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Governor

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Lt. Governor



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Chairperson
Board of Agriculture & Biosecurity

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

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026

1:00 PM

CONFERENCE ROOM 229 AND VIDEOCONFERENCE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 113 / SR 106

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE DETAILING FARM-TO-SCHOOL IMPLEMENTATION, LOCAL FOOD PROCUREMENT, REGIONAL KITCHEN ALIGNMENT, AND FEDERAL FARM-TO-SCHOOL GRANT PARTICIPATION.

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SCR 113/SR 106 requesting the Department of Education to submit a report to the Legislature detailing Farm-to-School implementation, local food procurement, regional kitchen alignment, and federal Farm-to-School grant participation.

The Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity (Department) acknowledges that the information to be delivered in the report, specifically the baseline data (item [1]) of the resolution, is important to gauge progress with Acts 175 and 176 of 2021 and respectfully calls attention to the report prepared December 16, 2025, by the Office of Planning & Sustainable Development (OPSD) titled, "Hawai'i's Climate & Sustainability Statutory Mandates" that provides a timeline for the 24 statutory mandates to be met between 2020 and 2050. Reference to the report is to preface a comment for a position within OPSD to track the progress of the mandates with a report to be submitted prior to the 2028 Legislative Session. The OPSD report is attached to this testimony.

Regarding the assessment of federal funding participation (item [5]) of the resolution, the Department comments that several grant opportunities for the referenced previous grant cycle were cancelled and encouraged to report that preliminary indication

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is that the language of the Farm Bill, currently pending passage, indicates some opportunities were “reauthorized”.

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

SR-106

Submitted on: 4/3/2026 9:05:31 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/6/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Support

106 SR REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE DETAILING FARM-TO-SCHOOL IMPLEMENTATION, LOCAL FOOD PROCUREMENT, REGIONAL KITCHEN ALIGNMENT, AND FEDERAL FARM-TO-SCHOOL GRANT PARTICIPATION.