6 years, we have been designing the Aloha Carbon integrated plant in Campbell Industrial Park to divert over 2000 tons per day of construction & demolition (C&D) debris from landfilling to be converted into renewable fuel, and building materials starting with a small manufacturing plant – the Aloha Sustainable Materials Recycling and Fertilizer Facility (Aloha SMRFF) – the pilot plant for Aloha Carbon.

The Aloha SMRFF will divert over 200 tons per day of C&D waste from landfilling and remanufacture that waste to displace over 10,000 tons per year of imported fossil fuels used for power generation. Additionally, we will convert invasive, pest-infested and wildfire-prone biomass into biochar and mix it with other 100% locally generated wastes, to create organic and potash fertilizers at a lower carbon intensity than fossil based imported fertilizers. Biochar is a carbon-rich soil amendment created from biomass through our fluidized bed gasification process. Its porous structure helps to increase water retention and hold nutrients and beneficial microorganisms to support soil health. Our process also provides 100% guaranteed destruction of invasive species, stopping further proliferation, and thereby assisting local agriculture and landscape restoration efforts across Hawai'i.

It is imperative that we continue to take action to meet state climate goals and strengthen agricultural resilience across our state. SEL's technical expertise and innovation are focused in the areas of waste management, energy and nutrient recovery, and the circular economy. Our mission as a company whose is to do something better with waste than simply throwing it away. As an advocate for environmental stewardship, we would like to see this measure advance.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure, and urge your support for **SB2110 SD1**.

Sincerely,



Marie-Joelle Simonpietri  
President

*[About Simonpietri Enterprises LLC](#)*

Simonpietri Enterprises is a Kailua, Hawaii-based woman- and veteran-owned small business with ten employees, focused on technical innovation and first-of-kind project development of emerging clean

and renewable technologies. Since founding in 2006, we have helped dozens of small and large industrial companies in Hawaii, the continental U.S., Australia, and Canada improve the environmental and economic sustainability of their operations through technical and business advice in renewable energy conversion, waste reduction and re-use, and greenhouse gas lifecycle impact reduction. Simonpietri Enterprises' founder and employees have participated in the strategy, planning, design, financing, development, construction, and energy efficiency/greenhouse gas reduction/sustainability renovation for over \$400 million in new renewable and first-of-kind sustainable fuel projects over the past 15 years. Since launching the Aloha Carbon waste-to-fuel technical development process in August 2020, Simonpietri Enterprises is now developing renewable fuel production facilities in its own right, starting with the Aloha Sustainable Materials Recycling and Fertilizer Facility (SMRFF) in Kapolei, Hawaii to divert wastes generated in Honolulu from landfilling and transform it to renewable fuel, organic fertilizer, and recycled-material building products.

**Testimony of The Nature Conservancy  
Supporting SB2110 SD1, Relating to Agriculture  
Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems  
Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
March 25, 2026 at 9:00 am  
Conference Room 325 and via Videoconference**

Dear Chairs Chun and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kusch and Perruso, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify today. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Hawai'i and Palmyra supports SB2110 SD1, which establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

Healthy soil is one of the most important foundations for climate mitigation, watershed health, and agricultural resilience. As climate change accelerates soil degradation and stresses our watersheds, the need for stronger systems that support soil health and food security continues to grow. Supporting conservation agriculture strengthens ecosystem functions across the landscape and helps protect natural resources across Hawai'i.

Agricultural conservation programs are currently fragmented, under-resourced and difficult to access, especially for small (<50 acres), beginning, Native Hawaiian, and socially disadvantaged farmers who steward some of the most vulnerable lands. This bill addresses these gaps by providing financial incentives and technical assistance to support the adoption of proven conservation practices, while prioritizing equitable access across farming communities.

By consolidating program administration under the CCMAC, an agency with strong land stewardship, planning, and climate expertise, this measure removes administrative barriers and improves statewide conservation efficiency.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of SB2110 SD1.

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*Guided by science, TNC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which all life depends. The Conservancy has helped protect more than 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i and Palmyra Atoll. We manage 84,000 acres in 13 nature preserves and 18 managed areas and have supported over 50 coastal communities to help protect and restore the nearshore reefs and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands.*

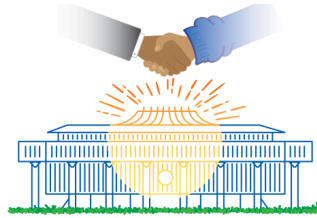
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To: Rep. Chun, Chair  
Rep. Kusch, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee on Agriculture  
  
Rep. Lowen, Chair  
Rep. Perusso, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
  
Hearing: 03/25/2026, 9:00am  
From: Climate Future Forum, Hawai'i Youth Food Council  
Re: **STRONG SUPPORT for SB2210 SD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and members of the Committee,

We are youth leaders from the Hawai'i Climate Future Forum and the Hawai'i Youth Food Council (HYFC), programs that empower high school and college students to engage in food systems advocacy and education. On behalf of the Climate Future Forum's Regenerative Food Systems Working Group and HYFC, we respectfully submit this joint youth testimony in **strong support of SB 2110 SD1**.

SB 2110 SD1 establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program under the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. It provides financial assistance and technical support to farmers adopting practices like cover cropping, composting, loi kalo restoration, and agroforestry, with priority given to small farms, beginning farmers, and Native Hawaiian and socially disadvantaged farmers.

As young people in Hawai'i, having grown up in a time of increasing extreme weather events, we understand that the health of our 'āina and

the security of our food system are connected. However, the farmers who take care of our land often lack access to the resources that would help them do it sustainably. This bill addresses that directly by removing administrative barriers, making applications available in farmers' primary languages, and bringing conservation support under an agency with the expertise to deliver it.

The practices this program funds build the kind of food system we want to inherit - one less dependent on imports and resilient enough to feed our communities long-term. For these reasons, the Climate Future Forum Regenerative Food Systems Working Group Youth Policy Leaders and the Hawai'i Youth Food Council are in **strong support of SB 2210 SD1** and respectfully urge the Committee to pass this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

*The Hawai'i Youth Food Council*

*& The Youth Leaders of the Climate Future Forum Regenerative Food Systems Working Group*

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 4:05:45 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Matson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members,

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

In recent decades we have learned a great deal about the importance of microbial life, soil biodiversity and the potential for our soil to capture carbon, aiding in mitigating climate change. The impacts heavy industrial practices have in depleting our local soil health for over a century, we must move away from the outdated practices of sterilizing lands with pesticides and herbicides and killing the soil microbes and life. Instead we should support the biodiversity of insects and microbes that are beneficial to soil health and a productive agricultural sector. Please support SB2110 SD1.

Mahalo,

Shannon M.

Hawai'i Island Resident

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 4:08:31 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michele Nihipali	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Michele Nihipali

54-074 A Kam Hwy.

Hauula, HI 96717

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 4:09:29 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Safia Gravel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Safia Gravel, Hilo

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 4:37:03 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
fred hofer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, fred Hofer, stringly support SB 2100 SD2:

Improve Pesticide Use Reporting

Pesticide exposure can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to drift off target, causing harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops

Comprehensive pesticide use data is essential to accurately assess risks and ensure that communities are protected from adverse impacts. The current reporting system in Hawai'i does provide geographically specific enough data to conduct credible public health studies.

Publicly reported data on each RUP is summarized by island. Any resident who might have concerns about what is being used nearby has no way of gleaning more geographically specific information. California currently requires reporting within a square mile, which allows enough specificity for credible studies to be conducted to meaningfully assess risk and health impacts.

The creation of an online portal for RUP users to upload their usage data and for public reporting would require an initial investment, but ultimately would save considerable time and resources once established while providing the transparency communities have sought

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Fred Hofer

Hilo



**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 5:01:30 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
kimdonghyeon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

kimdonghyeon

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 5:19:57 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Georgia L Hoopes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members.

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Georgia Hoopes, Kalaheo

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 6:04:05 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ann Dorsey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

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Thank you

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 6:08:29 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Jen Lum, 'Ewa Beach

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 6:42:55 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ezgi Green	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a mom living in Waialua, I care deeply about the land our food grows on and the world we are leaving for our children. I'm writing today to kindly ask for your support of SB 2110 SD1, which focuses on building and maintaining healthy soils here in Hawai'i.

Healthy soils are truly the foundation of so much that matters — thriving crops, a strong local agricultural economy, and even helping to address climate change by capturing carbon. When our soils are healthy, our plants are more resilient to pests and changing weather, and farmers are less dependent on costly inputs. That's a win for everyone.

What I'd love to see is more education and technical assistance made available to our farmers, along with financial incentives and awards to encourage farm management practices that nurture soil health. Our farming families work so hard, and giving them the tools and support to transition to more regenerative practices would make a real difference.

In recent decades, we've learned so much about the incredible role that soil microbes and biodiversity play in keeping our land productive and our ecosystems balanced. After more than a century of heavy industrial practices depleting our local soils, I believe it's time to move gently but intentionally toward approaches that support the living communities beneath our feet — the insects, microbes, and organisms that make healthy agriculture possible.

Please support SB 2110 SD1. Our 'āina — and our keiki — are worth investing in.

Mahalo so much for your time and consideration!

Ezgi Green, Waialua

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 8:08:33 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

I am testifying in **strong support** of SB2110, which establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. This bill recognizes a fundamental truth that has been overlooked for far too long: healthy soil is the foundation of a healthy food system, a resilient agricultural economy, and an effective climate strategy.

**What Soil Health Means for Hawai‘i**

For over a century, industrial agricultural practices have treated soil as little more than an inert medium for holding plants upright while synthetic inputs do the work. We now know this approach is not only outdated but destructive. Heavy pesticide and herbicide use does not simply kill targeted pests; it sterilizes the land itself, depleting microbial life, reducing biodiversity, and leaving soil barren, dependent on costly inputs, and vulnerable to erosion and climate stress.

Modern soil science has revolutionized our understanding. Healthy soil is alive—teeming with bacteria, fungi, nematodes, and microorganisms that form complex ecosystems beneath our feet. This biodiversity is not incidental; it is essential. Soils rich in organic matter and microbial life:

- **Support healthier crops** with greater nutritional density;
- **Increase resilience** to pests, disease, and climate impacts like drought and flooding;
- **Reduce dependence** on expensive synthetic fertilizers and pesticides; and
- **Capture and store carbon**, pulling it from the atmosphere and locking it in the ground where it belongs.

**A Climate Solution Beneath Our Feet**

The carbon sequestration potential of healthy soils is staggering. Globally, soils contain more carbon than the atmosphere and all plant life combined. Practices that build soil organic matter—cover cropping, reduced tillage, compost application, rotational grazing—do not just improve farm productivity; they actively mitigate climate change by drawing down atmospheric carbon.

SB2110 places this work where it belongs: within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. It formally recognizes that agricultural policy is climate policy, and that supporting

farmers in transitioning to regenerative practices is one of the most cost-effective investments we can make in our collective future.

## **What the Program Does**

This bill creates a framework to:

- Provide **education and technical assistance** to farmers implementing farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.
- Issue **awards and financial incentives** to accelerate adoption of these practices.
- Report annually to the Legislature on progress, outcomes, and recommendations.

It is not a mandate; it is a partnership. It meets farmers where they are and supports them in making transitions that benefit their operations, their communities, and the planet.

## **Moving Beyond Outdated Paradigms**

For generations, the dominant agricultural model has treated soil as something to be conquered rather than cultivated. Pesticides, herbicides, and synthetic fertilizers promised short-term gains while degrading the long-term productive capacity of our land. We are still living with the consequences: depleted soils, contaminated watersheds, and farms locked into cycles of increasing input costs just to maintain yields.

SB2110 signals a shift. It says Hawai‘i is ready to support farmers in moving toward practices that work with nature rather than against it. Practices that build soil health, support biodiversity, and capture carbon. Practices that make farms more resilient, more profitable, and more sustainable for the next generation of Hawai‘i farmers.

## **An Investment in Our Future**

This bill is modest in scope but profound in implication. It invests in education, technical assistance, and incentives—the very tools that enable farmers to experiment, learn, and transition at their own pace. It builds on what we have learned from successful soil health programs in other states and adapts it to Hawai‘i's unique agricultural systems and challenges.

The benefits will compound over time: healthier soils mean healthier crops, which mean healthier communities. Reduced input costs mean more profitable farms. Carbon sequestration means progress toward our climate goals. And a generation of farmers trained in regenerative practices means this knowledge is passed on, not lost.

SB2110 is a smart, forward-looking investment in Hawai‘i's agricultural future and climate resilience. I urge you to pass this bill and put Hawai‘i at the forefront of the soil health movement.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 9:41:53 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Annalise Brolaski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Aloha,

Annie

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 10:24:05 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Aloha e Chairs Chun and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kusch and Perruso, and members of the House Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Energy & Environmental Protection:

I'm writing in strong support of SB2110 SD1, which establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

This bill will strengthen Hawai'i's farms and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. It will lead to a healthier and more sustainable agricultural sector and improve the health of our economy and our environment by improving the ability of our soils to sequester carbon.

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawai'i make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass this bill out of your committees.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo nui,  
Paul Bernstein  
Honolulu

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:19:47 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lory Ono	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

In recent decades we have learned a great deal about the importance of microbial life, soil biodiversity and the potential for our soil to capture carbon, aiding in mitigating climate change. The impacts heavy industrial practices have in depleting our local soil health for over a century, we must move away from the outdated practices of sterilizing lands with pesticides and herbicides and killing the soil microbes and life. Instead we should support the biodiversity of insects and microbes that are beneficial to soil health and a productive agricultural sector. Please support SB2110 SD1.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Lory Ono, Kaneohe

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 10:42:51 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Virginia Tincher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees:

I support SB2110 SD1 because this bill improves the health of our agricultural sector and our environment.

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committee.

Mahalo!

Virginia

Honolulu

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 10:46:04 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Kawamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2110 SD1 because this bill improves the health of our agricultural sector and our environment.

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committee.

Mahalo!

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 10:48:22 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bobbie Best	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

incentives for climate change mitigation always welcom

mahalo

bobbie best, wailuku maui

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:36:44 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Priscilla Stuckey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Chair and Members of the Committee,

Please support SB2110 SD1, to set up a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

Soil is the foundation of health, so healthy soils are crucial for a healthy populace. Healthy soil can grow abundant and healthy food.

An incentive program would educate farmers about healthy soil and help them implement management practices that support healthy soils. The old practice of sterilizing lands with pesticides and herbicides and killing the soil microbes doesn't just kill the soil. By harming the soil's ability to grow food, it kills us too. Healthy soil needs many kinds of insects and beneficial microbes to produce healthy food.

We need to build up our soils again in Hawai'i.

Please support SB2110 SD1.

Mahalo,

Priscilla Stuckey, Kihei

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:40:44 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Seuta'atia Cochran	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees:

I support SB2110 SD1 because this bill improves the health of our agricultural sector and our environment.

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committee.

Mahalo!

Seuta'atia Cochran

Ewa Beach, 'Iolani School

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:47:00 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Annie Liu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha AGR/EEP committees,

The recent storms devastated Hawai'i's agricultural lands in many ways, including washing away invaluable top soil. It is imperative to support agricultural practices that promote soil health, especially because practices such as cover cropping, rotating crops, adding compost, or planting permanent ground cover require additional time, labor, and expenses. As the foundation of agriculture, healthy soils in turn create more resilient agroecosystems and a more resilient food system, which will rely less on external inputs of fertilizers and pesticides.

I ask you to please support the health of Hawai'i's agricultural lands and the farmers who steward them.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Annie

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:48:03 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shay Chan Hodges	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

In recent decades we have learned a great deal about the importance of microbial life, soil biodiversity and the potential for our soil to capture carbon, aiding in mitigating climate change. The impacts heavy industrial practices have in depleting our local soil health for over a century, we must move away from the outdated practices of sterilizing lands with pesticides and herbicides and killing the soil microbes and life. Instead we should support the biodiversity of insects and microbes that are beneficial to soil health and a productive agricultural sector. Please support SB2110 SD1.

Mahalo for your consideration!

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:57:25 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Malia Holubeck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Malia Holubeck, O‘ahu



*Restore the Commons*

Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 9:00 am

House Committees on Agriculture and Food Systems and on Energy and Environmental Protection  
SENATE BILL 2110 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Position: Support

Me ke Aloha, Chairs Chun and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kusch and Perruso, and Members of the Committees on Agriculture and Food Systems and on Energy and Environmental Protection:

SB12110 establishes and funds a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

This measure provides a broad mandate and capacity that seems welcome to all concerned parties, and may be considered well overdue. It also seems that the choice of the "Climate Commission" to manage this program has broad support. As with so much well-intended legislation, the proof will come in the commitment of funds.

It's currently understood that State funds are sharply limited, and the public should be concerned that good intentions will be sacrificed by budget limitations. While our expectations for this bill are great, practicality demands hard choices that do not always favor programs of this immense potential. It is hoped that the broad public support of the needs to be met in this bill includes highly motivated people and organizations to help see it through, but it is also hoped that a commensurate commitment of funds will support making a dent in the needs.

Please give this program a high priority for funding to provide staffing and practical assistance for recipients of its benefits.

Mahalo for the opportunity to address this issue,

/s/ Charley Ice, Hoa'āina, Waimalu, O'ahu;

retired Hydrologist, Commission on Water Resource Management (25 years) and Planner at DHHL (10 years); former OEQC Executive Secretary; House legislative staffer; and intern at DoH and DPED.  
former Chair of O'ahu Democratic Party Region 5 ('Aiea-Pearl City);

**Building the new normal with People and Land: Food Security Health Care Public Banking  
Regenerating Soils Cutting Waste Eliminating GHG emissions**

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 2:47:31 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Breon Michel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Breon Michel, Kula, HI

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees

**Support for SB2110\_SD1:**

Key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy.

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Keith Neal  
Waimea

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 5:43:59 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Benjamin Narwold	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees:

I support SB2110 SD1 because this bill improves the health of our agricultural sector and our environment.

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committee.

Mahalo!

Benjamin Narwold, Kapaa, HI

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 6:52:50 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gerald Klappert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees:

I support SB2110 SD1 because this bill improves the health of our agricultural sector and our environment.

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committee.

Mahalo!

Gerald Klappert

Wailuku

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 7:51:34 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Murray	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees:

**I support SB2110 SD1** because this bill improves the health of our agricultural sector and our environment.

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committee.

Mahalo!

David Murray, Kaneohe

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 8:06:15 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Leo Nahe Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

In recent decades we have learned a great deal about the importance of microbial life, soil biodiversity and the potential for our soil to capture carbon, aiding in mitigating climate change. The impacts heavy industrial practices have in depleting our local soil health for over a century, we must move away from the outdated practices of sterilizing lands with pesticides and herbicides and killing the soil microbes and life. Instead we should support the biodiversity of insects and microbes that are beneficial to soil health and a productive agricultural sector. Please support SB2110 SD1.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Leo Nahe, Nu‘uanu

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 9:28:30 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Douglas Hagan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees,

My name is Doug Hagan, and I strongly support SB2110 SD1.

This bill strengthens Hawai'i's agriculture and environment by creating a streamlined, statewide program that makes it easier for farmers to access conservation funding and support.

Healthy soils mean better water retention, higher yields, carbon storage, and stronger resilience for our food system.

Please pass SB2110 SD1.

Mahalo,  
Doug Hagan

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 10:52:29 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
ANDREW ISODA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Andrew Isoda  
Lahaina, Mau'i

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 2:50:19 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christine L. Andrews, J.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I respectfully request your vote in support of this measure.**

**Mahalo nui**

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 4:12:26 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Douglas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees:

**I support SB2110 SD1** because this bill improves the health of our agricultural sector and our environment.

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committee.

Mahalo!

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 6:10:09 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melissa Barker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Members,

I am writing to ask that you support SB2110 SD 1 which establishes a Conservation Agriculture & Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Melissa Barker

Kapaa, Hi

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 8:39:54 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Val Hertzog	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

What Does This Bill Do?

Establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

Why Is This Important? Sample Testimony:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

In recent decades we have learned a great deal about the importance of microbial life, soil biodiversity and the potential for our soil to capture carbon, aiding in mitigating climate change. The impacts heavy industrial practices have in depleting our local soil health for over a century, we must move away from the outdated practices of sterilizing lands with pesticides and herbicides and killing the soil microbes and life. Instead we should support the biodiversity of insects and microbes that are beneficial to soil health and a productive agricultural sector. Please support SB2110 SD1.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Val Hertzog, Kilauea



**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 11:04:39 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jackie Keefe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kusch and Perruso, and Members of the House Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Energy and Environmental Protection,

My name is Jackie Keefe, and I respectfully request that you **pass SB2110 SD1**. We have less than 60 years of livable soil left on this planet, and industrial agriculture has done irreversible damage to our soils. As such, small, regenerative farms are the way forward, but they need our help!

Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

In recent decades we have learned a great deal about the importance of microbial life, soil biodiversity and the potential for our soil to capture carbon, aiding in mitigating climate change. The impacts heavy industrial practices have in depleting our local soil health for over a century, we must move away from the outdated practices of sterilizing lands with pesticides and herbicides and killing the soil microbes and life, and instead support the biodiversity of insects and microbes that are beneficial to soil health. **Please support SB2110 SD1.**

Mahalo for your consideration,

Jackie Keefe, Lahaina

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 8:56:57 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of. Thank you.

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 9:19:34 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Browne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Thank you for advancing this bill that will establish a Conservation Agricultural and Soil Health Incentive Program. If we want to be self-sufficient in the area of food production, the actions in this bill are mandatory.**

**Mahalo,**

Susan Browne

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 10:24:00 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kara Hoving	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good morning. I'm writing to urge members of the House Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems and the House Committee on Energy and Environment to please support SB2110 SD1. I urge members of the Committees to invest in a sustainable future for Hawaii's farmers and our 'āina by creating a healthy soils program to support regenerative farming practices.

As a writer, researcher, and community volunteer, I have worked in various capacities at the intersection of agriculture, soil health, and climate change for nearly a decade. I know that healthy soils form the foundation of a healthy food system, including the health of the land and the people that it feeds. The preponderance of scientific evidence over the last few decades has found that, unlike outdated conventional farming methods that deplete soil health, regenerative farming practices provide myriad environmental and economic benefits. These benefits include increased agricultural productivity, biodiversity conservation, carbon sequestration and climate change mitigation, improved resilience to extreme weather, and decreased dependence on costly chemical inputs.

In an age of rising food prices and record-high costs of living, having a thriving local food system is more important than ever before. The kona lows these past few weeks have devastated many farms here on Oahu. It is imperative that Hawaii's farms can access support to build back better and to implement practices that will increase their resilience to future storms, so that they can continue to feed our communities even in the face of increasing climate disruptions.

SB2110 would create a program that would provide farmers with education and technical and financial assistance to implement farming practices that optimize soil health and improve overall resilience. This program represents an investment in the future of Hawaii's agricultural industry and all who benefit from it, as well as an investment in the land and future generations.

Please support the future of Hawaii's farmers and support SB2110 SD1. Thank you very much for your consideration.

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 12:09:49 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Molly Mamaril	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso and Committee Members,

I hope you are well. My name is Molly Mamaril from Kaimukī, O‘ahu and I‘m writing in support of SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

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Mahalo for your consideration!

Molly Mamaril

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 12:48:38 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**SUPPORT!**

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 4:16:10 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary Lu Kelley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha from Kauai.

Please join me in support of SB2110 SD1. Healthy soils provide many environmental and economic benefits, by supporting healthy crops and a productive ag sector, capturing carbon/climate change mitigation, making plants more pest and climate impact resilient and less dependent on costly inputs. Healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy and regenerative food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

In recent decades we have learned a great deal about the importance of microbial life, soil biodiversity and the potential for our soil to capture carbon, aiding in mitigating climate change. The impacts heavy industrial practices have in depleting our local soil health for over a century, we must move away from the outdated practices of sterilizing lands with pesticides and herbicides and killing the soil microbes and life. Instead we should support the biodiversity of insects and microbes that are beneficial to soil health and a productive agricultural sector.

Please support SB2110 SD1. Mahalo for your consideration!

Mary Lu Kelley, Koloa

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 10:01:48 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ronald "Ron" Reilly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chairs Chun, Chair Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees:

My name is Ron Reilly and I support SB2110 SD1 because this bill improves the health of our agricultural sector and our environment.

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committee.

Thank you,  
Ron Reilly, Volcano Village

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 12:01:25 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong Support SB2110 SD1

Dana Keawe

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 6:45:47 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am testifying in support of SB2110.

As we look to be more self-sustaining in an era of increasing climate change and geopolitical upheaval, it goes without question that we look to our agricultural sector to be as thriving as it can be given these circumstances. And one of the most important factors in agricultural health is that of the health of the soil. That is why I believe prioritizing soil health in the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission as a vital sector needs to be pursued. Bottom line: healthy soils are the foundation of a healthy food system.

We must provide farmers with education and technical assistance to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils and issue awards and other financial incentives to implement farm management practices that contribute to healthy soils.

In recent decades we have learned a great deal about the importance of microbial life, soil biodiversity and the potential for our soil to capture carbon, aiding in mitigating climate change. The impacts heavy industrial practices have in depleting our local soil health for over a century,

I believe that we must finally decouple ourselves from outdated practices of sterilizing lands with pesticides and herbicides that serve to kill not only destructive microbes and other life forms, but the beneficial ones as well in addition to causing health hazards to humans and to the ocean when the pesticide runs off into it. Instead, we have with this bill the opportunity to move forward and support the biodiversity of insects and microbes that are beneficial to soil health. Please support SB2110.

Mahalo for taking the time to consider my views.

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees:

I support SB2110 SD1 because this bill improves the health of our agricultural sector and our environment.

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committee.

Mahalo!

Charles E Cox, Honolulu

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 8:02:50 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noel Morin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees:

**I support SB2110 SD1.**

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. It will enable better water regulation, enhance ag productivity, support biodiversity, and allow for more sustainable soil management. It will enhance our food and water security efforts while protecting our environment.

I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1.

Thank you,

[Noel Morin](#)

Climate, Sustainability, and Resilience Advocate  
Hilo, Hawai'i

**LATE**

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 10:28:28 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello Chairs Chun and Lowen and members of the AGR and EEP committees:

I support SB2110 SD1 because this bill improves the health of our agricultural sector and our environment.

This bill establishes a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (CCMAC).

By consolidating various agricultural conservation programs under CCMAC, this policy removes administrative barriers for farmers to obtain financial incentives and technical assistance and improves statewide conservation efforts.

The key benefits of SB2110 SD1 are water regulation, higher crop yield, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity support, pollutant filtration, and erosion prevention. To help Hawaii make better use of its resources and better protect the environment as well as strengthen its economy, I urge you to pass SB2110 SD1 out of your committee.

Me ke aloha ‘āina,

Nanea Lo, 96826

Sierra Club of Hawai‘i Member

Hawai‘i Workers Center Board Member

Clean Elections Hawai‘i Member

Honolulu Tenants Union Member

350 Hawai‘i Member

Carbon Cashback Hawai‘i Member

Hawai‘i Tax Fairness Coalition Member



**LATE**

**SB-2110-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 3:19:18 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/25/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dominique Childs	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB2110 SD1. Healthy soil is the foundation for a thriving, resilient environemnt that is self sustaining and regenerative. The dependense on agrochemicals and forign inputs weakens and depleats our soils in harmful ways.

Supporting our farmers with resources and education on farm management practices is vital to create regenerative food systems here in Hawaii.This is a worthwhile investment for not only our health, but our local economies, and in our communities.

Healthy soil is of utmost importnace to help suport our native ecosystems as they grappel with adapting to new conditions and surviving invasive species. The negative impact of heavy industrial practices that kill microbes and biodiversity in our soils must be halted and replaced with more regenerative, organic practices.

Please support SB2110 SD1.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Dominique Childs, Paho