

recently allowing tinkered crops to be grown in the country, he said.

In Brasilia, a protest by another 400 women from an umbrella group, Via Campesina (the Rural Way), was held in front of the Swiss embassy against >Syngenta, a Swiss company that is selling genetically modified seeds in Brazil.

The demonstrators called attention to an October 2007 incident in which private guards working for Syngenta killed a protester taking part in an occupation of land owned by the company.

Via Campesina said in a statement that "no scientific studies exist that guarantee that genetically modified crops won't have negative effects on human health and on nature."

It added that on Tuesday, another 900 of its members had entered a property owned by the Swedish-Finnish paper giant Stora Enso and ripped out non-modified eucalyptus saplings they claimed were illegally planted.

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA
2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211A
Honolulu, HI 96822

SENATE RESOLUTION 21-08

IN SUPPORT OF A MORATORIUM ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED KALO

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

WHEREAS, the Associated Students of the University of Hawaii at Mānoa Senate is the elected body representing approximately 11,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,

WHEREAS, Kalo (*colocasia esculenta*) is a culturally significant plant to the indigenous people of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, Cosmogonic genealogies such as the Kumulipo connect all kanaka maoli to Hāloanakalaukapalili. 'O Wākea ke kāne. 'O Papahānaumoku ka wahine. Noho pū lāua a hānau 'ia 'o Hawaii, he moku. 'O Maui, he moku. 'O Ho'ohōkūkalani, he akua wahine. 'O Wākea ke kāne. 'O Ho'ohōkūkalani ka wahine. Noho pū lāua a hānau 'ia 'O Hāloanakalaukapalili, he keiki alualu. A Hāloa, ke kanaka Hawaii mua loa; and,

WHEREAS, Hāloa, the second son of Wākea and Ho'ohōkūkalani, named after his brother, is seen as the progenitor of mankind; and,

WHEREAS, Kanaka maoli have learned through this relationship their kuleana or responsibility of mālama 'āina, to honor, respect and protect Hāloa, so he in turn will sustain the Hawaiian people in providing food, and medicine; and,

WHEREAS, the relationship between kalo and kanaka maoli continues today in the perpetuation of the cultivation of kalo, the cultural practices associated with kalo and the acknowledgement of the familiar relationship with kalo; and,

WHEREAS, Kalo "intrinsically ties the interdependency of the past, the present, and the future, the essence of procreation and regeneration, as the foundation of any sustainable practice" as stated in Senate Bill 958; and,

WHEREAS, There were once over 300 kinds of Hawaiian kalo, descended from a few types first brought to the Islands from Polynesia in the 4th to 5th century AD; and,

WHEREAS, Hawaiians bred these different varieties of kalo through traditional farming practices to grow better in different environments, for higher yield to feed a growing population, for special qualities of color and taste, and for medicinal and ceremonial uses without genetic engineering; and,

WHEREAS, Genetically modifying any variety of kalo is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to food, health, environment and economy.

WHEREAS, The terms Genetically Engineered and Genetically Modified Organism refer to organisms that have had genetic material from a different species, or organic or chemical compound, inserted into their DNA; permanently altering their structure and character; and,

WHEREAS, The genetic makeup of a plant modified or engineered with a bacteria for example, becomes

part of the plant and could create allergic reactions, antibiotic resistance, or new bacteria that are resistant to antibiotic treatment in the consumer; and,

WHEREAS, In the past, a couple of biotech companies wanted to introduce a genetically engineered algae that produced experimental drugs to the Kona coast of the island of Hawai'i; and,

WHEREAS, Several community groups represented by Earthjustice took the State Board of Agriculture to court on this issue and won their case, mandating that the State conduct a proper environmental study of the potential risk to the environment and the people of Hawai'i; and,

WHEREAS, A few months later, a drug made from a product similar to the one proposed to be tested in Kona was given to six people in a human test trial in London, and all six experienced a sudden and unexpected super-immune response and were sent to intensive care suffering from multiple organ failure; and,

WHEREAS, There are no long term studies or research done on the effects of Genetically Modified Organisms on humans; and,

WHEREAS, Over thirty (30) countries around the world such as Japan and those in Europe have banned GMOs in some way; and,

WHEREAS, Kalo farmers from all over Hawai'i have been opposed to the genetic engineering and modification of kalo and the patents that arise from the newly created hybrid species; and,

WHEREAS, Researchers developing GMOs seek to "solve" the problems faced by farmers, by genetically engineering plants that provide higher yield with less water, less nutrient rich soil, less weeding, and the ability to be resistant to chemicals, but these "inventions" do not address the issue of environmental and social disparities such as access to water and land or the lack thereof, poor soil health and a poor ecological system that has a larger impact on the community as a whole; and,

WHEREAS, Students from all over the UH campus as well as the members of the campus community participated in the protest of GMOs and called for the State Legislature to grant them a hearing; and,

WHEREAS, The ten year moratorium would allow the Hawaiian community, farmers and others much needed time to educate the residents of the State and gain support to permanently end GMOs in Hawai'i.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa firmly supports the Senate Bill 958 Relating to Genetically Modified Organisms; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa encourages the implementation of a moratorium on the genetic modification of kalo not only for ten years but indefinitely to protect the cultural, social and economic integrity of the kalo plant, and the ancestor of the Hawaiian people; Hāloanakalaukapalili.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: University of Hawai'i President David McClain, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Chancellor Virginia Hinshaw, the Board of Regents, The Hawai'i inuiākea School for Hawaiian Knowledge, Dean Andrew G. Hashimoto of The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education Gary Ostrander, the State of Hawai'i Senate and House of Representatives, The Honolulu Advertiser, the Honolulu Star Bulletin, Ka Leo O Hawai'i, Ka Lamakua, and KTUH-FM.

ROLL CALL SENATE RESOLUTION 21-08

Ayes: Treasurer Sohn, Secretary McKellen; Senators-At-Large Baker, Fallon, Long; Senators Alton, Anderson, Arena, Chang, Choe, Chung, Fung, Green, Hovanec, Jones (Jennifer), Kaestner, Kron, Ragudo, Sakamoto, Serry, Whiter [21]

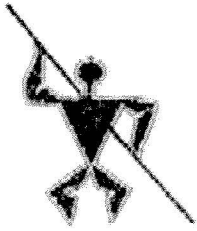
Nays: [0]

Abstain: Vice President Saiki [1]

Motion passed 21-0-1.

ADOPTED BY THE 2007-2008 ASUH SENATE ON TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008.

Introduced by Robert Green, Senator, Hawai'i inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge and School of Pacific and Asian Studies; Bryan Whiter, Senator, College of Arts and Science; Cecil Bernhard, Senator, School of Ocean Earth Science; Theodore Chang, Senator, College of Arts and Science; Kalani Baker, Senator-at-Large; Brian Kron, Senator, College of Arts and Science; Jaime Sohn, Treasurer; Ikaika Payomo, Senator, College of Arts and Science



Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 597
Honolulu, HI 96809

2007-2008 Directors

Kimo Guequierre, Pres.
Stephen Kaaa, 1st V.P.
Pauline Worsham, 2nd V.P.
Joannie Rossiter, Sec.
David Soong, Treas.
Linda Paik, Past Pres
Daniel Anthony
Warren Asing
Dana Hauanio
Claire Hughes
Ron Jarrett
Bruss Keppeler
Kaipo Lum
Puamana Park
Dirk Soma

TESTIMONY-IN SUPPORT SB-10 YEAR MORATORIUM ON THE GENETIC MODIFICATION OF TARO

Aloha Legislators,

The Board of Directors of the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce asks that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the Hawaiian kalo (taro) plant species. We ask you to please remember that for over 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of kalo on the planet. Kalo is the plant of the Hawaiian people-it is our living culture and ancient history, native tradition and ecological tradition. It is our very being, the very beginning of our line of descent. Kalo provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawai'i. Genetically modifying any variety of kalo is culturally disrespectful of our common brother and poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, our health, our environment, our economy.

We support sustainable farming and precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. We ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting kalo from land and water issues and invasive pests and diseases.

Kalo is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our Island community. It is our Ancestor. We join all mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawai'i's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

MALAMA HALOA! MALAMA PONO!

Mahalo a me ke aloha,

James "Kimo" Guequierre, President
Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce

Laulima. Cooperation; to work together.



KAHALUU NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 29

(Heeia Kea, Ahuimanu, Kahaluu, Waihee, Kaalaea, Waiahole, Waikane, Hakipuu, Kualoa

c/o KEY PROJECT • 47-200 WAIHEE ROAD • KANEOHE, HAWAII, 96744
PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

"LET US NOT EVER HAVE AN UNHAPPY MINORITY; RATHER, LET US BUILD A COMMUNITY CONSENSUS."

March 3, 2008

KAHEA
ATTN: Kalo
P.O. Box 270112
Honolulu, Hawaii 96827-0112

To Whom It May Concern,

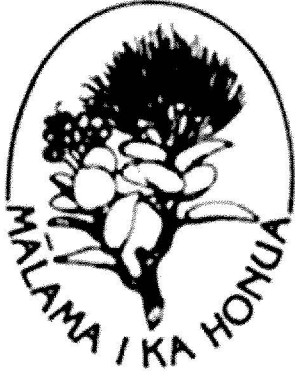
At its February 13, 2008 meeting, the Kahalu'u Neighborhood Board No. 29 adopted a resolution opposing the genetic modification of taro and calling for a ban on such research.

Aloha,

M. Chaul Benjamin for David Henkin

David L. Henkin
Vice-Chair, Kahalu'u Neighborhood Board No. 29.





Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803

808.537.9019 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
March 19th, 2008, 9:00 A.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 958 SD1 HD1

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice-Chair Brower and Committee Members,

The Hawai'i Chapter of the Sierra Club strongly supports SB 958.

We have many concerns related to the manner in which genetically modified organism (GMO) research in general is conducted in Hawai'i, including lack of public notification regarding open-field test sites, inadequate liability for consequential damages, and inadequacy of controls to prevent GMO crops from contaminating non-GMO crops. These concerns are compounded by the application of GMO research to taro, a plant whose cultural significance cannot be understated.

To date, there have been no iron-clad guarantees from either industry or academia that laboratory research on GMO crops, including taro, will not be allowed to escape from the lab until the many legal, health-related, environmental and cultural concerns associated with GMO crops have been fully resolved.

There is therefore a clear need for this measure's proposed ten-year moratorium on the developing, testing, propagating, cultivating, growing, and raising of genetically modified taro in the state of Hawaii. A moratorium would provide the time for all parties to attempt to resolve the many issues related to GMO research and its application outside the lab - before the consequences became irreversible. We respectfully request that you pass support SB 958 SD1 HD1. Mahalo on behalf of the Hawai'i Chapter Sierra Club,

Judy Dalton
Executive Committee member,
Hawai'i Chapter Sierra Club

Elle Cochran
Maui Unite, President
Honolua Valley
Lahaina, HI. 96761
808-281-7709 ellecochran@gmail.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958-10 YEAR MORATORIUM ON THE GENETIC MODIFICATION OF TARO

Aloha Legislators,

I pray that you will see the dangers and downright disrespectful nature of Genetically Modifying any varieties of our sacred Kalo! Our ancestors would be so appalled at the thought of this. As a soon to be Kalo farmer myself, I would like to have a crop that is as close to nature like Akua intended it to be not modified by man. I'm afraid we are turning into the Island of Dr. Moreau. Please prevent this from happening and support this Bill.

MALAMA HALOA! MALAMA PONO!
Mahalo for your time and consideration,



Elle Cochran

GMO-FREE MAUI
BOX 679
MAKAWAO, HI 96768
808-572-1865
www.gmofreemaui.org

March 6, 2008

TO: Honorable Rep. C. Tsuji, Chair
Agriculture Committee

FROM: Bonnie Bonse
182 S. Makaleha Place
Makawao, HI 96768
808-572-1865
bcbonse@yahoo.com

RE: Strong support for SB 958, 10-year moratorium on genetic engineering of taro.

I live in Makawao on Maui and have worked with children with disabilities for six years here. As President of GMO-Free Maui and Island Co-coordinator for Hawai'i SEED, I find the genetic tampering with taro to be disrespectful and misguided.

Hawai'i has all the components it would take to be the "Organic, Sustainable-Living Capitol of the World," instead of what we are currently known as: "Ground Zero for GMOs." Our educators could be teaching safe, time-tested ways to ensure a diversified food supply. New technologies should focus on ways to help the many small organic farms on our islands, not fill the wallets of big corporations that are poisoning our soil and growing thousands of acres of crops not fit for human consumption! Our land-grant University could - and should - be known for its fierce protection of, and respect for, the host culture's plants and farming practices. The patenting of kalo a few years ago, and now manipulating the genes of this sacred plant is not respectful, is not the right path, and it is not winning praise from around the world for Hawai'i.

Proper safeguards have not been put into place to protect our food sources, environment, and public health from gene manipulation. Many countries have called for moratoriums, and others have bans in place, in an effort to reduce risks to their economies, health and biological diversity. The people - and the unique ecosystem - of Hawai'i deserve the same protection.

Hawaii's legislative body is in the position now to show the world that the safety and security of our food, our economy and our health takes precedence over the agenda of large, powerful corporations (and the educational institutions being lured by them). And that is not an exaggeration; people all around the world, are watching Hawai'i. We need to proceed with extreme caution. Regardless of our location, in this modern age we are not isolated; our decisions and actions impact the economies, health and welfare of people all over the globe.

Our leaders have a responsibility to be certain that any technology that proposes to be better, smarter, or quicker than Mother Nature is completely safe and truly sustainable. Our leaders cannot say that they are certain because no one can say for sure that they are certain. We do not yet know what unintended side effects of genetic engineering might be.

We do know, however, that altering the genes of plants changes them. It is inappropriate to experiment with Hawaiians' sacred plant in this way. Respect for Haloa and the Hawaiians' cultural beliefs must take precedence in this situation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

On behalf of the University of Hawaii at Hilo Hawaiian Club we actively support the Sb958.

Hawane Rios
Keaomalalama Secretary
email: hawane@hawaii.edu
phone: (808)640-5072

'Ai Pohaku Community Program in Support of SB958
Waianae

Na Kahu o Haloa an association of taro farmers and their supporters gathered at the State Capital on January 17, 2008 to support a bill, SB 958 calling for a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of Haloa, the kalo plant, the elder brother of Kanaka Maoli. The gathering was called the "Malama Haloa Rally".

The following members of the `Ai Pohaku garden Club @ Wai`anae Intermediate School joined the rally; Aulani Clarke, Arlen Guieb, Erik Clarke, Jonathan Jones, Kilolani Morales, Joseph Peters Holokahi, Kauhi Kanehailua and Vince Kana`i Dodge. Unavailable were Lehua Kaopio and Alex Uesugi.

What follows are the thoughts and experiences of the students around kalo, GMO and the rally.

Aloha my name is Aulani Clarke. I am 14 years old and I attend the 9th grade at Waianae High School on the Westside of Oahu. I was given life by Dawn Moon (my mom) and James Clarke (my dad). I have one brother named Erik and one sister named Maile. I dance hula and I like to read. On January 17, 2008 I was invited to participate with my `Ai Pohaku group in the Malama Haloa Rally. We were needed to help with the cause of keeping all Hawaiian varieties of kalo GMO free. We were able to present our opinions on why we did not want our kalo to be genetically modified. We felt that our kalo, referred to as the Hawaiian's older brother, has not been messed with for all these hundreds of years so why should people try to do something unnatural to it now. Our kalo belongs to the people and the `aina and we know that if something is genetically modified then someone can own it. I feel that our kalo should not be owned by one person, it should be shared with everyone.

So last year a bill to protect kalo from genetic modification (GMO) was put forth in the legislature, but it got "stuck" in the agriculture committee. One of the main purposes for the Malama Haloa Rally was to tell the legislators that our kalo needs to be protected from GMO and to "hear" our kalo bill, SB 958.

Also I feel that genetic modification is unsafe. The companies that genetically modify plants and food haven't tested it on anything or anyone. So we do not know the effects of genetically modified foods and just as the companies refuse to label genetically modified food that makes more people wonder if it is really good for us. So if they don't know what the effects are then we don't know what it could do to our kalo. Did you know that more than half of all foods in stores have genetically modified ingredients? So that means we are the ones they are testing the GMO foods on. So how do you feel about that?

Well for me I feel that that is completely wrong. What if this food is unsafe? What will this do to me or my family? Or my future family? I believe that food should be grown naturally and not genetically modified. I think its wrong how after someone genetically modifies something that they own it. Did you know that companies are modifying plants like corn so they can't reproduce? So people will have to go back to the companies to get seeds to grow more corn. The GMO companies are preventing nature from doing its work. In our kalo bill SB 958 we requested that for ten years all Hawaiian varieties be left alone and no GMO testing take place.

The youth were given a special task at the Rally. We gave nearly 80 legislative members kalo plants so they got to see how it affected each one of us and how it relates to our culture. For me it was an exciting experience to actually be able to talk to legislative member Rep. Cift Tsuji and have him see my point of view. Being able to talk and hear what he had to say was awesome. Just seeing how much he cared about what was going on and how he felt was a good experience. I asked him to hear our kalo bill. I think he said that he would do that. He is the chair of the agriculture committee.

Aloha my name is Arlen Guieb I live with my grandparent in Waianae. I go to school at

Waianae Intermediate school and I am in 7th grade. I have two brothers Ansan, and Ares, I was born on July 10, 1995 at Kapiolani hospital. My favorite hobbie is doing magic tricks but I am still a beginner. I participated in the Malama Haloa rally on Jan 17, 2007. I came to Malama Haloa Rally because of our older brother, the kalo. Our group was to present kalo plants to the legislators. I thought I would be kind of nervous presenting the kalo to a state legislator. My experience was fun and I learned about GMO. On the way up to see our legislators we were walking up the stairs chanting and it was fun. It was kind of cool talking to the state representative Mr. Clift Tsuji about our older brother.

After we were done talking to the state representative we went to go grab our supplies to go pound kalo. We pounded kalo to help feed the people and legislators who attended the kalo briefing. The briefing was long and there was a lot of information about kalo, why it is very important to us Hawaiians and our concerns about GMO. We pounded in front of people we didn't know and the best part of it was having fun with my friends.

Hello my name is Erik Clarke. I go to Waianae intermediate school I am in the 8th grade. I live in Ma`ili. I am 13 years old. I was born in 11/27/94. I have 2 sisters. One is 1 year older than me the other is 11 years younger than me. I live with my mom and dad. One of my hobbies is I like to catch scorpions, then play with them. I also like to skateboard and street surf. That's all you need to know about me.

I came to the Malama Haloa Rally because I love my older bother (kalo).

I also came to learn more about G.M.O. and to hang out with my friends. I think no man (or woman) should own such a popular plant that a lot of people eat. I learned that when they do take a gene from one organism and put it in another that they put an anti-bacterial resistant gene in with it too. To see if the G.M.O. cells are successful they pour bacteria on it. The successful ones will resist the bacteria and stay alive. The rest will die. When we eat the G.M.O. the anti-bacterial resistant gene then it will be inside us alive, and it will adapt and probably make our bacteria resistant to anti-bacterial medicine. That could be really dangerous. The worst thing is they are not testing the G.M.O. food before they sell it to us.

I thought I would be nervous when presenting the kalo plant to the representatives. I wanted to convince the representatives to give a hearing to the kalo bill, because it would make our life easier. We could concentrate on growing kalo instead of having to protect it from G.M.O.

The Rally and the day was the best experience my life!

First, no school, second all of my friends were there. Then I got to learn even more about G.M.O. But the best thing that topped it all was that I got to pound kalo with my friends and have a good time.

P.S. I hope the bill gets heard

Aloha my name is Jonathan Jones. My parents are Samantha and Clarence Keawe. I have one brother and one sister, and we live in Lualualei. I love to garden.

I came to the rally so that the legislature can slow down the GMO of kalo or to convince them to keep the kalo GMO free.

I visualized presenting my favorite plant the kalo to the legislators and it being really good without GMO and also sharing the kalo.

Coming to the State Capitol today was one of the one of the best of my days of my life.

When we first came to the Palace to get ready for our presentations to the legislators I looked at one of the kalo in the pots and one of the kalo told me to pick it up, so I did. Later when we started marching to the capital building, I never felt so close to the `aina. It was as if no one could break the bond. I was convinced to stay organic and I was proud to be organic.

My name is Kilo-lani Morales and I'm the youngest in my family. I have an older brother and sister and we live in Makaha with my mom and grandma. I'm in the 8th grade in Wai`anae Intermediate School.

I came to the Rally to learn more about GMO, to meet new people, to be with my friends

and to protect Haloa. I thought it would be an experience and an adventure. I experienced how much the kalo means to Hawaiians, many who believe that it is our older brother from the time of the first Hawaiian. I learned that food is healthier when it is not GMO and many people are asking the GMO companies to label the GMO products. And many people want GMO stopped.

Aloha my name is Joseph Peters Holokahi, I have four sisters and we live with our parents in Wai`anae. I'm in the 8th grade too. I also came to the Rally to learn more about GMO. I don't like that we are being used like guinea pigs to test the safety of GMO food and that the GMO companies won't tell us what foods the GMO is in. I saw the DVD " The Future of Food " and GMO seems like poison to me. That's one reason I don't like them trying to GMO our older brother the kalo, it would be like poisoning our brother. How would you like someone to poison your older brother!?! Since I learned about our kalo I'm saying no GMO, leave our older brother alone!

Presenting the kalo plant to the Representative and talking to them was exciting. I hope they can help us against GMO, and that's all I have to say.

Aloha kakou. O kauhi Kanehailua ko`u inoa. Ko`u mau makua o Gary a me Kukui a He ekolu kaikuahine pu. No Wai`anae mai au. Ke hele nei au I ke kula o Halau Ku Mana I ka papa ewalu. My name is Kauhi Kanehailua. My parents are Gary and Kukui and I have three sisters. I'm from Wai`anae and I go to Halau Ku Mana Hawaiian charter School and I'm in the 8th grade.

Sorry I have too much homework to write much here. I came to the Rally to learn more about GMO, to support Senate Bill SB 958, called the Taro bill, to ku`i kalo (pound kalo) and protect Haloa-naka-lau-kapa-lili, our older brother.

I thought it would be hectic to be in an ocean of Hawaiians, but it wasn't. It was totally awesome!

Aloha kakou. O wau o Kana`i Dodge. Noho wau ma Wai`anae O`ahu. O Fred and Aiko Dodge ko`u ma makua. He makua wau me elua keiki nui a me ekolu mo`opuna. I'm Vince Dodge and I live in Wai`anae, O`ahu. My parents are Fred and Aiko Dodge. I have two grown children and three granddaughters. I knew the rally would be a wonderful, powerful and loving gathering of `aina people. And it was! It was wonderful to see our youth.

I had a realization about two years ago that, it's all about food. Food is supposed to feed us. Body, mind and soul. Kalo does this, and has done so for millennium. Kalo does not need to be genetically modified.

Food is not supposed to be dangerous to ones health. The GMO industry has demonstrated beyond any doubt that their products, GMO foods are dangerous for human consumption by absolutely refusing to have their products labeled. They have spent millions of dollars to fight every attempt to pass legislation that requires labeling. Think about that. It's all about food.

Vincent Dodge <aipohaku@hotmail.com>

In Support of SB958
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair
Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair
Wednesday, 3/19/08

TIME:9:00 a.m.

PLACE:State Capitol Auditorium

Aloha Kakou,
I support SB 958 calling for a 10 year GMO moratorium on kalo. I have been a kalo farmer in Ola`a (Kurtistown) on Hawaii island for 28 years. We have over 30 varieties of kalo growing on our farm. I also grew kalo on Oahu in both Manoa Valley and Waianae. For me, this issue comes down to respect for the sacred above science, putting the culture of the host people before the for-profit interests of foreign corporations like Monsanto.

Nana I Ke Kumu! Look to the source.

Mahalo.

Jim Albertini, president
Malu `Aina Center For Non-violent Education & Action
P.O. Box AB
`Ola`a (Kurtistown), Hawaii 96760
Phone 808-966-7622
email ja@interpac.net
www.malu-aina.org

God's Country Waimanalo

From the Mountains to the Sea, Keeping Our Country Country.

Statement of
Heidi Ilima Ramseyer
Director of Operations
God's Country Waimanalo

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT **SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

Aloha Legislators,

On behalf of the Native Hawaiian Youth Organization, God's Country Waimanalo, I, Heidi Ilima Ramseyer, ask for your support of SB958.

Our organization protects and perpetuates all things Hawaiian. We incorporate Hawaiian culture and values into everything we do. This includes the growing of taro. Our participants understand what malama `aina means. This moratorium is important to all of us, even more so to our youth.

Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

We, at God's Country Waimanalo respectfully ask your support of SB958.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Mahalo and God Bless,

H. Ilima Ramseyer
Director of Operations

Malama O Puna

René Siracusa, President
P. O. Box 1520
Pāhoā, Hawai'i 96778
(808) 965-2000

To: Members of the Hawai'i State Legislature

RE: SB 958 HD 1: TEN YEAR MORATORIUM ON MODIFICATION OF TARO

Aloha Legislators:

Malama O Puna is a 501(c)(3) environmental organization working primarily in the Puna District of the Big Island. We have a membership base of over 1,450 households. Our mission is preserving Hawai'i's precious natural heritage.

We strongly support a ten year moratorium on the developing, testing, propagating, cultivating, growing and raising of genetically engineered taro in the State. Besides the native Hawaiian concerns, which we respect, there are environmental issues as well.

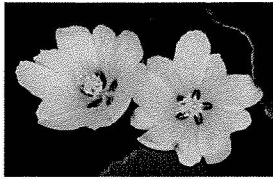
Genetic modification is being promoted as the ONLY way to protect taro from pests and diseases. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Increasing ag inspections of incoming freight would be a major prevention measure that the State could take, and it would help to protect all our crops from all sorts of invasive and potentially destructive organisms. Also, selective breeding has been practiced by farmers for thousands of years, and it works! Most of the food crops we enjoy today are the result of farmers selecting the most pest and disease resistant of their plants and propagating them. Avoidance of intensive monocropping will also reduce infection of crops. And healthy cultural practices with inputs of natural fertilizers will yield healthy plants with increased resistance while building soil quality.

With all these time tested tools, there is no need whatsoever to take the risks posed by genetic modification. And risks there are: there is already a hefty track record of mitigation plans gone wrong – both in Hawai'i and elsewhere. Some of it happened because the plan overlooked a crucial element. In other cases, it was human error. For example, a field of GM papaya in Waimanalo went into bloom while the farmer was off-island and the wind spread the pollen to non-GMO crops, thereby contaminating them. In Wa'aWa'a on the Big Island, organically-raised papaya were contaminated by GM papaya fields, and farmers could not sell their crops as the higher-priced "organic". Murphy's Law: if something can go wrong, it will. Why take the chance?

Please cast your vote to support this moratorium. Let the agricultural researchers use their skills and energy (and grant money) to find more acceptable solutions. They have the brains to think outside of the box – especially if we close the box.

Mahalo nui loa,

René Siracusa, President
Malama O Puna



Wai'anae Hawaiian Civic Club

Since 1935

P.O. Box 687

Wai'anae, Hawaii 96792

Gege Kawelo, President
(808) 696-2932 – Email: ggkhi@aol.com

TESTIMONY-IN SUPPORT
SB958 – 10-Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10-year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people – it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawai'i. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and responsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

The Wai'ane Hawaiian Civic Club support sustainable farming and precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land and water issues and invasive pests and diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii's in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawai'i's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono.

Name:

Organizations:

Neighborhood/Town/ZipCode:

Email/Phone:

*Koʻolaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club.
Hauula, HI 96717*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

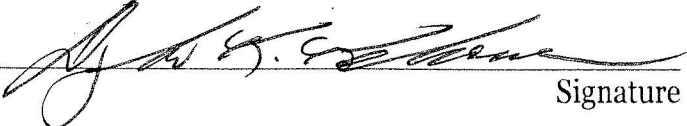
For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have been caring for and protecting taro. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition.

Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

We must support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro plant species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that our elected officials actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's unique culture and resources by voting 'AE!' for the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,


Signature

My Support for NON GMO Kalo!!

Ashley Nii

To Whom It May Concern,

Working for a produce company, I know first hand how people do not want the food they eat modified in any way. There's a process where our banana's are gassed to the right "ripeness" color. Many people ask for the NON gassed banana and as much as possible our ORGANIC bananas. But since these types of natural banana's are always short in supply, it's hard to fill everyone's order. When we have to buy mainland produce because our local supply runs short, people rather wait untill the local supply comes back because they all say it "taste junk". Then it puts our company into "push mode" to get the unwanted mainland product out of our warehouse...because no one wants to buy it! Now that GMO taro is on the horizon, how will the people of Hawaii react to that!? Our beloved kalo, the Hawaiian staple will now be modified. Why? Why do people feel they need to genetically modify things and then have other people consume them?? Are there no morals in this world anymore? Local people will not stand for this GMO taro or ANY GMO produce once they find out. The people are getting smarter and less blind to the health dangers this GMO stuff can cause. To attack the Hawaiian staple will not stand for the Hawaiian people. It will NEVER sell in our warehouse once people know it is genetically modified. If you were to put big stickers and signs that say "Genetically Modified" over the produce they are buying, they will pass it in disgust and buy NORMAL produce instead. I see no reason for it to be GMO'd!! So why do it?

Ashley Nii

Armstrong Produce LTD. - Sales Office

Sales Line: 808-203-6262

Direct Line: 808-203-6232

Email: ashleyn@armstrongproduce.com

Molokai Independent Drivers Inc. Dba Molokai Off-Road Tours & Taxi

P. O. Box 747
Kaunakakai, Hi 96748

Pat L Puaa
672 Moai Loop
Kaunakakai, 96748

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

Please support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. Kalo is a part of our culture, history, native nutrition and tradition.

We ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Please vote 'AE for the 10 year moratorium on modification of our taro plant species. When is enough going to be enough for taking over Akua's natural intentions of things.

Sincerely,



Pat L Puaa
Owner

Name: Kamuela Enos
Organizations: Empower Oahu
Neighborhood/Town/ZipCode: Hahaione (96822) + Waiānana 96793
Email/Phone: kenos@hawaii.edu 688-7718

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

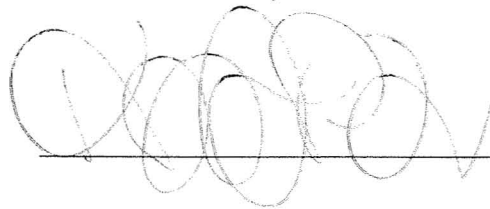
For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have been caring for and protecting taro. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition.

Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

We must support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro plant species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that our elected officials actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's unique culture and resources by voting 'AE!' for the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,



Kamuela Enos

Signature

Warren Asing, Past President NHCC
Affiliation: Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce
Aiea/Pearl City/Halawa, 96701 warren@funfactoryinc.com

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT - SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on
the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono, Warren Asin

Marion Ano
KAHEA: The Hawaiian Environmental Alliance
2825B Henry St.
Honolulu, HI 96817
808-398-6520
marion@kahea.org

Testimony-IN SUPPORT
SB958-10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha e Legislators,

‘O au no Marion Ano. Welina mai ia ‘oukou mai ku’u ‘one hanau. Eia ku’u mana’o e pili i ka pila, SB958. Kako’o au i keia pila no ka mea pono kakou e ho’omalulu i ka pono, na mea nohona, a me ka nohona o na mea Hawai’i a me ‘ike Hawai’i. E koho ‘oukou i ke kako’o i keia pila no ka mea ‘a’ole hiki ke ‘olele i ke kalo, ko’u kupuna. ‘O au ka leo no ke kalo, ka leo no ka Haloanakalaukapalili.

Ua lilo ‘o Hawai’i i ke aupuni ‘e a hiki ka nohona ‘e no ka po’e o Hawai’i. ‘O kekahi mau ‘aina kalo i nalowale a he mau lo’i a me kalo keu e ho’omalulu ai. Pa’akiki ka mahele ‘ana i ke kalo ia ko Hawai’i. ‘O ia ka makemake o ka po’e Hawai’i ma ka wa ma mua a keia la e noho a ho’omau i ko makou nohona i ka hanai ‘ana o ke kalo.

I ka mana’o Hawai’i e noho ai ke kalo i ka lepo. ‘A’ohe he wahi ka ke kalo i loko o ka halau kula, ka hana o ke aupuni, ai’ole ka mea kala. E ulu wale ke kalo i ka lepo.

‘O ke kalo ke kumu ia kakou. ‘O ia ka mea e a’o aku ai makou mai ko makou wa kamali’i a hiki i ka wa kupuna. ‘O ia no ‘oe ke kalo a kakou e ola a make. E ho’i kakou i ka lepo a lilo i honua. ‘Aka, e ola ‘oe i na mamu. E ola ke kalo i ke ‘ano pono, i ke ‘ano o kou makemake no kau mau mamu! E ola ke kalo i ke ‘ano i ola mai ka wa o Haloanakalaukapalili.

Mai ho’opilia i ko kupuna, e ‘olu’olu ‘oukou. Kako’o au i ka pila SB958. Mahalo ia ‘oukou i ka heluhelu ‘ana i ko’u mana’o.

Me ke aloha,

Marion Ano

Hawaiian-English Translation:

Hello Legislators,

My name is Marion Ano. This is my greeting to you all from the sands of my birth. Here is my testimony concerning the bill, SB958. I support this bill because we should protect the rights, the traditional goods for a Hawaiian mode of life, culture, and Hawaiian knowledge. You should choose to support this bill because the taro, my ancestor, cannot speak for itself. I am the voice of the taro plant, the voice of Haloanakalaukapalili.

Hawai'i was lost to a foreign government and a different mode of life was introduced to the Hawaiian people. Some of the taro lands have disappeared and the taro patches and taro plants that remain should be protected. It is difficult to share the taro with the people of Hawai'i. It is the desire of the Hawaiian people from the past to the present to live and perpetuate their culture and way of life through raising the taro.

Hawaiians believe that the kalo comes from the dirt. Kalo has no place in academia, the government, or a moneymaker. Taro will only grow in the dirt.

The taro plant is everyone's teacher. It teaches us from the time we are young to the time we are old. Just like the taro we will all live and die. We will return to the dirt and become part of the earth. But, we live on through our descendents. Let the taro plant live inherently, the way in which you would want your descendents to live. Let the taro live the way it did from the time of Haloanakalaukapalili.

Please do not disturb the taro and support bill, SB 958. Thank you for reading my testimony.

With love,

Marion Ano

Lee Ann Anuenue Punua
lpunua@yahoo.com

Testimony-IN SUPPORT
SB958-10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha e Legislators,

'O au no 'O Lee Ann Anuenue Punua. Welina mai kakou, mai ku'u 'aina hanau. Eia ku'u mana'o e pili i ka pila, SB958. Kako'o au i keia pila no ka mea pono kakou e ho'omalua i ka pono, na mea nohona, a me ka nohona o na mea Hawai'i a me ka 'ike Hawai'i. E koho 'oukou i ke kako'o i keia pila no ka mea 'a'ole hiki i ke kalo,ko'u kupuna ke 'olelo. 'O au no ka leo no ku'u kupuna, ka leo no Haloanakalaukapalili.

Ua lilo 'o Hawai'i i ke aupuni 'e a hiki ka nohona 'e no ka po'e o Hawai'i. 'O kekahi mau 'aina kalo i nalowale a he mau lo'i a me kalo keu e ho'omalua ai. Pa'akiki ka ho'omahelu 'ana i ke kalo o ko Hawai'i. 'O ia ka makemake o ka po'e Hawai'i ma ka wa ma mua a keia la e noho a ho'omau i ko makou nohona i ka hanai 'ana o ke kalo.

I ka mana'o Hawai'i e noho ai ke kalo i ka lepo. 'A'ohe he wahi ka ke kalo i loko o ka halau kula, ka hana o ke aupuni, ai'ole ka mea kala. E ulu wale ke kalo i ka lepo.

'O ke kalo ke kumu a kakou. 'O ia ka mea e a'o aku ai makou mai ko makou wa kamali'i a hiki i ka wa kupuna. 'O ia no 'oe ke kalo a kakou e ola a make. E ho'i kakou i ka lepo a lilo i honua. 'Aka, e ola 'oe i na mamu. E ola ke kalo i ke 'ano pono, i ke 'ano o kou makemake no kau mau mamu! E ola ke kalo i ke 'ano i ola mai ka wa o Haloanakapalili.

Mai ho'opilia i ko kupuna, e 'olu'olu 'oukou. Kako'o au i ka pila SB958. Mahalo ia 'oukou i ka heluhelu 'ana i ko'u mana'o.

Na'u no me ke kupa'a mau,
Lee Ann Anuenue Punua

E Aloha Mai,

I reach out to all people I know to discuss the subject of genetic modification.

I live in Waialua on the North Shore of O'ahu. I am very involved in my community. We adopted our neighborhood park, had some trees planted etc. I have 1 child who is actively homeschooled (inc. community sports etc), 1 child who is a junior at Kamehameha Schools and 1 child who is studying UH Hilo.

My husband, Eleu, built our home in Waialua 1 1/2 yrs ago. We are between Waialua Library and the Ka'ala Healing Arts Building where many of the homes are 1 story. Our home is two story so we are fortunate enough to look out over some of the last open space (that the public can drive through-it touches us) on O'ahu.

What I have seen in Waialua over the past year and a half greatly disturbs me. Much of the land that is surrounding Waialua High School (which is next to Pioneer) is covered with GMO Corn. Much of the land above Haleiwa is covered in GMO corn. Much of the land above Waialua is being grated for something (unfortunately, if following the current pattern over here, GMO corn. The grating is happening illegally, in my opinion, leaving the decision to and the monitoring of such in the hands of a handful of individuals who are controlling the land. Much of the land Mauka (watershed) of Crozier and Mokuleia is covered in GMO corn.

The people who live in a particular area should be part of the decision making process when allowing such a controversial (HUGE worldwide controversy) life form to be grown all around them. Once people learn about GMO in Hawai'i, our home, there is a great sadness and nervousness that comes over them. It really feels abusive.

Waialua has enough on it's plate already with cleaning up after Dole and Schofield Barracks. If people are going to be used as part of a testing situation (open field TESTING), you better get their permission first.

I have so many great ideas for this great open space we have left. Native tree farm, plant a tree eco tourism, plant ferns that clean the soil and then plant organically; **WE WILL NEVER REGRET INVESTING IN CLEAN WATER AND SOIL.** Let's stop the polluting madness and malama this place! Going GREEN is becoming more and more lucrative. It is the future!

PASS bill SB958 and HB704! It is a step in the right direction. I was allergic to wheat as a child and was given poi to eat. What will happen to the child with allergies that eats poi with wheat genes? What will happen to any of us who eat a life form that is a combination of life forms with extra 'connectors' thrown into the gene sequence? What will happen when large corporations own all of our plants (and animals), having polluted all our non gmo plants with crosspollination?

Experiments escape from labs all the time. If the GE taro accidentally was released into our farmers hands how would we recall it?

Listen to your constituents inc. your families,

research the issue of GE/GMO,

follow your heart.

Support Environmental Stewardship
and Accountable Leadership.

Malama Aina, Malama Haloa,

Mahalo kakou,
Nina Puhipau

Nina Puhipau
67-427 Kekauwa Street
Waialua, HI 96791
nina_kai@yahoo.com

Kihei Nahale-a

Pana'ewa, Hilo, Hawai'i, 96720

nahalea@gmail.com, 808-989-1422

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

Aloha mai e na politika Hawaii,

I write this letter in support of SB958. Kalo is whom I and my family identify with as being my ancestor, my kupuna. I would never, ever support any kind of thing that would allow the change of ancestral DNA in what I perceive as being for the profit not the betterment of kalo farming practices. The application of unregulated research and science, mass mono-cropping and the overuse of pesticides and fertilizers are the real reasons why kalo is in the state it is in. Please hear me for I speak for my ancestors as well my progeny. Please support this bill.

Sincerely,

Kihei Nahale-a

Kihei Nahale-a
Hawai'i Community College
Instructor Hawaiian Lifestyles
Director of Mahi'ai Program
200 West Kawili Street
Hilo, Hi. 96720

Testimony of Robert Kapahu Alaka'i
alakainui@hawaii.rr.com

IN SUPPORT
SB958 SD1 HD1 Relating To Genetically Modified Organisms.

Aloha,

My name is Robert Kapahu Alaka'i and I am in strong support of a moratorium or permanent stop on the genetic modification of all taro. Growing up as a child in Waimea, Kauai, taro was an essential part of our lives. My family had a small farm which was dedicated to the growing of taro. We grew several kinds and rotated our crops according to the old ways. It was a common sight for families to grow their own. I don't recall ever when my family bought poi until my family moved out of the Valley. Some may remember when approaching a Hawaiian family home was what greeted you at the door was a strong order of poi fermenting in a covered crock. That was the way many Hawaiian's preferred their poi.

Waimea Poi Mill brand poi was originally in the Valley of Waimea, Kauai before moving to Kalihi on Oahu. The Yokotake family owned and operated the Mill on Kauai. That was where we took our cooked taro to be ground into poi.

This is a small view on what taro meant to me as a young Hawaiian. Today, I get my poi from the market. I deeply embrace my culture and want to share it with my family. I've made a poi pounding board (papa kui ai) and stone pounder (pohaku kui ai). Now I teach my family how to pound poi in the old way (paiai).

Today with the world of science and modernization of technology, we feel the threat of changing something old as time itself - kalo and its deeper meaning for Hawaiians. Modern farming methods, such as monoculture and not rotating your crops, creates its own problems. When disease hits, it wipes out everything. Farmers then look to the scientific world to help rid themselves of disease created by accountants dictating farming methods. Scientists mix the kalo gene pool with plants and animals that would NEVER come together in nature and then claim ownership to control its use for financial gains.

While some science is good, genetic modification is ultimately unsound agriculture and more expensive than common sense crop rotation and sound farming principles. You take care of Mother Nature, Mother Nature will take care of you. GMO will ultimately fail. Realize it now.

Kahu David Kapaku
PO Box 11888
Lahaina, HI 96761

Aloha,

I am a kahu from Maui whose ancestors have lived on the Valley Isle for over 900 years. They settled in the areas of Waihee, Kahakuloa, Honokohau, Honolua and Honokohua from Waimanu Valley between Pololu and Waipio on the Big Island. Although I come from the bloodline of priests, many of my ancestors were makaainana, kalo growers.

At present I live in Honokohau Valley, the longest valley in the state of Hawaii that begins from Pu'u Kukui. In an article from the Maui News eight years ago, there were over 2200 lo'i in the valley estimated. On average, 37 millions gallons of water flowed daily from mauka to makai before diversions took place. The Congregational Church in Honokohau Valley was named Halelana, the Floating House, because of the water that flowed. My great-grandfather, David Kapaku, is mentioned in the book Sites of Maui, as the last taro planter in Honokohau Valley before it went commercial.

As a Hawaiian priest, keep kalo natural. When you alter the original it loses its value. Kalo is the essence of the Hawaiian, it is our eldest brother. As the saying goes, restore the taro and the Hawaiian people will return. We are doing our best to restore the lo'i in Honokohau Valley, slowly but we're getting there. For we know the simple Hawaiian proverb: In the mud we are equal.

Kahu David Kapaku
PO Box 11888
Lahaina, HI 96761
808-665-1417
kapaku@aol.com

Representative Clif Tsuji, Chair of Agriculture Committee
Representative Tom Brower, Vice Chair of Agriculture Committee
Wednesday, March 18th, 2008 – 9:00am
SB958 SD1 HD1 – Relating to Genetically Modified Organisms

Aloha, my name is Summer Starr, resident of Upcountry Maui. I am in strong support of SB958, which provides for a 10-year safety period/moratorium on all genetic modification and patenting of Kalo.

The reasons to enforce such a safety period are staggering:

1. The genetic modification of any organism may have a number of unknown, adverse, and possibly irreversible effects on human health. In our recent history there have been many large-scale works of propaganda to convince us that what is potentially deadly, is actually harmless, and good for us no less i.e.: Tobacco, and DDT. This is not a pattern of deceit we need duplicate.
2. The status of our indigenous and endemic plant life is extremely threatened, and hangs in a delicate balance. We are **not** in any position to allow further endangerment of this fragile system. **Our priority should be the vehement protection of what remains of our unique ecosystems.**
3. Hāloa is an ancestor of the Hawaiian people, and for Kalo to undergo further genetically modification would be insulting and insensitive.
4. There are precautionary forms of scientific research, which do not expose the Kalo to the disrespectful and dangerous genetic engineering.

Please take the testimony from our communities as a strong signal that the people of Hawai'i Nei will not allow technological hubris and cultural insensitivity ruin the integrity of Kalo. **Please, member of the House Committee on Agriculture – pass this bill.**

It is the Legislature's responsibility to protect the health and well being of our people, of our mahi'ai, of our keiki, and of course, of our 'āina. Please don't let corporate interest ruin what is in our best interest.

Thank you kindly, legislators for hearing the concerns of our community. Your consideration and kōkua are greatly appreciated.

Mahalo,
Summer Starr

Testimony Submitted to the House Agriculture Committee
in **Strong Support of SB 958**
Relating to 10-Year Moratorium on Genetic Modification of Taro

Hearing: Wednesday, March 19, 2008, 9:00 am
State Capitol Auditorium, House Conference Room

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice-Chair Brower and Committee Members,

I urge you to support SB 958.

I do not oppose GMO research per se. As an engineer, much of my career has been involved in research. However, I am strongly opposed to the irresponsible manner in which GMO research is being carried out in Hawaii, with no notification to the public regarding the location and nature of experimental GMO field sites; no effective assignment of liability to those who grow GMO crops for consequential health, environmental or other damages associated with those crops; and inadequate controls against the contamination of non-GMO crops from the open air growing of GMO crops.

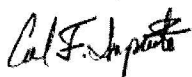
While we should not take risks with any of our food crops, it is doubly important that we not take such risks in the case of taro, which is both culturally significant to many of Hawaii's residents and a mainstay of the Hanalei environment.

For these reasons, I believe it is both prudent and reasonable to impose a ten-year moratorium on the developing, testing, propagating, cultivating, growing, and raising of genetically modified taro in the state of Hawaii.

If during the ten-year moratorium both the academic research community and the industry can affirmatively prove that all of the controls and legal mechanisms have been put into place to fully address all of the potential problems that I have noted above, then subsequent legislation could easily be enacted to end the moratorium.

In the meantime, please support responsible science. Please support SB 958.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



Carl Imperato
PO Box 1102
Hanalei, HI 96714
808-826-1856
carl.imparato@juno.com

Aloha Legislators,

I am an environmental lawyer and journalist with many years experience in Hawaii. I have some expertise in GMOs and for 15 years have covered this technology all over the U.S., in Hawaii, and internationally. I am the author of *Uncertain Peril, Genetic Engineering and the Future of Seeds* which in part deals with biotechnology in Hawaii. In my work, and in my book, I have written about the environmental, political and cultural problems associated with GMOs in Hawaii, and *kalo* in particular. In short, there is nothing to be gained, and much to lose by engineering the *kalo*.

Given peak oil, species extinction rates, and climate change, all of which will hit Hawaii sooner and harder than the rest of the country, the only proven and effective technology for sustainable food production is organic agriculture. The only way Hawaii can continue to thrive is by adopting sustainable, ecologically and culturally sound technologies. GMOs are a discredited and shortsighted commercial technology that have never been shown to be economically or agronomically successful. They lack public benefit and cause genetic pollution. Corn and soy were destroyed by being genetically engineered. Now they are now only good for feeding animals and machines.

If the legislature cares about *kalo*, the limited funds and sound public policy of the state should go towards supporting farmers who grow traditional varieties for their communities and *ohana* and preserving the genetic diversity of this sacred plant.

Claire Hope Cummings

Claire Cummings
335 Newton Way
Angwin, CA 94508

Name:Kealoha Kelekolio
Organizations:Bishop Museum
Neighborhood:Chinatown
Town, Zip Code 96817
Phone/Email: 286-0317 /kealoha@bishoppmuseum.org

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-
Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have been caring for and protecting taro. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,
Kealoha Kelekolio

Aloha Legislators,
From: Tony Kilbert, PO Box 338, Koloa, HI 96756
Manager of the Kaua`i Community College Performing Arts Center

Subject: Strong Support of SB 958, Relating to a 10 year moratorium on testing, propagating, cultivating, growing, and raising genetically engineered taro.

Many countries including Japan, Thailand, the Philippines and the European Union, do not want and will not accept genetically modified food. They understand the nutritional aspect of overall good health and choose to avoid eating any food products containing viral promoters and antibiotic resistance, like the engineered cellular sequences inserted into genetically engineered crops.

The unique marketing tool that farmers have here is the "Made in Hawai`i" label. Hawai`i has an enormous amount of street credibility throughout the world. GMO food is not what we want to be associated with.

I applaud UH for signing a moratorium on doing any further research on Hawaiian Kalo. I was happy to see 3 patents for Kalo being relinquished back to the public commons.

Let's not get so blinded by a science that forces an outcome never possible in nature. I am concerned that our state is putting so much attention into corporate agricultural research and not an equal amount into traditional methods. Conventional and organic crops are what feed the people of Hawai`i.

Please help the taro farmers in Hanalei and around the state, to keep their product pure and desirable.

Sincerely,
Tony Kilbert

Tony Kilbert
PO Box 338
Koloa, HI 96756
tkilbert@netscape.net

Julia Trumble and Matt Charron
Aloha images art gallery, downtown Kapaa. Parents of a 6 month old baby
Kapahi
Kapaa, 96746
808-821-0121 julia@alohaimages.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,
We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that **does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering**. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to **protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources** by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Julia Trumble
Matt Charron
Jackson Charron

Kalo, Our Bread of life! A'ole GMO!!

Support SB958

Aloha!

Kalo(taro) Has been in our generations. It is our lifeline, our bread of life. Poi has always been an important part of our diet. Something as precious as our Kalo should be left alone and kept in the most natural.

In Old Hawaii there was no such thing as GMO, kalo was planted to give life, not to be twicked to fit into our times. Allow us to preserve what we hold dear. Please consider keeping it as it should and has always been.

Our Hawaiians already have to fight for so much that has been stolen. There should be no more animosity towards our Kau Kau(Food).

With much respect and aloha,
Aja A. Kalama
kaohenani@yahoo.com

Regarding Senate Bill #958.

I completely support this bill. I am a Kupuna mai Oahu mai, my husband is the late David Kahelemauna Roy, Jr. from Kawanui Kona.

Our Moopuna for several generations to come are our concern regarding this particular issue.

SUPPORT SENATE BILL # 958.

Sincerely,

Verda Roy, Kailua Kona
kinaulove@yahoo.com

Support for SB958

Lana Stuart
Hana, Maui
camaraohana@earthlink.net

Aloha, from our family and especially my 7 month old, Pohaku who loves poi.

We are from the Hana district and are concerned that GMO's will do irreparable damage to our taro in the garden.

Please support the 10 year moratoreum on GMO of all the taro species in Hawaii, if only a select few are protected it will eventually infiltrate them all.
If you are our voice please let us be heard.
Mahalo,
The Camara Ohana

Cullen Yee
924 Green Street, #1
Honolulu, HI 96822
cmjee@hawaii.edu

Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958 – 10 YEAR MORATORIUM ON THE GENETIC MODIFICATION ON TARO

Aloha Legislator:

I write to compel you to support the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification of all varieties of taro. As a kanaka maoli, 'ōiwi, or native son of Hawai'i with a deep love and respect for the Hawaiian language, Culture and traditions, I urge you to hear what our people have to say. Our respect and love for the taro goes back thousands of years and has remained somewhat unchanged for all that time. The taro is our ancestor, Haloanakalaukapalili and it is one of our most dearly held beliefs. And because we believe this, every time we go into to the lo'i and mālama the taro there is such a great sense of peace and serenity that is felt. Don't get me wrong, cultivating taro is strenuous work, but is a labor of love for the Hawaiian people. Also, it is very therapeutic and I believe, working in the lo'i can bring healing to your mind, body and soul. You might not think it is a big deal by doing some genetic modifications but to the native people of Hawai'i, it is a ginormous (gigantic + enormous) deal. My family were all taro farmers on Waialua, Moloka'i. They spent numerous hours taking care of the taro in the lo'i or taro patches by cultivating, weeding and doing whatever was necessary to ensure the growth of the taro so that they could feed their families. Unfortunately, most of them have passed away, but the next generation of Hawaiians are assuming the responsibility to ensure that our keiki will have the opportunities to learn about the taro and all of it's spiritual benefits.

In conclusion, I urge you to support bill SB958. Hear the pleas of the mahi'ai or farmers of Hawai'i. We love our language, culture and traditions and we will humbly exercise our rights to oppose anything that is not pono to them.

Mālama Hāloa! Mālama Pono.

Cullen Palekauamaikalani Yee

Diane Wong
Kalama Valley, Oahu

IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB958- 10 year moratorium on GMO of KALO

Aloha

My name is Diane Wong. I am the mother of 5 Hawaiian children and the grandmother to 5 Hawaiian grandchildren. I am asking you, our elected law makers, to do what is right. Our precious kalo is under attack and you can pass laws to protect our kalo. Genetic modification is not needed to protect kalo. Haloa has been doing wonderfully well on it's own. It does not need to be studied or modified in any way. It is the most pure of foods. Kalo is the perfect "first food" for our babies. Not only is this an important food, kalo is our 'ohana.

So much of what is Hawaiian have been taken from our people. We must and we will stand up to fight to protect our elder brother.

PROTECT OUR 'OHANA!!! PROTECT OUR KALO!!!

mahalo

Diane Wong
Dwongz1@yahoo.com
3950238

Nan Watari <nwatari@hawaii.edu>

Re. SB958

I want you all to have these GMO Reaction Papers that were turned in to me. I offered extra credit to any one writing anything about GMO (though there were none turned in that were in support of GMOs.) These papers are all one page only and state "share" at the bottom by the author. The students who wrote them expect that you all share them in the struggle to outlaw GMOs...in legislature, etc.

Mahalo,
Nan Watari

Christina M Hanson
12/11/07
Anthropology

GMO Discussion Paper

Before I moved to Hawaii almost 2 years ago, I had never heard of GMO and food sources. I had heard about all the controversy with cloning, but that was about all. The medical side of it all really shocks me. How companies, that have support of our government, can grow crops this way without any real controls is pretty terrifying. For all they know, 20 years from now everyone that has ever eaten this stuff could have cancer. It could also be safe, but how does anyone know? What can even be done to fix the issue if people start getting sick? According the Dr. Pang, the genetically modified genes makes their way into other organisms, possibly other plants. By the time that they figure out if it is safe or not for the long run, it will be a situation beyond control. Not to be melodramatic, but it reminds me of a scary movie that shows how our abuse of the world will lead to the end of the world as we know it.

share

GMO

I think that the class we had on learning about GMO was very interesting and it makes me more aware now of what is going on in our own backyard. Some of the facts that we were told disgusted me as a Kuaian. I don't think that it is right that GMO foods are being tested and grown here especially when you can get highly fined and put in jail for just bringing fruit on the plane to Hawai'i without declaring it, but they are going to contaminate our land with plants that could harm us overall and even more over time. It really makes you think about sick people and what is the true reason that their sickness originates from. Share!

GMO – Genetically Modified Organisms and their use in Hawai‘i—Anthro 200 A. Taukave written 12/12/2007. Final discussion Paper.

I am grateful to have learnt more about genetically modified organisms and their experimentation and use here in Hawai‘i. The science behind GMO’s are somewhat convincing and the motives appear to be noble in trying to stop world hunger but on closer inspection, the opposite is what’s happening. The science, with the goal of producing crops that are resistant to disease and other environmental factors that destroy yield and increase productivity is still unproven to be harmful or harmless and it appears that we can only tell its effects in the long run. This should automatically call the precautionary principle into practice because GMO’s could be harmful to human consumption but unfortunately our government has sanctioned its go ahead without really testing its effects on the human population.....this sounds like asbestos that was said to be initially harmless until its ‘cancer causing agents ‘ were discovered much later in the long run.

What’s even worse is that our government has partnered with huge corporations like Monsanto and Dow and many others to try to patent our natural food crops by altering its make-up and declaring the crop theirs by genetically modifying it. This will make farmers have to go and purchase seeds from ^{these} ~~the~~ companies.....hmmm sounds like a monopoly action where control is the main goal and not the starvation resolution that ^{they} seem to tout about. I am deeply pissed off as I write this and feel that we should do all we can in our power to oppose this b s! ...And they should STOP the testings already because it exposes us to God knows what! This was a wake up call for me and please use this letter to support the movement against GMO’s.

without our knowledge or at least our opinions?

Why have we as a state been chosen for the most GMO testing? + why is our govt. secretive about this without proper supervision + controls?

share

Jeremy Ferguson

Soc 100

12/3/07

N. Watari

Extra Credit Discussion Paper

medic response

GMO's is quite a controversial topic because there are a few ways it can be looked at. The main one is the possibility of it being able to help world hunger but then we come to find out that many countries are rejecting the GMO's because they seem to cause more bad than good. Next we come to find all these bad outcomes of GMO's. Bees are dying, there are more problems with other crops, cancer and other negative outcomes of the human body are happening and yet 75 percent of Hawaii's food supply is GMO. This just goes to show that money is the root of all evil. Every major person in government who approves of GMO's is getting highly paid to allow GMO's to be tested. You would think that they might think of the outcomes but they don't. So yeah you're getting paid, but that's not going to help your children from getting cancer or mental problems, even your children's children. The worst part is that this is an entire operation of people trying to play God. Nothing good ever comes from someone trying to play God, only more and more problems are bound to occur.

5/11/08

Joy Ozelie
SOC 100

“Islands at Risk”

I watched a video called “Islands at Risk” on November 27, 2007. The video was very interesting and I learned some alarming statistics about our islands. I have to admit that I am a bit unfamiliar with genetically modified organisms (GMO); I only knew that GMOs are a threat to the food supply. The video has provided information about the ill effects on the environment, the major companies involved, and what we can do to protect ourselves. I didn't realize the negative impact of this technology and I promote the discontinued use of GMO.

I believe that there should be more public awareness available. GMO has been around for more fifteen years, and only now I am only learning about this issue. I have been poisoning my body without my knowledge or consent. Companies that use these GMO ingredients should properly label their products for the public. I have a five-year-old daughter and I am willing to pay the extra money to have GMO-free food. We should all have a choice and the right to know what is in our food products. I will now buy more organic type foods and read my labels better. I hope this letter of support helps the GMO-free cause.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy Ozelie".

Joy Ozelie, Resident of Kauai

*Please share this letter with whom it may concern.

Kevin Matsuura

Nan Watari

Sociology 100 (0)

4 December 2007

After hearing such statistics as 75 percent GMO in our state, all that is embedded in my brain is anti-GMO. And to make it worse, we are the worst in the U.S. as far as GMO production is concerned. Most, if not all of it is the governments doing, not having strict regulations for example. And also making sure it is extremely far from residential areas because it is then when the threat becomes bigger.

People should have the right to know whether the food they are consuming is GMO seed produced or not. It is proven that a lot of GMO Products are not safe for human consumption. Actually it was first tested on animals (mice/rats) and proven unsafe from them. Although the government might make more money off of such projects, it is in its citizens interests to do what other countries have done and ban GMO products from this country.

Since the introduction of GMO products in the 70's health problems have steadily gone up. This includes such things as cancer and diabetes. Putting another gene in an organism from a different organism, is initially like playing God, but unfortunately it isn't really. It is just tampering with what is already there unnaturally. If GMO keeps on spreading, it will affect a lot of island life, especially but not limited to hunters, farmers, fishermen, business people, etc....

can share

Genetically engineered foods have the potential of introducing new allergies. "Biological pollution" is also a risk of new vulnerability to disease of one species becoming dominant in an ecosystem, and of gene transfer from one species to another. I am a single mother to a one-year-old baby boy. Although I would like to keep my son in a safety bubble, I cannot. After learning about GMOs in Hawaii, I am extremely scared for the health of my innocent son. I should be notified of GMO food while shopping for our food at the grocery store. I try my best to purchase organic locally grown food, but now I cannot be certain these foods are safe anymore. From what I have learned recently about GMO's I cannot be sure, the food I buy is safe for human consumption. I fear that cancer in children, infertility, ADHD, autism, and dementia may be linked to GMO's. Nobody can assure me that these diseases are not caused by GMO's. The effects of GM foods and crops are unknown. GMO toxins can be spread up to seven miles by bee pollination. Our bee colonies are dying at rapid rates. Toxins spread rapidly on the islands, nowhere on the islands will be safe. Once you release GMO's into our environment, you cannot take them back. The GMO fields are contaminating our soil, bodies, the air we breathe, our environment, and our children. Hawaii should not be sacrificed land, for this is sacred land. We do not need or want these harmful GMO crops in Hawaii. I should be able to feed my child food that I know is safe. I should not have to test the papaya tree in my yard for GMO's. I should not have to worry about the air I breathe. I do not understand why our children are now guinea pigs to the GMO experiment. Please stop GMO in Hawaii, it is already out of control.

ok to share

Jessica Fu
Sociology 100
Reaction to "Islands At Risk" video

I've watched this video a few times now and every time I watch it, the more I learn and the greater I feel against genetic engineering (GE). I first heard of genetic engineering in middle school. Public school taught me all the great possibilities that genetic engineering could do for people around the world. What I remember my science teachers as well as the news sources telling me is that new scientific research on GE was being done to possibly cure diseases, make more food, and clone for beneficial reasons. They asked us students questions like, "What if science were able to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease? Would you think this type of research is bad?" And of course at this point in time coincidentally my grandmother was dying of Alzheimer's disease, so of course my response was in support of GE. Now that I think back death is inevitable and the research done would be more beneficial to the public if we found what causes the disease instead of cures it. In public school I was also taught to trust authority. I believed that science and technology could only do good. Now I know different. Science can be used to the advantage of scientist and those in power.

Watching this video I now know exactly how all this research has directly affected my life. I've been eating genetically modified fruits and vegetables for some time now and had no idea! It angers me that Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) are in about 75 % of the foods in Hawai'i and are circling about our food chain. It makes me extremely angry that some of the most experimental test sites in the whole state and nation exist here on *ku'u 'one hanau*, or my beloved birth sands. GE and GMO threaten local farmers and other working to grow pure organic foods. Once an organism is modified and living amongst all of us in the environments, it can never be recalled and reproduces more GMOs. We know not the affects of GE and GMO on many organisms and the environment, yet we continue to alter life forms. GE and GMO are not only a local but huge global problem. We are contaminating the global commons food source, eliminating biodiversity, taking away from sustainable agriculture, and nurturing more health complications through genetic engineering.

Last but not least the ethical issues that GE bring about globally are enough reason to stop GE. How is it possible to patent someone like taro? I could go on forever why I disagree with GE and fee these experiments should be immediately stopped. We have the right to know what is in our food and how it has been modified (which is not required at this time). American society has put so much trust in the name of science that we have gone above and beyond with our experimenting. We have even tricked ourselves to believe we can own life forms. Well we can't! We can only preserve them the way our ancestors have been doing through means of proper breeding and seed collecting. I hope the more people around the world get word of all that is happening with genetic engineering in Hawai'i so that we can make educated decisions about the existence of genetically modified organisms in our fragile world.

Share me...

Robyn Serquina
Soc 100
Professor Nan Watari
December 4, 2007

Reaction Paper

What I learned after watching "~~Tragedy of the Commons~~" I became afraid for myself and my family due to the fact that we have lived in Hawaii for many years and have no information about hybrid crops. We did not know that there are actual crops being tested and grown right here on the island. Even though it is illegal not to label the products that are being tested, there are companies that do the testing who fail to label their products. As of right now there are no methods of testing for what is being injected into the products if anyone or anything were to consume them.

When watching the video the first thing that came to my mind was, "How can people like Monsanto continue this dangerous experiment that could cost people their lives and be able to get away with such experiments?" Right now we do not know where or how big the crops that are being tested are.

There are many people on the island that use both the land and ocean for sustenance. How would people know if the animals that they have caught were infected with a gene that has been tested on the crops? If a person were to get infected because they have consumed an animal that has eaten something that has been injected with the genes and I became sick the physicians would not know what to test for.

After learning a little more about GMO I feel that it is not right for companies to test products without the public aware of this. How can these companies not care about public safety or the island itself? I feel that we as an island should do what we can to get rid of these dangerous testing that could hurt our families. I feel that there are a lot of hungry people on the island, instead of planting genetically engineered foods; companies should start planting fields with products that are safer to consume.

Yes you have my permission to share my Reaction.

Robyn Serquina

Moana Kuma
Kailua Kona
kinaulove@yahoo.com

From the most ancient times, our people have depended on the Kalo for good health and well being.

Each part of this wonderful plant has a DIRECT relationship to our Hawaiian people.
I support completely Senate Bill # 958.

M. Kuma, Kailua Kona

State Senators, State of Hawaii
State Representatives, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Legislature

Subject: SB 958, HB 704, Genetically Modified
Organisms, Taro, Moratorium

ALOHA Kakou,

My name is Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney.
As Sovereign of the Hawaiian Political Action
Council of Hawaii, I am in full "SUPPORT" of
the intent of
SB 958 and HB 704. I further am in Support of
a
public hearing on both of these Bills.

KAULANA NA PUA O HAWAII

Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney, Sovereign
Hawaiian Political Action Council of Hawaii

Vicki Vierra Graphic Design
HC 1 Box 5077
Keaau Hawaii 96749
808 966 6333
fax 966 4233

Aloha!

Regarding SB958, the kalo is perfect as it is, and has no need for genetic modification. I support a ten-year moratorium (at least) on GMO tinkering with kalo. It has managed to survive and thrive for thousands of years without any help from scientists. It will continue to survive if we can keep their hands off it's DNA.

Sincerely,
Vicki Vierra

Sandra Herneon
4433 Panihi Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746
pb1wahine@yahoo.com

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a moratorium on genetic modification of Kalo. The research has been insufficient to warrant the dangerous, unknown effects that will affect this staple of our culture...both as food, medicine and historical ancestry. It is not pono to even consider the "patenting" of Kalo. It is disrespectful to the kanaka, to the aina, and to all of us who truly live Aloha.

Mahalo nui for your support in this issue.
Sandra Herneon
4433 Panihi Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746

Arlen Guieb

waianae_gama@live.com

85-925 lihue st

waianae, HI 96792

Aloha Legislators,

my name is arlen guieb and i just wanted to say let the kalo bill pass

Arlen Guieb

85-925 lihue st

waianae, HI 96792

I'd like to strongly urge you and your legislative colleagues to support Sb958 to pass without obstruction. As a member of this community, this island, far from outside sources for food, it is OBVIOUS to me how important our local agriculture is.

It is reprehensible, irresponsible to think that the well-being of Hawaii's population is put second to the profits of multinational corporations wanting to 'research' the profitiability of genetic modification of the taro.

It is also reprehensible that such an industry would seek to patent a plant sacred to Hawaiian culture and life.

Please do EVERYTHING you can to be of service to this bill and see that it passes. Please do not allow yourself to be compromised by any conflict of interest.

I am disappointed to know how difficult it has already been for the Hawaii Seed and the other organizations to have a fair hearing. I'm concerned to know that they haven't had better support from legislators who are supposed to be providing support to constituents.

Please know how important this bill is and support it.

Michael J. Moore
72 Halaulani Place
Hilo Hawaii 96720

Joshua Mangauil
Mamalahoa.
Honoka'a, HI 96727
lanakila_nyce@yahoo.com

Protect Kalo from GMO-testing and Patenting

Aloha legislators,

I am a young Hawaiian man from the small town of Honoka'a on the big island of hawaii. A short drive from Waipi'o valley, kalo has been a part of my life for as long as i can remember. I fully support a 10 year moratorium on any and all forms of genetic modifications my my elder brother Haloa, the kalo.

Mahalo anui loa, god knew what he was doing when he created life on this planet, he dont need them messing it up more then we have already have.

Joshua Mangauil
Mamalahoa.
Honoka'a, HI 96727

Krimsen Kalama
Waimanalo 96795

Hawai'i State Legislators

SB958-10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro- IN
SUPPORT

As a native Hawaiian resident on the island of O'ahu. I feel that I have the right to voice my opinion and also have the right to be heard heard. Yes! True, I don't have much experience in a democratic field or community status since I am only 23 but, I do have more experience in Hawai'i and Hawaiian culture than the people who wish to exploit our Hawaiian culture. And as members of Hawai'i, whether you have Hawaiian blood or not you should have respect for what "Us" as Hawaiians stand for. My question to you is Why would we as a Hawaiian Government/Nation come together and sell ourselves short? What has the Hawaiians that make up Hawai'i have to gain? What are the board members getting out of having genetically modified Kalo be raised here and let alone say it is of Hawai'i? Why would we give up our life style which is Kalo? I am not for having genetically modified Kalo grown within Hawai'i. My point of view is this... And i'll use the term "If it's not broken then why fix it, let alone alter it.". Why take away our main source of hawai'i? True it's not yet an endangered species of plant. But, we are a dying race. Are you willing to be that selfish and pass off a patent in which us as a government hasn't created? What gives you the right? I know most of the letter's you have received in regards to the genetically modified taro are more elaborate in why we wish to not have "GMO" grown within Hawai'i. But, it's 3 a.m. And I could not sleep because since hearing about this issue it has been bothering me. My mother proved a point in her letter. With a story of ancient Hawai'i. A story I grew up with about Haloa. The first Hawaiian male child which had passed away and above his body from where he was buried sprouted the the Kalo plant in which his parents saw fit to feed their second child from the core of the kalo. This child they also named Haloa who was the first born male of our race to live. The first food to nourish his body was Kalo. And behind every cultural story there is truth. For generations up until now we have not once had a problem with our native plant. So again why fix what isn't broken? I am of Christian stature yet, proud to be of

Hawaiian Ancestry. I believe in what Hawai'i used to stand for. All I ask is that us as a community go into this experiment with our eyes wide open. And be sure that the Hawaiian communities get back just as much as the board members. I am proud to be an American but, I live in Hawai'i and I prefer to keep it Hawai'i, Not alter it. I am writing this letter with the utmost respect for the government and the farmers board but also as an equal member of the same State. Hoping to get my voice heard..

Aloha No! Krimsen Kalama

Virginia von Wellsheim
HRC 156
Hana ,HI
96713-808
248 8859

SB958- IN SUPPORT

Aloha Legislators,

Please protect our taro from genetic modification. There is no way to know at this point all the ramifications of genetically modifying anything.

I heard that Japan refused genetically modified papayas, so the Big Island farmer gave them to the pigs & the pigs wouldn't eat them. That says alot. We should not be treated like rats in an experiment, feeding us genetically modified foods, when we really don't know how it will affect us.

Please pass a law for a 10 year moratorium on genetic modification of kalo. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Virginia von Wellsheim

Jeremy Cann
Palolo, Oahu
discbydesign@yahoo.com

Aloha,

I would like to support SB958 for the preservation of kalo taro by not allowing it to be genetically modified. As my understanding goes, when you genetically modify an organism, it can be patented and thereby owned. Imagine someone owning the food you love to eat. I do not want to grow food crops that are not owned by God. Please support whatever you need to, to protect our food.

Mahalo

Jeremy Cann

thegreenhousehawaii.com

Mandy K Sinclair <mandyks@hawaii.edu>
Aloha,

On behalf of the Mathias, Paliokawelo, and Sinclair 'ohanas of Māui, NO GMO!
Hāloanakalaukapalili cannot and should not, under any circumstances, be genetically modified. Genetically modification completely disrupts any naturally occurring organisms and its environment. If you change Haloa, you will forever change the Hawaiian people. You will change who we are and what we stand for! We are already an oppressed people and the last thing we need is the root of our culture ripped from our na'au! Dont you understand!?!? Being a Hawaiian is knowing your past to understand your future. If you take our past away, you will completely cut-off the way we think, breath, and live. Our futures will be forever changed and our people forever lost. Our geneologies are the roots of our culture that connect us to who we are. KŪ'Ē, KŪ'Ē, KŪ'Ē! Mai Kuhihewa, DO NOT be mislead, this is a horrible and unjust action that will have devastating consequences that will last forever. E 'olu'olu, NO GMO HĀLOA!

o wau keia,
Kēhaulani Sinclair

Aloha Legislators,

Aloha Legislators,

I believe in having and strongly support at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawaii by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, as well as our unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Please do not hesitate to protect Haloa, pass SB 958 now!

Mahalo,
Lynette Awaya

Lynette Awaya
3542 Pinao St.
Honolulu, HI 96822

Julianne Omoto <omotoj@hawaii.edu>
Aloha Legislators,

I am writing to ask that you support the 10-year moratorium on developing, testing, propagating, cultivating, growing, and raising genetically engineered kalo (taro) in the State and patenting of the kalo plant species.

For centuries kalo has been a sacred food source and has a sacred ancestry all the way back to the legend of the very first kalo, Haloa. It would be disrespectful to the Hawaiian people because to them, kalo is like a family member and the genesis of man.

Also, it would alter the foundation of the Taro's DNA and change the way it was meant to be. Genetically modified kalo can cross-pollinate with native kalo varieties and can potentially create dangerous and long-term effects to the kalo, environment, and the agriculture business as a whole.

Please help protect the culture and the environment!

Mahalo,
Julianne Omoto

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

I am writing to ask that you support the 10-year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of taro. Taro is a sacred and valuable part of our island community. I join with the taro farmers of Hawaii and others who care deeply about Hawaii's future as well as its cultural traditions in calling upon you to vote in support of the 10-year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of taro.

Thank you,

Diana Bethel
1441 Victoria Street, Suite 402
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
808-523-2906
diana4578@gmail.com

Dayle Bethel
1441 Victoria Street, Suite 402
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
808-523-2906
dbethel@hawaiiantel.net

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

I am writing to ask that you support the 10-year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of taro. As a retired professor of anthropology I feel especially strongly about this bill. Taro is a sacred and valuable part of our island community. I join with the taro farmers of Hawaii and others who care deeply about Hawaii's future as well as its cultural traditions in calling upon you to vote in support of the 10-year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of taro.

Thank you,

Dayle Bethel

Kamakana M. Aquino
Waimānalo Hawai'i 96795
kmaquino@hawaii.edu

TESTIMONY – IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-
Aloha mai kākou,

I write to ask that you support SB958, the 10 year Moratorium on genetic modification organisms, especially our kalo (taro).

The kalo is a very essential part of our Hawaiian culture. Our traditions tell us that Hāloanakalaukapalili was the first child of Wākea and Ho'ohökūkalani, the first kalo. The second child was named Hāloa to honor his older brother, the first ali'i (chief) and where all Hawaiians descend. Hawaiians and many people in Hawai'i use the concept of mālama 'āina (care for the land). It is a relationship between the 'āina (land) and the people. As we care for the land, protect it, cultivate it, the land will care for us and provide us with abundance of foods. Hāloanakalaukapalili is our older sibling who takes care of us, we the younger siblings cares for kalo and the 'āina. Kalo is our main staple of food; it provides us the natural nutrients.

To take a natural plant, a plant that is sacred and food to the Hawaiian people, and add chemicals is very disrespectful. I am not a farmer, but I am Hawaiian and I have worked in Kānewai Lo'i, taro patch, at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. It is based on traditional knowledge. No chemicals or alterations for example adding of rice or wheat to the kalo should take place at all. It should be grown the right way.

Please help protect our kalo by voting "YES" for the 10-year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Mālama Hāloa, Mālama Pono,
Kamakana M. Aquino

Aloha Council Members,

We, the undersigned would like to ask for you to support Senate Bill 958, regarding the 10 year moratorium on genetic engineering research of taro. You can do this simply by passing the resolution supporting the passage of Senate Bill 958, which is due to be heard at the legislature on the 19th of March. A similar resolution was passed unanimously at a Hawai'i county council meeting.

By passing the resolution to support Senate Bill 958, you, the county council, will have shown that you listen to the voices of your constituents, and being true to your elected position, followed through with the interests of the citizenry, and not corporate interests.

We would like to thank you in advance for your support, and will remember your actions during the upcoming elections.

Mahalo Nui,

Cindo Rodrigues
Paia 96779 264-1176

Cindo E. Rodrigues

Aloha Legislators,

I am deeply concerned with the prospect for private or public entities to have the ability to genetically modify Kalo/Taro. I have many reservations about this process. First it is completely outside of nature, they are known to use, on taro, wheat, rice and grape genes, and they are known to use antibiotics and E. coli to inject genes into Kalo/Taro. They also have the potential to use viruses to inject the genes, and the potential of using animal genes and other plant species to make modifications. The list goes on and on, and they have no idea what the ramifications of their actions may be. They also want to use this as a tool to work towards privatization of plant species, land and water are already privatized in many areas of the world, and now people want to own the rights, to what nature has freely given all humans, the plants that grow from the ground. I can also delve into the how it is going to effect the Hawaiians culture and ecological traditions, if these new breeds of Kalo/Taro begin to cross pollinate with the species that already exist, and they will, then you will be destroying Hawaiian ancestors that go back at least twelve hundred years. I am a haole, I have lived in Hawaii for three years, I own a business in Hawaii, I plan to live here for many more, and I always plan on placing my vote. Please, I beg you to be someone worth voting for in the upcoming election. Vote for the moratorium SB958 for all varieties of Taro in Hawaii.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Mark Lewis

THD Credit Consulting

808-333-7255

Lewvega@yahoo.com

P.O. Box 10219

Hilo, HI 96721

z zephyr <salsamaui@hotmail.com>

Aloha,

Please support the moratorium on GMO taro.

Steve Broos

2125 kauhikoa rd , Haiku , Hi 96708

Testimony for SB 958, 10 year moratorium on GMO Kalo

Madam/Sir:

I am Ina Roessler, a registered voter in the state of Hawaii and a nine year full time resident of Kaua'i.

The Kalo of our Island and all the islands of Hawaii must be protected from the unknown and known threats of genetic manipulation. It is vital food for us and all those on the Islands and must be kept safe to eat.

Spiritually, this precious plant is Haloa, the ancestor of the Hawaiian people. Tampering with it becomes a matter of sacrilege.

Respectfully yours, Ina Roessler

Roessler

PO Box 223749

Princeville HI 96722

3/05/08

us@kuaigems.com

philip rusnak <inspire6192116@hotmail.com>

As people we are blessed with the ability to question and reason, not just with ourselves, but with everything. Science is working around the clock to answer the questions, culture is working around the clock to ask for reasons. Genetic modifications of organisms raises more questions than it will ever answer. The hyper paced developments leave me to no choice but to demand moritoriums on all "products" especialy on culturaly sensitive organisms. Please do not alter, change, delete, and especialy patent taro!

Thank You, Philip Amador-Rusnak

Aloha legislators,

As a former resident of Hawai'i and one who has nieces and nephews who live on these islands, I am against the cultivation of GMO taro in this state. The dangers of GMO modification dispersing into the general plant population have already been shown to exist. Please support the ten-year moratorium on GMO taro (bill SB958).

Thank you,

Caroline Metzler
970.984.3539 | 970.366.6690
5033 CR 335 | space #165 | New Castle | CO 81647
coyotecreative@gmail.com

In Support SB958

Please support this bill. This is very important for the future.

Mahalo,
Vicki McCarty
P O Box 12245
Lahaina, HI 96761

Andrea Baer
aabaer@aol.com

Aloha Legislators,
Please do not allow genetic modification on Hawai'i's crops. It is not a proven, nor time-tested science and there have been many instances of cross-contamination of non-GM crops.

Andrea Baer
Mapu Place
Kihei, HI 96753

Twyla Cloyd
tecloyd@hotmail.com
Kaunakakai, Molokai

To whom it may concern:

It seems like an extremely dangerous idea to allow taro to be included in the GMO push. People all over the world are watching to see how the House of Representatives and the Senate of Hawaii respond to another possible tendency to ignore Hawaii's unique culture.

I am firmly behind the SB958 for **ALL** varieties of taro/kalo in Hawaii. This bill must protect **ALL** varieties of kalo, not just the Hawaiian varieties. Genetic modification of any variety of the taro plant species is a danger to the entire species and a danger to the purity of the Hawaiian varieties.

Please take a stand to protect the taro in its present forms. Allow the plant of the Hawaiian people that is part of their living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition be saved from those not interested in respecting the values of the Hawaiians and their culture.

Sincerely,

Twyla Cloyd

"Dr. Carol Ann Washburn Annie" <vision@visionus.com>

We are writing to ask that you ask support at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. This is a critical issue and please give it your immediate attention. We strongly support sustainable farming. We also support precautionary research that will not expose the taro species to genetic engineering! We must support our farmers and scientists in using only PROVEN over time methods that protect our taro from invasive pests and diseases. We join the farmers of Hawai'i in asking for your protection by voting YES for the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Respectfully,

Dr. Carol Ann Washburn and Dr. Scout Cloud Lee

Noe Lecker
PO Box 113
Hana, HI 96713
February 29, 2008
SB 958

Aloha Legislators,

I am writing to ask for your support of the 10 year moratorium on all forms of the genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. You may already know the history of the farmers in Hawai'i who have cared for and protected many varieties of taro.

In Hawai'i taro is a very important resource of not just food, but for cultural values as well. The Taro (Kalo) represents the strength of the people. It is used for food, medicine, a symbol of Ohana, agricultural and industry value here in Hawaii.

I support the farmers and those in the scientific field in the aspect of them using a safe method that can help protect our Taro from disease and other chemical that can destroy them. I am strongly against the form of any genetic engineering or any method of modifying any variety of Taro, it is an insult to our Kupunas, our people today and to the next generation. Please hear the hearts of the people by protecting and sustaining a cultural plant that will not die away or be destroy because of modification, but help protect the Taro so we can pass this valuable native resource unto the next generations as our Kupunas have done for us.

Mahalo,
Noe Lecker
PO Box 113
Hana, HI 96713

stephanni powell <stephannipowell@yahoo.com

Dear Sirs,

I am Stephanni Powell from Hood River, Oregon. I am in support of the 10year Moratorium on the genetic modification of Taro, SB958.

I recently took my first trip to Hawaii to visit relatives, and was so impressed with the Hawaiian culture, and the people trying to hold on to that culture. I live on the Mainland and know the Hawaiians have it right. Hold on to that culture. We, the mainland could learn alot from the Hawaiian culture. Please don't take away the seeds of life.

Thank You,

Stephanni Powell

Aloha Council Members,

We, the undersigned would like to ask for you to support Senate Bill 958, regarding the 10 year moratorium on genetic engineering research of taro. You can do this simply by passing the resolution supporting the passage of Senate Bill 958, which is due to be heard at the legislature on the 19th of March. A similar resolution was passed unanimously at a Hawai'i county council meeting.

By passing the resolution to support Senate Bill 958, you, the county council, will have shown that you listen to the voices of your constituents, and being true to your elected position, followed through with the interests of the citizenry, and not corporate interests.

We would like to thank you in advance for your support, and will remember your actions during the upcoming elections.

Mahalo Nui,

DERECK KALAWAN

Puuuwa, 96768

(808) 264-5476



From: Mary Barter
59-529 Hoalike Rd.
Haleiwa, 96712
mmbarter@hawaii.rr.com

In support of SB958 a ten year moratorium on all genetic engineering of all Taro.

Dear Legislators,

Please help protect the DNA of all Taro, from the grotesque tampering of genetic engineering.

Let us trust the Hawaiian people to care for this sacred member of their family in the way they know is right.

Why listen instead to molecular geneticists all of whom work for companies that want to profit from this technology?

The fact is the scientists who create this technology are specialists, yet they lack the particular scientific training necessary to credibly evaluate its impact. The scientists needed for that task would be plant ecologists, experimental nutritionists, and others, who have expressed environmental and safety concerns that eclipse even the disease fears GE purveyors try to spread.

There has been much convincing evidence that careful observation and culture are the key to healthy Taro. Drastic measures such as GE are dangerous and strike yet again, at the soul of Hawaiian culture.

Instead of allowing for-profit corporations to dictate to the growers, who are the field scientists intimate with the culture of Taro, revivifying Hawaiian culture and tradition, doesn't it make more sense to ask these growers how the legislature can help them to help Taro in ways that are pono?

Thank you for this opportunity to speak,
Mary Barter

House Committee on Agriculture, Clift Tsuji, Chairperson

I support SB958 and I would to keep my Hawaiian kalo the way my kupuna's did.

mahalo, Kini Kaleilani

1265 ainaola dr , Hilo , Hi 96720

[E-mail..ulikini@earthlink.net](mailto:ulikini@earthlink.net)

House Committee on Agriculture

I support bill SB958. Leave Taro Alone.

Ron Nagata rsn576@yahoo.com

House Committee on Agriculture, Clift Tsuji chairperson

ISUPPUORT SB958-10 YEAR MOATORIUM ON THE GENETIC MODIFICATION OFTARO.

ALAN CLAYTON HAUKI 2184 KEAAU HI 96749.CO-937-0711.

House Committee on Agriculture, Clift Tsuji Chairman

I urge you to support Bill SB-958, the moratorium on GMO Taro.
This is uncalled for, and is not beneficial to Hawaii or its people.

Please do your job and represent the people of Hawaii and not
special foreign interest that only benefit a minority and deploy
a controversial and possible environmental catastrophe.

Sincerely

Richard Lionheart
Hilo, Hawaii
(808) 959-4757

House Committee on Agriculture, Cliff Tsuji Chairman

I support SB958 because this is a democracy and people want choice to have untampered food.

The problem is not taro, but the industrial agricultural methods using chemicals without restoring the soil.

Mahalo,

Merle Hayward

1574 Wailuku Drive

Hilo, HI 96720

(808) 934-7812

blackbird4aloha@yahoo.com

House Committee on Agriculture, Cliff Tsuji Chairperson

I am a poi eater, and I support Bill SB958. We do not want any GMO, please. From
Rebecca,Hilo,HI 96720.;

my ohana is from waipio valley and i support sb958-brendie shibata 775-1369

My genealogy comes from Waipio Valley. The Hawaiians knew back then and now how to best malama the taro.

Let the farmers continue to malama the taro the way our ancestors did.

I support SB 958.

Mahalo,

Leonard S. Tanaka
President
T&T ELECTRIC, INC.
KA'IULANI 4, LLC
808-935-9029 ext 14

I am a student from Na Pua Noeau I support sb958. I worked in a taro patch. Please leave our taro alone... manipulate your own property. Leave Hawaii to Hawaiians... We malama our own aina without your help...

leave hawaii alone.

Rubu-Ann Lee. 808.640.5705.

rubyann808@hotmail.com

This is nahe and im dissappointed about the GMO taro that is being made and i think that it5 should be stopped. if it is stopped it helps the native taro grow, not the fake ones. so thanks for hearing me out. Leave um hawaiian. (808)3454277. i support SB958!

I am a Kaimu Native born and raised. I love to eat poi everyday that is my culture. So can ypu please leave the poi alone..

Thanks, Leialoha

Aloha legislators

please kokua dont allow G.M.O testing to be done on colocasia esculenta. My name is Kaila Alva I am from the island of Oahu and i have experience working culturally with taro and I know the value and ethics that can come from one day of huling kalo with family and friends. we as a state should try as hard as we can to protect the culture that we have left. Kalo being related to haloa who is related to the hawaiian people is a tradition we cherish.

I am a poi eater from Keaau and I support sb958. Ronsten Andrade 430-8038

I'm a student of waiakea high and i give my full support to the sb958 and i believe that genetic engineering should not bother the taro. My name is mahea and to contact me my email is as follows: insanex3kp@hotmail.com

Priscilla Kent. I support SB958. I believe that taro should be kept pure. 808 966-9191.
Contact me at kaleialoha315@yahoo.com

My name is P. Lilinoe Keliipio-Young.
I am a full blooded Native Hawaiian who lives
on Hawaiian Homelands in Keaukaha.
I support Bill SB958 and encourage you to support it, too.
Me ka mahalo piha.

I ola na mamo a haloa (so that the descendants of Haloa may live and prosper), I implore you to support SB958 to place a moratorium on the genetic modification of kalo.

T. Ilihia Gionson
Puna, Hawai'i
ilihia@gmail.com

Aloha mai,

My name is Trisann Bambico and I am a student at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. I am a native Hawaiian student and I am in support of this bill. I support the local taro farmers and I hope that it stays GMO free in the future. My contact information is trisann@hawaii.edu and my number is 222-5587.

Me ke aloha,
Trisann Bambico

My name is Rev. Kimberlee Tong. I believe in home grown taro patches. We don't need to do any genetic altering of our sacred taro plants. No ways! This GMO action is hewa! Not good for our Hawaiian people. You can contact me at (808)968-0900. My address is P.O. Box 1121, Mt. View, HI 96771.

Please leave that which left alone our native land and mea ai. I support sb958
Auntie Diana Aki Milolii

I'm Ron Kent. I support SB958 for pure taro. Contact me at 987 1201 or aloha04@yahoo.com

do not experiment with theKalo. Respectthings Hawaiian. Toomuch scienceis bad for the
soul. ReSpect... tomasbelsky.com hilo 935 7981

Aloha, I support bill sb958. I believe it will be imperative in preserving Kalo. and maintaining our fragile ecosystem. Mahalo for your consideration.

Na'u,

Kalona Klopfenstein

Kalona@hawaii.edu

808-990-1086

I'm a poi eater & I support SB958. Prudence Tomimatsu 542-9363

House Committee on Agriculture, Cliff Tsuji Chairman

Aloha,

I am writing in support of sb958 I am concerned by the callous attitude of UH faculty towards the Hawaiian people; and their willingness to act without regard for the wellbeing of anybody but themselves.

Please leave the taro alone!

Nick Stone

Hilo

Aloha! Kalo has been a large part of my life and of my `ohana! It is an important aspect of our culture and I believe that it is imperative that kalo remain free from unwanted additives. Please issue a moritorium on genetic modification on kalo. Mahalo! Lauren Manuia kaalohi@yahoo.com

Please do not alter our taro, and the taro farmer's. The action against our Taro growing should stop. Beverly M. Ho`okano Keaau, HI

I am writing to you in regards to the SB958 Bill, I am in FULL support of the bill. GMOs are only spoiling our mother earth's ecosystems , please stop mutilating our botanical wonders of our sweet world. Enough pollution and mutilation already! My name is Audra Zina Kalvaitis and I can be reached at (808)896-9428. It is time to get serious about taking better care of our planet, for real. Thank You Kindly for your time. Aloha.

Very Sincerely,

Audra Z. K.

please consider keikis

We refrain from chemicals because we realize how this is killing our crops

Lets be healthy abd make right choices. I support sb958.

mahalo

Barrios family gitanamama@hawaiiantel.net

my ohana is from waipio valley and i support sb958-sunnie dela rosa 775-1074

I ama poi eater and I support SB958
Vanessa Correia
895 Uhaloa Rd.
Hilo,Hi 96720

SB958 bill would help to keep the kalo (Taro) the way it is supposed to be natural. It was a healthy part of life in ancient Hawaii, and it is still very important to Hawaii and its people. Let the kalo be as it has always been.

Aloha,
Sarah Lindsey

Aloha,

I am a native Hawaiian and i grow and eat poi at home. Please support sb958!

Welina Tong

h13wetong@ksbe.edu

968-0900

I support SB 958.

Terri Kuwahara
974-4855

I am a poi eater from Hilo, and I eat poi 4 times a week. I support sb958, please leave our taro alone! Victor Chock 968-8932

Aloha, I am one of the many people who enjoy poi and i support all the farmers. I support the sb958 bill. Thanks, Candace 989-9142

Aloha,

My name is Jesse Healoha Fujimoto and I am testifying today, March 13, 2008 at 9:00 p.m. that I am in support 100% of the 10 Year Moratorium on Genetic Modification of Taro. I was born and grew up in Kane'ohe, O'ahu. Taro is really important to me, those around me, and the future of Hawai'i. I feel that there should be a permanent moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro. In fact, I strongly feel that Genetically Modifying anything, especially food is not right! I don't think it appropriate for Hawai'i to be used as a guinnie pig and it's people - test dummies for such a project of Genetically modifying FOOD! You guys in the legislature, in office, involved in politics, really need to be akamai (smart) and live PONO (do what is right). You are supposed to represent the people and what they want and their best interests... Talk to them, listen to what they're saying... The FAITH of these islands of Hawai'i, my home, may be held within a Bill that you may have a say over, please... listen to the people of Hawai'i, the people from Hawai'i, before what makes Hawai'i unique, beautiful, and special is gone forever. Thank you for your time.

Jesse Healoha Fujimoto
486 Ilikahi St.
Lahaina, Hi 96761
808-214-2255
jessefujimoto@hotmail.com


Aloha Council Members,

We, the undersigned would like to ask for you to support Senate Bill 958, regarding the 10 year moratorium on genetic engineering research of taro. You can do this simply by passing the resolution supporting the passage of Senate Bill 958, which is due to be heard at the legislature on the 19th of March. A similar resolution was passed unanimously at a Hawai'i county council meeting.

By passing the resolution to support Senate Bill 958, you, the county council, will have shown that you listen to the voices of your constituents, and being true to your elected position, followed through with the interests of the citizenry, and not corporate interests.

We would like to thank you in advance for your support, and will remember your actions during the upcoming elections.

Mahalo Nui,

Herminio Nobles
Holo wuai Pl. 2317
WUAIURU Hl. 96793


Stephanie Fitzgerald
P O Box 757
Hanalei, HI 96714

Support SB958

Aloha Legislators,

I have been so blessed to be birth of a family of kalo farmers in the Hanalei Valley on Kauai. It has given me an awe and respect of the aina, the wai, the kupuna who nurtured, took care of the land for generations giving me and my keiki the opportunity to live also from the land, the river that flows through our loi kalo. It is sacred, it is fragile, this balance. I urge you to please in all your power possible to protect our kalo. It has and will continue to give and teach us so much.

I strongly support at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture & business.

Mahalo, mahalo for your time and attention.

Stephanie Fitzgerald
P O Box 757
Hanalei, HI 96714

Re: SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Name: Charlemagne Spencer

Neighborhood: Flagstaff Arizona (Originally from Hauula)

Town: Flagstaff

Phone/Email: 554-8019 – ckscys6@yahoo.com

This is the most outrageous idea- Inserting rice genes into the kalo. Genetically engineering our food is not right. I feel like a guinea pig in a lab that is ultimately the world. Feeding on tainted food, as most of what we eat has been bloody infested with GE. This answers one of my questions-Why are so many people getting cancer? Cancer which was rare is a household name and as common as the cold. It is so scary that people in their greediness has created something that has wiped out what was once natural seeds made by the hands of a loving creator and father of all mankind for the benefit of all. Replacing natural clean seed with tainted seed that was initially aimed at making super food and unexpectedly super cancer cells. I quote Jeffery Smith, author of Genetic Roulette who writes, “ Rats feed GM potatoes had smaller livers, hearts, testicles, and brains, damaged immune systems and showed structural changes in their white cells making them more vulnerable to infection and disease... it got worse...and there were cases of liver atrophy as well as significant proliferation of stomach and intestine cells that could be a sign of greater future risk of cancer...” What are we doing to ourselves? In this world of technology and advanced science our leaders have allowed Monsanto to poison the world. In a paper at Northern Arizona University I read, “Do we want worms in our corn? I say, “HELL YEAH!!! Then you know that it is safe to eat. I consider the Japanese a smart race. When Japan is saying “no” to Hawaii’s papaya or any GMO food from Hawaii that’s something significant. America is suppose to be a country of super brains and yet third world countries have led the march to say No to GMO or to have GMO food labeled. AMERICA wake up... HAWAIIAN LEADERS wake up before it is all too late and we can never turn things around. There does not seem like a good future for children- How did this happens? Were we sleeping? Were we too busy to see that MONSATO was destroying the world? Well as the saying goes. What comes around goes around.

Yours Sincerely,

Charlemagne Spencer

He aha te mea nui o tēnei ao? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata.

What is the most important thing in this world? It is people, it is people, it is people.

To state legislators,

I ask for your support of SB 958, placing a ten year moratorium on genetically altered taro. It seems that every "so call" advancement that science has made has always ended with some negative repercussion. It seems that all research and development firms are limited by corporate funding, which usually means shortcuts and the lack of scientific validation. The Hawaiians moved to Hawaii over a thousand years ago and thrived on Kalo and other foods of the land that survived through natural selection. It wasn't until the arrival of the foreigner and their disease and their greed for money that killed a perfect society in paradise.

If you take a look, many things that were introduced into Hawaii has damaged our fragile ecosystem. Our forests and oceans have been taken over by the Lantana Bushes, Blackberry, Apple Snails, Taape Golden Perch, etc. just a few of the imported State screw-ups.

I am against genetically altered taro, because the developer needs more time, rather owes it to the taro farmers, to research the long term effects on our indigenious taro. Please not in my life time.

Van Warren
Po Box 711
Eleele, Hawaii
96705

This is to inform you of my support for SB958, Genetically Modified Organisms; Taro; Moratorium. It is well understood and accepted that genetically modified organisms (GMO) have not been fully tested for their long term effects on human consumption and on the environment. Proponents and producers of GMO foods have not conducted any significant life-cycle studies on the longer term effect that these modified foods have on human health. They have only been focused on the commercial aspects of this process.

It is understood and documented that GMO foods are beginning to contaminate non-GMO foods across the globe. Studies have shown that corn in remote South American countries, who have not planted GMO foods, now have GMO characteristics. Pollen from GMO corn have indeed been carried by wind and have circled the earth!

SB958 is a prudent act that should be passed by the Hawaii State Senate.

Milton Y. Omoto

Principal Consultant

KEMA, Inc.

10333 East Dry Creek

Suite 140

Englewood, CO 80112

Tel: 781.418.5505

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milt.omoto@kema.com

House Agriculture Committee

In support of SB 958: 10-Year Moratorium on Genetic Modification of Taro

Hearing: Wednesday, March 19, 2008, 9:00 am

State Capitol Auditorium, House Conference Room

Chair Tsuji, Vice-Chair Brower and Committee Members,

I strongly supports SB 958. There are many problems with GMO crops.

1. Contamination of non-GMO crops
2. Possibility of damages to Taro
3. Taro is a staple crop of the Hawaiian people and it is insulting for non-Hawaiians to tamper with this crop without approval of the Hawaiian farmers.

Therefore I am in support of SB 958's proposed ten-year moratorium on the developing, testing, propagating, cultivating, and growing, of genetically modified taro in the state of Hawaii. Such a moratorium would provide the time to resolve the many issues related to GMO research and its application outside the lab - before the consequences became irreversible.

Please support SB 958.

Margery Freeman
6448 Kaahele St.
Kapaa, HI 96746
freeman@aloha.net

tia@sustainablegirl.tv
Aloha,

The people have spoken, I have heard both sides and it seems that the stewards of this land need to be heard and respected. It is wrong, very wrong to genetically modify taro for cultural reasons as well as a plethora of others.

These people need the water that has been diverted from them and they will thrive as their ancestors have for more years that need be mentioned.

This is wrong, the Superferry is wrong, Wailea 670 is wrong, so do the right thing and listen to the people of Hawaii. Vote no on GMO Taro.

Mahalo,
tia@sustainablegirl.tv

drake c wells
irukasaitoh@gmail.com

I want this to be on record my vote to keep the taro from becoming a GMO product. This is an ethnic and cultural plant of all of Polynesia. Without it these people will lose their cultural identity. I have lived here in Hawaii for 42 years I have seen what has happened to the cultural values in all those years. My first visit to the Islands was in 1954; when i returned in 1966 i was totally disoriented by al the hotels that had been built it that short time. thank you .drake c wells

Scott Jarvis
Ha'ena, Kaua'i
sjarvis22@hotmail.com

In Support of SB958

It is hard to believe that anyone would have their head so far up their butt to let Taro get polluted with GMO technology. This is life in the 21st century: politicians taking money from major corporations which are then allowed to inflict damage on the population they represent.

Break the chain of events which will lead to the collapse of our civilization and perhaps life on earth. Think of what you are doing, and be sure it cannot harm our fragile world. A 10-year moratorium on GMO-modified Taro is the beginning.

You would certainly have my thanks for protecting the earth.
If you vote against the moratorium, you are a butthead, and worse.....

Scott Jarvis
Ha'ena, Kaua'i, Hawai'i

David H Dinner
Kilauea HI

In Support of SB958

Cultures in decline historically destroy their sacred icons. Everywhere we are witnessing the demise of our democratic fabric and now one of the essences of Hawaiian life is under siege. If taro is not sacred to Hawaii, then indeed, nothing is. Genetic modification of taro is fraught with pitfalls and serves no useful purpose other than to line the pockets of the GMO industry. Please do not allow the elemental plant of the Hawaiian culture to become tainted by greed. The purity of Hawaii is under a attack from so many sources. The legislature has the power to maintain at least this symbolic and useful plant. It is time to stand up and be counted for Hawaii. Keep Taro Pure. Mahalo

David H Dinner
Kilauea HI
gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com

Mallion Mallion <themallionator@hotmail.com>

This is a testimony from Elizabeth Mallion of Honokaa, HI.

Please keep the unnatural out of nature, once something is lost it may not be replaced.

I support SB958

-Mallion

Support of SB958

Aloha legislators,

As a former resident of Hawai'i and one who has nieces and nephews who live on these islands, I am against the cultivation of GMO taro in this state. The dangers of GMO modification dispersing into the general plant population have already been shown to exist. Please support the ten-year moratorium on GMO taro (bill SB958).

Thank you,

Caroline Metzler

970.984.3539 | 970.366.6690

5033 CR 335 | space #165 | New Castle | CO 81647

www.coyotecreative.biz

coyotecreative@gmail.com

Ken Bare
Po Bx 1235
Kaunakakai Hi. 96748
Testimony in support of SB 958

Please support the 10 year moritorium on all forms of genetic modifications and patenting of taro. Do not except any modifications to the bill. Taro has many subspecies, its vast biodiversitygives it protection, Geneticaly modifying it is not needed for any reason. Geneticaly modifying Limits a species diversity in the long run.Geneticaly modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and poses irreversible dangers to our food, health and environment. Please support SB958.

Aloha, Ken Bare

harborsail@hotmail.com

To: The Hawaii State Legislature
Letter of support for S.B. NO. 958 Taro Bill

From: Lori L. Buchanan
P.O. Box 133
Hoolehua, Hi. 96729

Dear Sirs,

I am writing this letter in support of senate bill 958 that puts a 10-year moratorium on any attempts to genetically modify taro plants. While I wish the bill was an out right ban against GMO on taro in perpetuity I will support anything that will stop any attempt to genetically modify taro immediately. Please remove the threat to Hawaiian culture by passing S.B. No. 958.

Sincerely,

Lori L. Buchanan
Molokai resident

Marie Alohalani Brown
Graduate student at U.H. Mānoa in Hawaiian language
Part-time teacher at Pū'ōhala Elementary School
Waikīkī
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
282-0451 ilovelehuaandcricri@yahoo.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-
Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the ten-year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,
Marie Alohalani Brown

Kumu Hula Kekoa Yap
Hälau Hula O Wailehua

In Support of SB958

Aloha kākou,

My name is Kumu Hula Kekoa Yap and write to you from Palm Springs, Kaliponi and yes even in Kaliponi we still mea'ai poi kalo from "our ainā" and that is the key words here "our 'ainā." It is our 'ainā that produces the poi kalo that has given life to the many generations of po'e even before the first building on the University of Hawai'i was built.

For these scientist to do this is shame and irresponsible. Poi is our lineage, it is in our blood and for people who think that they can just take what they see as just a "root" is hewa! I don't think they would like for ka po'e kanaka to take their keakea or semen and alter it so their bloodline is change to maybe...Iraqi.

This has to stop and leave our 'ainā and our me'ai alone!

Ke ola no ka häloa! Continued life to the our kalo!

A hui hou,
Kumu Hula Kekoa Yap

Kumu Hula Kekoa Yap
Hälau Hula O Wailehua
401 S. El Cielo Rd, #118
Palm Springs, CA 92262-7909
760-397-3040 (Home/Office)

www.wailehua.com

kekoa630@msn.com

Halauhulaowailehua@msn.com

"Hula is the language of the heart, therefore is the heartbeat of the Hawaiian people." King David La'amea Rex Kalākaua.

Support SB958

To Whom It May Concern,

Please keep the GMO industry out of the Kalo, or Taro gene pool. As a resident of Hawai'i for 8 years now, one of the most beautiful experiences that I have received, is the hours upon hours I've spent in the lo'i of Keanae, Kahakuloa, Oheo Gulch, A small patch above the Hawai'i Nature Center with my youth group, Wailua nui, and a couple others. All of the farmers whom I have the honor of working with agree that it is of utmost importance to keep the taro pure of genetic research. There have been negative impacts on the integrity of the genetic taro, and we would rather continue growing the strains that we have in organic measures just as have been doing for hundreds of years.

Thank you,

Cindy Williams
PO Box 1551
Kihei, HI 96753

Cindy Williams
PO Box 5004
Kahului, HI 96733
808.268.9178

Judie Hilke Lundborg
judie@aloha.net

In Support of SB958

I am writing to show my support for a 10 Yr Moratorium on GMO Taro. This is a cultural and family issue - it can not be overrun by corporate farms and seed companies. I urge to support the moratorium.

Aloha,

Judie Hilke Lundborg
Lihue
639-0212

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT
SB958-10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Jeannie Yoshida
Anahola, Kauai 96703
j-k-yoshida@hotmail.com

Aloha Legislators,
Please help support a 10 year moratorium on Genetically Modified Taro.
Why--Because of the unknown implications to long term health effects.
There have been recent independent studies indicating concerns about the health effects of GMO's that include: 1) Disease resistance to Antibiotics 2) Tumors, Cancer, Abnormal Cell Growth and Elevated Immune Responses 3) New Allergens 4) Toxin Level Increases and Nutritional Deviations.

Scientists on the opposing side argue that it will help produce disease-resistant species, but have they explored other options besides genetic engineering? And why aren't all farmers behind this research if it will "benefit" their crops?

The jury is still out on the long term effects of GMO crops, because there has not been sufficient scientific testing done. But honestly, do we want to play Russian roulette with our health, in the meantime? I certainly do not!

It is a Hawaiian issue in that there is a total disregard for traditional native knowledge and genealogy of taro, but it is an issue that involves all nationalities when it pertains to healthy food production.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,
Jeannie Yoshida

Dawn R. Boucher

District 12 Precinct 2

Haiku, 96708

(808) 575-5460 dawnrboucher@hotmail.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

I write to ask for your support of SB958 to create a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. The taro (kalo) plant is fundamental to the to the indigenous Hawai'ian peoples' culture and as such should remain available for cultivation and protected from genetic modification. Western civilization has already decimated the indigenous Hawai'ian population and destroyed much of their culture. They need our help to preserve, recover and grow what remains of their culture. They need our help and support to protect, the taro (kalo), their "sibling", from genetic manipulation and patenting.

For 1200 years, Hawai'ians have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. Genetic modification of taro is culturally insensitive and disrespectful and it also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming and scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I support research into methods of protecting taro from land and water issues and invasive pests and diseases.

Please join myself and the mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in protecting all of us and supporting Hawai'i's unique culture and resources by helping to pass SB958 to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Mahalo nui loa,

Dawn R. Boucher

James Miner
jamesminer@yahoo.com

SUPPORT SB 958

Representatives-

I have been following with interest the bill that will protect the Taro from artificial genetic intrusion. In short, I greatly favor protecting the genome that nature originally created and urge you strongly to support the bill.

Mahalo,
James Miner

Rita Kanui
kawehi11@msn.com

PLEASE SUPPORT SB 958

Aloha,

My name is Rita Kawehiokalaninui-I-iamamao Kanui representing my 'ohana who loves poi but cannot get any because too many people are eating it. As Hawaiian people described in the Apology Bill, we are the only people who could have a say on anything to do with these types of issues; taro, rights, fishing, planting, growing, water, environment and land under the illegal occupiers system called the State of Hawai'i.

This bill is a harmful bill to the Hawaiian people and should not be considered without the knowledge and input of taro growers throughout Hawai'i and not to be left to those who know nothing about our culture and the genealogical background of the kalo and Haloa our true ancestor.

Taro is the only plant we know of that does not need a bee to pollinate it to grow. Leave our taro alone until we tell you we need help. As Hawaiian people we would like to see these foreigners pushing GMO to leave our islands until we invite you. The Hawaiian people are the only ones who can make such decisions and would like to leave it at that.

R. Kawehi Kanui

SUPPORT BILL SB958- the 10 Year Moratorium on Genetic
Modification of Taro.

Please pass this without inappropriate modifications. I feel very passionately about ridding ourselves of
further genetic engineering in our beautiful state of Hawaii. I hope you do, too.

Yoni Silberman
P.O. Box 880010
Pukalani, HI 96788
yonibeme@yahoo.com

Jose Bulatao, Jr.
4614 Kokee Road
Kekaha, HI 96752

Support SB 958

Aloha!

The kalo farmers have made their eloquent plea. Voices of concern have been raised about the sanctity of kalo in respect to it's cultural significance and it's botanical integrity.

I join the chorus of support to maintain that sanctity, that significance, and that integrity: Kalo, AS IS!

Sincerely,

/s/ **Jose Bulatao, Jr.**
Jose Bulatao, Jr.
4614 Kokee Road
Kekaha, HI 96752

e-mail: mrb@hawaiiink.net

Shayla Middleton
Awake to Waves, owner
International Chair 08-09, Rotary Club of Kihei-Wailea
2690 Kauhale Street
Kihei, HI 96753
808-344-3533
Shayla@blissfulhat.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Shayla Middleton, Kihei, Maui

David H Dinner
gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com

Dear Legislators

Taro is one of the quintessential icons of Hawaiian lore and one of the traditional mainstays of life in Hawaii. Since genetically modified taro is no longer taro, allowing the artificial alteration of this crop changes the essence of these Island. Please support a ban on genetically modified taro.

Aloha
David H Dinner

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a moratorium on genetic modification of Kalo. The research has been insufficient to warrant the dangerous, unknown effects that will affect this staple of our culture...both as food, medicine and historical ancestry. It is not pono to even consider the "patenting" of Kalo. It is disrespectful to the kanaka, to the aina, and to all of us who truly live Aloha.

Mahalo nui for your support in this issue.

Sandra Herneon
4433 Panihi Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746

<pb1wahine@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,
Please pass SB 958. I feel that it is inappropriate to tamper with the genetics of my elder brother Kalo or to try to own a patent on him. It is disrespectful of Hawaiian culture and of Hawaiian people. Failure to pass SB 958 and protect Kalo and poi is to fail the Hawaiian people and the people who voted for you as a whole. Do what is right and pass SB 958.

Mahalo,
Ikaika Pestana

Ikaika Pestana
3828 Diamond Head Rd.
Honolulu, HI 96816
i.pestana@yahoo.com

Aloha Legislators,

I support having at least a ten year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification (GM,) patenting, and planting (of GM products) of all varieties of Kalo because it is culturally degrading to Hawaiians, and there are many risks attached to GM such as affecting the other native crops and possibly being hazardous to our health.

Kalo is important culturally for many reasons and it needs to be protected but not through GM. Other ways to protect Kalo would be to help existing mahi'ai (farmers,) and to get more mahi'ai to revitalize the farming traditions of hawaii (there are many who would be farmers if they could.)

Mahalo for listening,

Anika Borden
2217 Anapanapa St.
Pearl City, HI 96782

<aborden@hawaii.edu>

\Aloha Legislators,

my name is nohealani casperson and i am writing today to tell you how much i support haaiians right to culture and ethics...you would not allow us to go into your house and cut off a lock of you daughters hair and replace it with a pig nose right??? its just morrally and ethically wrong so i strongly support at least a 10 year moratorium on all form of gen. modifying kalo and on all varities of kalo not just the hawaiian ones!

kalo is a very important part of me learning ang teaching my culture to my kids and it is a way for me and my boyfriend to reconnect when were off track. i do not think that is right to desecrate our ancestors and i also join hawaiiis mahi'ai in stating that all legislators should please protect what we do have left of where we came from, and protect haloa so our kupuna can live through us!!!pass sb958 PLEASE!!!!!!!

Nohealani Casperson
77a ipuka st. #18a
hilo, HI 96720

<nohealan@hawaii.edu>

Aloha Legislators,

Please protect us all from genetic modification. It gets out of control! Wind blows, seeds disperse, and we have no idea what damage and harm can be done. Then it is too late. GMO is scary stuff. Patenting food is scary, scary stuff! Especially food that is part of our Hawaiian culture. I would like to see all GMO prohibited and all patenting of food prohibited.

I no longer buy canola oil because of GMO, patenting and suing of an organic farmer.

We have no idea what the long term problems may be for the world and the children as well as ourselves. Sincerely, Noyita Saravia

Noyita Saravia
56-154 Puuluana St. #53
Kahuku, HI 96731

293-1871
<noyitas@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I oli malamalama do not support gmo testing on kalo,i think it would destroy our environment and our aina,we no need chemical for our aina.

ho'ola haloa

oli malamalama aweau/ turalde

667 laukapu st

hilo , HI 96720

<oli@hawaii.edu>

Aloha Legislators,
Aloha my name Aleander, Nickolas Wilhelm, Uesugi

I participated in the Malama Haloa rally on Jan 17, 2007. I came to Malama Haloa Rally because of our older brother, the kalo. Our group was to present kalo plants to the legislators. I thought I would be kind of nervous presenting the kalo to a state legislator. My experience was fun and I learned about GMO. On the way up to see our legislators we were walking up the stairs chanting and it was fun. It was kind of cool talking to the state representative Mr. Clift Tsuji about our older brother.

After we were done talking to the state representative we went to go grab our supplies to go pound kalo. We pounded kalo to help feed the people and legislators who attended the kalo briefing. The briefing was long and there was a lot of information about kalo, why it is very important to us Hawaiians and our concerns about GMO. We pounded in front of people we didn't know and the best part of it was having fun with my friends.

Alexander Uesugi
85-1330 waianae vly rd
po.box1003 waianae vly rd
waianae, HI 96792

<alex_uesugi@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawaii by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, as well as our unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Please do not hesitate to protect Haloa, pass SB 958 now!

Mahalo,

Ernette Haaheo Scanlan
1546 Ulupii St.
Kailua, HI 96734

<ideal.health@earthlink.net>

Aloha Legislators,

Aloha,I'm writing to you about my concerns about the gmo uses in Taro.As a graduate of the UH ag school,I have a direct connection to the world of science and research.I'm calling for a 10 year ban on genetic testing of taro.

I believe in new research ,however in this case the legacy that is the taro plant has to be protected at this time.

The risks of manipulating taro genetically are too great to open up more research right now.Lets vote for the ban.Vote for sb 958

mark franklin
po box 278
pahoa, HI 06778

<holeinursery@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I humbly ask for your Kokua to protect Taro from Genetic Modification.

Mahalo,

Chris Costa

Keaau

Chris Costa

POB 495

Pahoa, HI 96778

<sekrah@mac.com>

Aloha Legislators,

My family and I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of kalo.

Our youth program "Gods Country Waimanalo" grow and eat the kalo, this is apart of our culture and our heritage.

Please "Malama Haloa" and pass SB958!

Mahalo,

D.Billie Kahiapo

Vice President of Gods Country

Waimanalo

Dorothea Kahiapo

41-638 Kalaniana'ole Hwy

Waimanalo, HI 96795

<bkahiapo@godscountrywaimanalo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

Meghan Au
41-582 Inoa'ole St.
Waimanalo, HI 96795
<mallihauzer@yahoo.com>

Subject: do not allow patenting of Kalo or GM crops!

Aloha Legislators,
Please support SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro! It is important for consumer safety and biodiversity of Hawaii!

Ravi Grover
POB 802103
Chicago, IL 60680
Ravi Grover <avatar11@rediffmail.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I write to strongly urge that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

I ask that you DO NOT allow this dangerous experiment with the Aina because we do not yet know the long term consequences.

We DO know that it has had devastating consequences in other crops & has had adverse economical reactions worldwide, as most countries will not buy GM foods.

We DO NOT know how imbedded genes such as the "suicide gene" will affect future crops.

We DO NOT want to pay any corporation for the rights to plant, raise or harvest a crop once their version of the species has been patented!

We DO NOT want biodiversity to be an endangered species!

This is a dangerous slippery slope!

"Nature" should not be owned by anyone, it belongs to us all.

For 1200 years taro has been the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition.

Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii.

Genetically modifying taro or any other crop is environmentally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I vote & I urge others to vote according to who supports sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering.

I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists & NOT the corporations in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. I join the farmers of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Our future is at stake. Please don't sell our future to the highest bidder.

Please remember that we are what we eat.

Anastasia Gilliam

PO Box 134
Kula, HI 96790
<anastasia2sing@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,
I support to protect Haloa. Please pass SB 958 now. No to genetic engineering. Thank you
very much.

Patricia Blair
522 Uluhala St.
Kailua, HI 967344410
<cris6369@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

Ruth Ruta
2609 Ala Wai Blvd. #303
Honolulu, HI 96815
<rutahealer@aol.com>

Aloha Legislators,

As a Native Hawaiian, I strongly support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of kalo (taro).

The kalo is not only an important source of food for our Hawaiian people, but is an important part of our cultural ancestry. The kalo plant was our first kupuna whom we respect and whom we must protect from the risks of genetic engineering.

As a healthy Hawaiian, I also believe that there are many risks to genetic engineering the foods that we eat. Without proper time and research, the kalo could transform from being the most healthy food for our people to a serious risk to our health.

Please protect our ancestor Haloa, the kalo, and pass SB 958.

Mahalo,
Ahulani Wright

Ahulani Wright
54-225 Hau'ula Homestead Road
Hau'ula, HI 96717
<enosahulani@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I am requesting that you support SB958. A ten year moratorium on all forms of genetic engineering of kalo (taro) is vital for the Hawaiian people, for their culture and also for all the other people who grow and who eat taro. And to allow a company to eventually "own" a patent on taro is truly detrimental. Genetically modified crops cannot be "contained" and the contamination of taro, an important and staple food for many of the people in Hawaii, is too big of a risk to take. Please support SB958.

Mahalo,

Tracey Schavone

POBox 676

Anahola, HI 96703

808-822-4465

Tracey Schavone

POBox 575

Anahola, HI 96703

<tracey@kauaioutcallmassage.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I would like to suggest that you support at least a ten year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of kalo (taro) because of the potentially long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. As you are well aware, the kalo plant species is tightly tied to hawaii's local culture and business. To allow short term profiteering to pervert an already well sustained agricultural practice is simply foolish.

I am certain that you will not be swayed by short sighted greed or the sometimes self serving nature of some of our fellow human beings that, unfortunately, requires that we engage ourselves in such ridiculous exchanges as these.

Please pass SB 958.

Thanks for your time,

Ian lary

Ian Lary

222 Pulaski st.

Brooklyn, NY 11206

<ianlary@gmail.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro/kalo plant. Not only is it culturally inappropriate to genetically modify Hawaii's plantlife, genetic modification poses dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy.

As I learned during my studies of the Hawaiian culture and ecosystem and during my work with indigenous Hawaiian artists, the kalo plant species in Hawai'i is a vital part of the local culture and the ecological tradition. It is a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine and is a great example of sustainable agriculture & business.

I hope that you will help to protect taro/kalo farming in Hawaii by supporting safe, environmentally sensitive rehabilitative research into pests and disease, and by addressing current land and water issues.

I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, as well as their unique culture and resources, by enacting a moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Please do not hesitate to protect Haloa, pass SB 958 now!

Mahalo,

donna van renselaar
436 mcknight ave
west fork, AR 72774

<dvr66@earthlink.net>

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawaii by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, as well as our unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Please do not hesitate to protect Haloa, pass SB 958 now!

Mahalo,

Healani Trembath
4152 Palaumahu Street
4152 Palaumahu Street
Lihue, Kauai, HI 96766

<heatrembath@aol.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support AT LEAST a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties kalo (taro) because it is culturally insensitive and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment, culture and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawai'i by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, as well as our unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Please do not hesitate to protect Haloa, pass SB 958 now!

Mahalo,

~ Kevin Nesnow

Kevin Nesnow
905 Spencer St., Apt. 601K
Honolulu, HI 96822

<stardustsparklin@gmail.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I am in strong support of Bill SB 958! I urge you to put at least a 10 year stop on all GM patenting and testing of all varieties of kalo.

It will be a crying shame to me if you do not hear the clear and loud voice of the people of this land, screaming from their bellies that this is not what we want. Please do not listen to small number of scientist and lobbyist who want to push an agenda that is dangerous and offensive.

There is still no real research to know what long term threats to human health may come from eating GM kalo. We don't know the long term and permanent effects on the environment and human health. We have been destructive enough to Hawai'i's environment over the last 100yrs - just look at what we've done.

Why would we want to do something that Japan and Europe both widely reject (and have even made illegal in certain places) because of it's dangers? I echo the question of others, "why would our university and our government support research and development of food that is rejected by other scientifically advanced nations?"

Lastly, if people cannot see how GM on kalo is offensive and furthermore destructive to Hawaiian people, their culture and history as well as for other people of the land - then we have not come very far from the days of an illegal overthrow, pirated territorial governemnt and illegal annexation into statehood.

Please do what is right and pass SB 958 now.

Mahalo,
Anela Gueco

Anela Gueco
41--710 Kaaumoana Pl
Waimanalo, HI 96795

<anelakoka@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I support the immediate passage of SB 958 because it will require a 10 year moratorium on any and all types of genetic modification for ALL varieties of taro grown in Hawai`i.

Genetic modification of taro is inappropriate because kalo is culturally significant and central to Hawaiian creation beliefs. It is believed that the first humans are directly descended from kalo who, as the first plant given by the gods, also became food for the ancient ones.

Kalo has and continues to be the main staple of a healthy Hawaiian diet. Genetic modification may directly or indirectly and irreversibly wipe out the original strains of kalo that Hawaiians have depended on for food. Genetically modified kalo may cross-pollinate with the native Hawaiian strains of kalo (indirect effect). Intentional cross-breeding may destroy the original strains of native Hawaiian kalo (direct effects). The problems of homogenizing strains of kalo leaves the resulting strains vulnerable to disease that may attack all plants of the few strains left, with no authentic strains to fall back on.

Please kokua and pass SB 958 now! Do NOT allow genetic modification of kalo to happen.

Mahalo,
Ellen Okuma
P.O. Box 1535
Kea`au, HI 96749

808-896-1010

Ellen Okuma
P.O. Box 175
Hilo, HI 96721

<okuma@hawaii.edu>

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawaii by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, as well as our unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Please do not hesitate to protect Haloa, pass SB 958 now!

Mahalo,
Tutabelle M. Ojeda

Tutabelle Ojeda
HCR 1 Box 5769
HCR 1 Box 5769
Keaau, HI 96749

<aloha_sapphire@yahoo.com>

Dear legislators,

I am against genetic modification of any kind including of taro/kalo. It is dangerous and foolish and is allowed because of the undue influence of the corporations who get the grants and try to control the source of food for their own profit and greed. It is certainly very much against the public interest. Don't let them pressure or bribe you. It is dangerous to our bodily health and the environment and to all living things which depend on plant life for diet.

Please protect us. Pass SB 958 to start.

Sara McCay
62-2219 Ouli Street
Kamuela, HI 96743

<mcnoone@hawaiiintel.net>

Aloha Legislators,

Please vote yes on SB 958. there is no other answer. we MUST protect the aina, our food, and our future. All the GMOs must GO. of course, first on the list is to protect the Kalo. It is your responsibility as elected officials to vote YES on this Bill.

thank you for your time.

teresa johnston

Teresa Johnston
PO Box 1428
Kapa'a, HI 96746

<lunasol773@hotmail.com>

Aloha Legislators,

As a University of Hawaii faculty member who works with Hawaiian people in the area of science curriculum development, I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant has both spiritual and economic value to our local culture and any experimentation or use of kalo must be approached with great care and methods agreed upon by all stakeholders.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawaii by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues.

Kalo is a highly valuable part of our island life. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Please protect Haloa, pass SB 958 now!

Mahalo,

Lisa M Lisa_Galloway
1776 University Ave
Honolulu, HI 96822

<lisa.galloway@hawaii.edu>

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. I have been studying science with a major interest in botany and wildlife management for 4 years now and have gained a much better understanding of the true risks that GMO poses to our lifestyle, health, biodiversity and economy.

The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture & business. We must protect this sacred plant and the Hawaiian culture by saying NO to GMO kalo. Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, as well as our unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawaii by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues.

By allowing the Monsanto Corporation to continue its genetic ?frankenfood? experiments and patenting of life by extending this into the Hawaiian culture and the most important stable food in Hawaii would be an absolute disgrace to our beautiful state.

Please do not hesitate to protect Haloa, pass SB 958 now!

Mahalo Nui Loa,
Fern Anuenue Holland
and Ohana

Fern Anuenue Holland
4664B Apopo Rd
Kapa'a, Kauai, HI 96746

8088230619

<fernygirl@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawaii by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, as well as our unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Please do not hesitate to protect Haloa, pass SB 958 now!

Elisha Belmont
10491 Cunningham
Westminster, CA 92683

<e@samuda.com>

Aloha Legislators,

PLEASE KEEP THE PROBLEMS OF GMO FOODS OUT OF HAWAII FOREVER!!!!!!

I strongly support at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of all varieties kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawaii by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, as well as our unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Please do not hesitate to protect Haloa, pass SB 958 now!

william cote
po Box 551714
kapaau, HI 96755

<wpcote@cox.net>

Aloha Legislators,

I'm writing to urge you to support and pass SB958, to protect our Kalo from the dangers of GMO. Not just the Hawaiian Kalo, but all the species of Kalo, should be included in this legislation.

My concern is not only for the flagrant disrespect of the Hawaiian culture, which holds Kalo as an integral part of our heritage, ie Kalo is our Ancestor and giver of our Life; I am deeply concerned about the dangers of Genetic Modifications of any food plant. It is as dangerous as cloning animals for meat, and providing it UNDISCLOSED to the public. There's just not sufficient data on the long term effects, and we may not be able to afford the final cost of these experiments! Please institute a moratorium extending at least a minimum of ten years, allowing more time for independent research and testing.

Mahalo nui!

Sandra Herndon
4433 Panihi Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746

<pb1wahine@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

Aloha my name is Joseph Peters Holokahi, I have four sisters and we live with our parents in Wai`anae. I'm in the 8th grade too. I'm here to testify in support of the 10 year moratorium on genetic modification of all kalo in Hawwii. I don't like that we are being used like guinea pigs to test the safety of GMO food and that the GMO companies won't tell us what foods the GMO is in. I saw the DVD ? The Future of Food ? and GMO seems like poison to me. That's one reason I don't like them trying to GMO our older brother the kalo, it would be like poisoning our brother. How would you like someone to poison your older brother!? Since I learned about our kalo I'm saying no GMO, leave our older brother alone! And that is why I think GMO should not be added to kalo or any kind of food.

Joseph Peters-Holokahi
85-658 Farringtonhwy
waianae, HI 96792

<Polynesianwarrior@gmail.com>

Name: Puanani Rogers

Organizations: Ho`okipa Network - Kauai

Neighborhood: Ahupua`a o Kealia

Town, Zip Code: 96746

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

My name is Puanani Rogers, Kanaka Maoli and a Living Human Being.

I was born, raised and still live in the ahupua`a of Kealia on the mokupuni o Kauai.

I was raised on pure taro poi, I fed it to all my children. Before I truly learned about the scientific and nutritional value of poi, I knew that It was a perfect food, especially for our babies. There was nothing in the kalo to cause any allergies like milk or formula sometimes did. Poi was food as well as medicine for our family.

Kalo is also something we can rely on to be a sustainable crop that can feed us in the present and well into the future, if we protect it.

Kalo is the symbol of sustainability...sustainability practices of growing and caring for the kalo links us to our ancestors.

Kalo is important to the sustainability of our native culture. Kalo is Haloa, an ancestor of our Kanaka Maoli race. Therefore, we give it honor and respect and acknowledge it as family to all Kanaka Maoli. We respect all kalo, all varieties, and ask that this moratorium will also consider the inclusion of all types of kalo grown in Hawaii, whether a Hawaiian species or not. We need to stop the trifling of our natural foods and its dna and using the excuse that it is for "scientific research" or that it is necessary.

That excuse is no longer acceptable.
Please, support this bill to protect all kalo in
Hawaii, and while you are at it, please start to
consider a way to stop all genetic engineering testing
of any kind on any foods grown on State lands,
starting with Kauai.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Puanani Rogers, Kanaka Maoli, Living Human Being
Kauai, Kingdom of Hawaii

<kealiagirl2004@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

Please support SB958-10 the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification of taro.

The potential for disaster is reason enough to support this bill. The chance of cross pollination, which has occurred with other crop types, is high. Once this happens there will be a devastating loss in long protected strains of kalo for various climate types.

There is also the potential health risks to those with sensitivity to foods. Kalo is not only a food source, it is the pillar at the base of hawaiian culture and tradition. To lose or modify kalo is sacrilegious. We must preserve all indigenous culture, it is the root of self preservation. I am in full support of Hawaii's farmers by insisting that legislators protect their residents, their culture and this precious resource. Please help because you can.

Please protect Haloa and pass SB 958 now, don't hesitate.

Mahalo for your time and caring.

Christine Bandsma

christine bandsma

6460 b kahuna rd

kapaa, HI 96746

<shebands@hotmail.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I ask you to support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawaii by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's residents, as well as our unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Mahalo,

Jeff Haun

Jeff Haun
PO Box 248
Hakalau, HI 96710

<jeff@outofthesea.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses potentially dangerous and irreversible long-term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food and medicine, as well as an example of sustainable agriculture and business.

I support farming and precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will help to protect kalo farming in Hawai'i by supporting rehabilitative research into pests and disease, as well as addressing current land and water issues. Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join Hawai'i's mahi'ai (farmers) in calling on all legislators to protect Hawai'i's residents, as well as our unique culture and resources, by enacting a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Mahalo,

na Lei 'Ilima Rapozo

Lei 'Ilima Rapozo

3634 Lala Road

L'hu'e, HI 96766

<rapozon001@hawaii.rr.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a moratorium on genetic modification of Kalo. The research has been insufficient to warrant the dangerous, unknown effects that will affect this staple of our culture...both as food, medicine and historical ancestry. It is not pono to even consider the "patenting" of Kalo. It is disrespectful to the kanaka, to the aina, and to all of us who truly live Aloha.

Mahalo nui for your support in this issue.

Sandra Herneon
4433 Panihi Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746

<pb1wahine@yahoo.com>

Aloha Legislators,

There are many issues with supporting the introduction and use of any GMO food scrop for people with allergies. Traditional food items have stood the test of time and their qualities are known and the knowledge of their cultivation and characteristics forms a legacy to build upon. Farming taditions and practices have resulted in medicinal and positive general health knowldge which cannot be duplicated by short term intensive experiments without long term even centuries of wise farming practices. For myself, personally, my allergies to wheat and rice, less than wheat, have lead me to kalo and poi and it has provided a wonderful staple. Eating those foodes that are part of the land we live on provides the best nourishment for our bodies as well as celebrates our environment and our spirit's connection to it. Please protect this staple starch food of Hawaii which is also is the bedrock for many of us as health food.

The special people who are the farmers and their families are our connection to that tradition of caring for all the aspects of making the land sustain us. Money and research would be better used to ensure clean water by recycling programs and working with the farmers directly to listen to their needs and experiences to grow more organically.

aloha to support living to care for all,

Mary Stone

Mary Stone

2363 Pu'u Road #3A

Kalaheo, HI 96741

<maliastone@earthlink.net>

Aloha Legislators,
Re: SB958 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro
Name: Leilani Benson
Organization/Affiliation: MSW Student, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Email: hapahaynwahine@gmail.com

Aloha e Legislators,

My name is Leilani Benson originally from Haleiwa, Hawai'i. I am testifying to declare that I support SB958, a 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro. Taro or kalo has been an integral part of understanding who I am. As a child and youth I spent many summer hours working with kalo, cleaning the leaves, cutting the stems, and making lau lau. Early in my college years, I had the privilege to spend time in a kalo lo'i in Laie pulling weeds and planting keiki. The peace that came from connecting with the land and my ancestors by perpetuating traditions was joy to my heart. Now, years later I have the opportunity to see the cycle continue with the youth of today, learning who they are as well, as they provide service to kalo lo'i's around the island of O'ahu.

As expressed, the desire to continue traditions and to give back to the land is not lost. Thus, the need to protect our kalo and to keep it sacred is essential. Gradually the native and pure elements of Hawai'i nei are diminishing. Supporting this 10 year moratorium of genetic modification of our kalo is a profound statement which will convey to those of the culture that our representatives continue to hear their people. Allowing the kalo to remain as untainted as possible is allowing the spirit of aloha to continue and the rudiment of the culture live.

Mahalo for your time,

Leilani Benson

Leilani Benson
94-1259 Lumikula St. 4 D
Waipahu, HI 96797

<hapahaynwahine@gmail.com>

Aloha Legislators,

From: Jeri Di Pietro, PO Box 338, Koloa, HI 96756

I am a member of GMO Free Kaua`i, a group of over 2500 farmers and supporters, whose goal is to educate the community about genetically engineered crop tests and food products, & promote alternative agricultural systems. I am a board member of Hawai`i SEED.

I also farm papaya, am a member of the Farm Bureau, and work in native plant restoration at the Makauwahi Cave at Maha`ulepu on Kaua`i.

Subject: Strong Support of SB 958, Relating to a 10 year moratorium on testing, propagating, cultivating, growing, and raising genetically engineered taro.

In the future there might be a way to tell if a crop is modified by genetic engineering just by looking at it. There might be a way to track its seed or cuttings from one variety to another. Maybe all GMO seed could be blue or red. Could a gmo pollen have a bit of DNA to track its maker and hold contaminators liable for crossing with pure strains of the same commodity?

Currently, you cannot tell if a plant, seed, fruit, vegetable, cow, salmon, tree or lawn is a product of cell invasion technology. Because you don't see a difference, things get mixed up. The non gmo papaya seed bank at the UH was found by DNA testing, to be contaminated with gmo papaya seed.

What's the difference? Well, the gmo **kalo** carries the genetic traits of a virus called a promoter. A viral promoter's job is to spread itself to other cells. GMO **kalo** has this genetic trait to promote antibiotic resistance. The idea of **kalo** containing genetic code from wheat, rice and grapevine can lead to unexpected allergic reactions. Other GMO crops sell for less and cannot be imported to Japan, the Philipines or the EU.

When I eat food, I eat for nutrition. Taste and appearance are second to nutritional value and purity of product. I do not want to ingest poison as a by-product to nutrition. If we are what we eat, then why not abandon chemical farming and monocropping that robs the land, food and people of the natural vitamins and minerals that should be in our food.

In closing I would like to say that co existence is not possible. The risk of someone giving their ohana some 'exclusive' variety is enough to taint the perception of the crop as a whole, never being 100% sure that it is pure. On Kaua`i this is already a reality, the mere rumor that people are growing testing gmo **kalo** on their farms for UH is driving a wedge between farmers.

Hawaii has a rich agricultural history, now we are the capitol of 'Frankenfood.'

Biotech crops are an aggressive strain. GMO crops grown near related conventional, organic or heirloom crops, take over.

Biotech limits the choices for farmers. You cannot tell GMO **kalo** from traditional **kalo** by looking at it. UH isn't even offering to test papaya for contamination to support traditional farmers, and now they want to release another mutated life form?

If I raise cattle and you grow corn, it is my responsibility to contain my cattle. It's not

your job to keep them out.

Hawai`i Island held a food summit last October. Hundreds of farmers and policy makers gathered to talk about food for the community's future. They don't want GMOs to interfere with their vision. They don't have GMO corn test fields on Big Island. They are still GMO free, except for the Rainbow and SunUp papaya varieties.

Farmers and organic seed companies there, can benefit from being clean of biotech crop pollution. They are gearing up to be the breadbasket of the state.

The County Council of Hawaii Island just passed resolutions to support legislative bills for No GMO taro and coffee. The county council gave the biotech scientists the final rebuttal at their meeting of over 5 hours. They voted, and the council said A`ole, no to biotech in Hawaii County. Maui County is hearing this resolution too.

I hope Kauai County will follow. Don't let corporate research ruin the future of the Garden Island.

Sincerely,
Jeri Di Pietro

Jeri DiPietro
PO Box 338
Koloa, HI 96756
OFSTONE@aol.com

Aloha Legislators,

Please give great consideration to the efforts to Save Haloa!! The state seems to always willing to help Hawaiian culture, so why not help the kalo? Kalo is not only a staple of the Hawaiian diet, but through mythology is the older brother, the kaikua'ana, of the kama'aina, the people of Hawai'i. The Hawaiians have been able to cross breed different types of varieties in the past, and many native varieties have been able to survive in Hawai'i for centuries. Creating GMO kalo, could ultimately destroy native varieties if they are allowed to pollinate with GMO kalo. Furthermore, GMO kalo poses too many health concerns to the public. Honestly, look at the outcomes and understand that by banning GMO kalo, you will be protecting not only a fundamental part of Hawaiian genealogy, culture, and diet, but will also be protecting citizens of the whole state. As a student of mahi 'ai kalo at UHM, I am greatly concerned about the future of kalo. I have been learning about kalo, not in a conventional classroom, but outside in the lo'i...working in the fields...harevsting huli, planting, peeling taro, learning to make pohaku ku'i 'ai and papa ku'i 'ai. Mahi 'ai kalo is a traditional customary practice of Native Hawaiians. IF kalo becomes a GMO plant, it will loose all of its value and importance as a tradional practice that Hawaiians take part in to remember their culture. Please understand that the GMO kalo will be very inconsiderate of the Hawaiian culture and how they have grown and perpetuated kalo for centuries. Mahalo for your kokua and consideration.

Elizabeth Kane

Hawaiian Studies major

UHM

Elizabeth C Kane

2333 Kapiolani Blvd.

unit 312

honolulu, HI 96826

(808) 645-6438

<ekane@hawaii.edu>

Aloha Legislators,

I am writing you in support of passing bills SB958 & HB704 in support of local agriculture in Hawaii. GMO food is widely banned in Japan and Europe because of the potential health risks as well as the risks to local agriculture. Kalo farmers need our support in protecting their rights and access to growing Kalo in the most sustainable and culturally appropriate ways. I look forward to hearing about your support of farmers and the 'aina.

Mahalo nui loa,

Amelia Borofsky
Kailua, Hawaii

Amelia Borofsky
707 Kaha St
Kailua, HI 96734
aborofsky@gmail.com

Bernice K Bishop-Kanoa
Enchanted Lake Drive
Kailua, HI 96734
bernice.bishop-kanoa.ctr@navy.mil

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support protecting kalo - and ALL Hawaii plants - from all forms of genetic modification and patenting because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous risks to our food and health. I join am calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture from this disrespectful and dangerous practice by passing a law to stop the genetic modification and patenting of kalo and all foods of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Frances Pitzer

Kihei, HI

Frances Pitzer

14 Hakoi Hema Place

Kihei, HI 96753

iam4joy@hotmail.com

Aloha Legislators,

No GMO's! Our environment and now our food sources are being deluged w/pollutants that endanger us all! Stop this cycle now-protect our land and people. It's the only decent thing to do. Read and learn then do the right thing...ban GMO's!

Faith Tengan

1828 E. Vineyard St

Wailuku, HI 96793

faithtengan@clearwire.net

Aloha Legislators,
Please support SB958

Melisa Schwarm
Piikea Pl
Makawao, HI 96768
melisa@hawaii.rr.com

Aloha Legislators,
I strongly support protecting kalo from all forms of genetic modification and patenting because it is culturally disrespectful and poses potentially dangerous risks to our food and health. I am a student of Hawaii Community College, and I am in the Mahi'ai (farmer) Program, a class where we are taught how to grow kalo, as well as understanding it's health and cultural properties. I join the mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture from this disrespectful and dangerous practice by passing a law to stop the genetic modification and patenting of kalo and all foods of Hawaii.

Nalani Barrett
1859 Kilauea Ave. #A
Hilo, , HI 96720
megabar@hawaii.edu

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support protecting kalo from all forms of genetic modification and patenting because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous risks to our food and health. I join the mahi?ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture from this disrespectful and dangerous practice by passing a law to stop the genetic modification and patenting of kalo and all foods of Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Lisa Clark

Hilo, Hawaii

Lisa Clark

690 Wainaku St.

Hilo, HI 96720

lclark022@aol.com

Aloha Legislators,
I support protections for kalo from genetic modifications.

If our FDA, USDA, and other agencies were not so prone to corruption and were not revolving doors for executives within the chemical industry that profits from these experiments on the public, this would not be a problem.

Unfortunately though, the pay-to-play system of American democracy has created corruption at every turn. And it's getting worse.

It's embarrassing enough that Hawaii has become the guineau pig of the chemical industry with other crops. Can we protect at this one? Give me a break.

Kory Payne
945 Lunahai Pl
Kailua, HI 96734
kory.payne@gmail.com

Aloha Legislators,

I come from a very large family and collectively I represent over 100 persons that consume taro. I refuse to let GMO or their corporate entities to tamper with our kalo or any of our food in any way, shape, or form. It belongs to us and not them. You wouldn't expect us to eat off of your plate while you eat so don't eat off of our plate. It's proven that GMO is bad science and ignorant politics will allow GMO to desecrate our food. Stealing our food for their pecuniary interests is not an option. Common sense dictates that when there is a great controversy and potential health risks with GMO and the risk of contamination, the logical consequence is to place a moratorium on the offending GMO and to eventually ban it from Hawai'i. Leave our customary food alone; I don't want it tampered with or put at risk.

I'm putting you on notice to protect our food against GMO and patenting what belongs to us. Our mahi'ai know what they are doing and don't need outsiders to tell them what to do with our crops which has been done for over a thousand years. You are raping our brother, Haloa; so don't be perverts! Show some respect and protect our interests and not those of the scurrilous GMO outsiders that threaten us. We have investigated GMO and don't like what we discovered. We have entrusted you to safeguard our welfare; now, don't let us down. Pass SB958 and HB704. We don't need another mongoose syndrome to create havoc in Hawaii.

David MK Inciong II
1107 Acacia Road #113
Pearl City, HI 96782-2581
Tane_1@msn.com

Aloha Legislators,

my name is arlen guieb i am only 12 years old and bi just wanted to say please dont put GMO in are older brother it means alot to us hawaiiin so thats all i got to say but i know that. i just wanted to say let the kalo bill pass

I live with my grandparent in Waianae. I go to school at Waianae Intermediate School and I am in 7th grade. I have two brothers Ansan, and Ares; I was born on July 10, 1995 at Kapiolani hospital. My favorite hobby is doing magic tricks but I am still a beginner. I participated in the Malama Haloa rally on Jan 17, 2007. I came to Malama Haloa Rally because of our older brother, the kalo. Our group was to present kalo plants to the legislators. I thought I would be kind of nervous presenting the kalo to a state legislator. My experience was fun and I learned about GMO. On the way up to see our legislators we were walking up the stairs chanting and it was fun. It was kind of cool talking to the state representative Mr. Clift Tsuji about our older brother.

Arlen guieb

<waianae_gama@live.com>

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support protecting **kalo** from all forms of genetic modification and patenting because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous risks to our food and health. I join the mahiʻai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture from this disrespectful and dangerous practice by passing a law to stop the genetic modification and patenting of **kalo** and all foods of Hawaii.

Mahalo,
Kealii Makekau
Honolulu, Hawaii

Kealii Makekau
2563 Date
Honolulu, HI 96826
Kealii8@hotmail.com

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support protecting **kalo** from all forms of genetic modification and patenting because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous risks to our food and health. I join the mahiʻai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture from this disrespectful and dangerous practice by passing a law to stop the genetic modification and patenting of **kalo** and all foods of Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Leenelle Tomooka
66 Wainaku St #2
Hilo, HI 96720
LEENELLET@yahoo.com

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support protecting kalo from all forms of genetic modification and patenting because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous risks to our food and health. I join the mahi?ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture from this disrespectful and dangerous practice by passing a law to stop the genetic modification and patenting of kalo and all foods of Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Teri Skillman

Honolulu, HI

Teri Skillman

1720 Perry St.

Honolulu, HI 96819

841-5011

Hautree77@aol.com

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am in strong support of the moratorium on all forms of genetically modified kalo in Hawai`i. Patenting and testing are both dangerous and disrespectful.

Dangerous because of the potential for cross pollinization and the unknown and potentially harmful effects on the food supply.

It is disrespectful of the rights of the indigenous people of these islands, the Native Hawaiians. They maintain and express a sovereign right to biodiversity that has been reared for a multitude of generations. It is unfair and illegal to patent a life form that is a cultural relative to those that which have lived here for many hundreds of years.

I call on you to uphold a semblance of integrity in our interaction with the Native Hawaiian population by instating the moratorium and respecting their sacred ancestor, Haloa. Thank you for your time and wisdom in reflecting upon this very important topic.

My prayers are with you.

Mahalo,
Evan Silberstein
Manoa, Hawaii
WSRSL 09

Evan Silberstein
3315 East Manoa Road
Honolulu, HI 96822
skywalker@ecomail.org

Aloha Legislators,

I, too, strongly support protecting kalo from all forms of genetic modification and patenting because it is culturally inappropriate and poses known and unknown potentially dangerous risks to our food and health. I join the mahi'ai of Hawai'i in calling on all of Hawai'i's legislators to protect all of us and Hawai'i's traditional culture from this disrespectful and dangerous practice by passing a law to stop the genetic modification and patenting of kalo and all foods of Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Edward M. Dobson
P. O. Box 8
Bluff, UT 84512-0008
edobson@iglide.net

Karsten Zane
2224 Makanani Drive
Honolulu HI 96817
398-2390, k kzane@hawaii.edu

Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-
Aloha Legislators,

I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For over 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and have protected the most extensive collection of varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i, taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture, and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of kalo is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

The kalo plant is our ancestor, 'ohana (family), sustenance, religion, history and modern day pillar for our generations to come after us. The kalo is our genealogy thru Hāloa, our elder ancestor, and Hawaiians have traced this genealogy over hundreds of centuries. With all these things being said, it is our origins and our future survival, kalo needs to be sustained in a natural way, not modified or manufactured for profit or fame.

Native planters of the wā kahiko (old days) were proficient in managing over 300 varieties tailored for different uses, these varieties were acquired through natural propagation and farming. Each variety had qualities suited for different environments and uses, therefore satisfying sustainability and longevity. Other work around the world with genetically engineered crops have unfolded inevitable risks, such as elimination of diverse crops, and risk of famine due to catastrophic loss of crops that are the sole surviving species. These unknown risks are alarming, and at the same time ownership of the only surviving variety of kalo will result in a monopolized control of our most valuable source of the Hawaiian culture.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/ scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting kalo from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases. I also ask that the legislators pursue other avenues such as more public lands to grow kalo and more access to the water for growing kalo. I also ask the legislators to really find the truth behind the research in GMO of kalo, do they really want to help the farmers and Hawaiians, or are there other reasons, the ultimate question for the researchers is "DO THEY EVEN LIKE TO EAT THE POI?"

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawai'i's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro. As faculty and staff who teach the Hawaiian culture and the importance of the 'āina (land & environment) which is the source of the culture, how should I explain to my students that the Hawaiian culture is not respected by the University of Hawai'i or the State of Hawai'i Government? How do I tell them that the very foundation of Hāloa, who also represents the 'āina, is being altered by irresponsible scientific research? Would you as Christians and Catholics desecrate the holy cross in the name of science? That is what is happening with the kalo.

In conclusion, please consider my plea for Hawai'i to preserve our heritage and the integrity of the kalo plant. I am in favor of the House bill SB958, which relates to banning research and growing of GMO taro. I leave you with this wise saying used by many in Hawai`i, "If it's not broken, then don't fix it!"
Mālama Hāloa! Mālama Pono,
Me ka ha'aha'a,

Karsten Zane
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Kamakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies
2645 Dole Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

Tehane Kahalehau
2645 Dole St. 103A
Honolulu, 96822
808-276-4986, leinani3@hotmail.com

Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-
Aloha Legislators,

I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For over 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and have protected the most extensive collection of varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i, taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture, and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of kalo is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

The kalo plant is our ancestor, 'ohana (family), sustenance, religion, history and modern day pillar for our generations to come after us. The kalo is our genealogy thru Hāloa, our elder ancestor, and Hawaiians have traced this genealogy over hundreds of centuries. With all these things being said, it is our origins and our future survival, kalo needs to be sustained in a natural way, not modified or manufactured for profit or fame.

Native planters of the wā kahiko (old days) were proficient in managing over 300 varieties tailored for different uses, these varieties were acquired through natural propagation and farming. Each variety had qualities suited for different environments and uses, therefore satisfying sustainability and longevity. Other work around the world with genetically engineered crops have unfolded inevitable risks, such as elimination of diverse crops, and risk of famine due to catastrophic loss of crops that are the sole surviving species. These unknown risks are alarming, and at the same time ownership of the only surviving variety of kalo will result in a monopolized control of our most valuable source of the Hawaiian culture.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting kalo from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases. I also ask that the legislators pursue other avenues such as more public lands to grow kalo and more access to the water for growing kalo. I also ask the legislators to really find the truth behind the research in GMO of kalo, do they really want to help the farmers and Hawaiians, or are there other reasons, the ultimate question for the researchers is "DO THEY EVEN LIKE TO EAT THE POI?"

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawai'i's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro. As faculty and staff who teach the Hawaiian culture and the importance of the 'āina (land & environment) which is the source of the culture, how should I explain to my students that the Hawaiian culture is not respected by the University of Hawai'i or the State of Hawai'i Government? How do I tell them that the very foundation of Hāloa, who also represents the 'āina, is being altered by irresponsible scientific research?

In conclusion, please consider my plea for Hawai'i to preserve our heritage and the integrity of the kalo plant. I am in favor of the House bill SB958, which relates to banning research and growing of GMO taro.

Mālama Hāloa! Mālama Pono,

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Name

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies

2645 Dole Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

Leimana Pelton
President, Bamboo Village Hawaii
Kurtistown 96760
leimana@bamboovillagehawaii.org

03/05/08

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition.

Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,
Leimana Pelton, President Bamboo Village Hawaii



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March 08

Aloha—

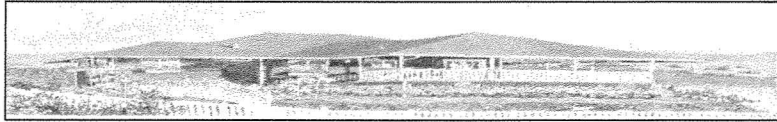
I am a 63-year-old haole woman, living on Maui for eight years. It is vitally important that the ten-year moratorium on the genetic modification of Hawaiian taro be enacted now because:

- 1) as a health-conscious vegan, taro is one local, sustainable food that I can always eat with the confidence that I am being well-nourished while supporting the local economy and culture;
- 2) as a proponent of Hawaii's "small-town" island life-style, I consider the local taro farmers the backbone of the sustainable agricultural community;
- 3) as a scientist and educator, I know the dangers of releasing genetically-modified organisms into the ecosphere without thorough testing and labeling; and finally
- 4) as a student of the host culture, which regards "Haloa" as the ancestor, I consider tampering with it in any way a crime which, once perpetrated, cannot ever be recalled.

Therefore, I ask your support of SB 958 with no reservations. Mahalo nui loa.

Life's for learning

Nadine Newlight, Director



Maui Real Estate Professionals

Dana Ollech R(S)

Serving Maui with Integrity & Incredible Customer Service

8 Kiopa'a Street, Suite 2 - Pukalani, HI 96768 - Office: 808 573-2005

Direct: 808 870-3282 ~ fax: 808 356-1088 ~ dana@maui.net ~ PeaceOnMaui.com

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Name: Dana Ollech & Ohana
Neighborhood: Honopou
Town, Zip Code: Haiku, Maui 96708
Phone/Email: 808-870-3282/dana@maui.net

Aloha Legislators,

We strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous, irreversible long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture & business.

We support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. We hope that you will support farmers/scientists in their research and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our kalo from land & water issues and related pests & diseases.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Mahalo for listening,

Dana Ollech R(S)

Maui Real Estate Professionals

Re: SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro- Support

Syndi-Mei Spencer
Student- BYU-Hawaii
Laie- Oahu
96762
258-02445 / syndispe07@yahoo.com

Aloha,

My name is Syndi-Mei Spencer and I am a 19 year old student at Brigham Young University-Hawaii. I am majoring in Chemistry and hope to be a genetic scientist one day. In my classes we are studying about Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) or Genetic Engineering (GE) and it is pretty scary stuff. I am not the smartest student in the class but smart enough to know that GMO is not good. It is scary because and is not enough factual research to indicate that it is safe.

I love my heritage. I am Hawaiian, Maori, Chinese, Scottish, English, Welch and French and am proud of all the ancestors who created me. I enjoy eating, and recently went to a luau they had: Poke, chicken long rice, lomilomi salmon, squid lu'au, haupia, sweet potato and poi no- rice. It just wasn't the same. I would like to take this example and look at how rice has replaced poi. Hawaiians are kalo.

I support the farmers of Hawaii/kalo, the keepers of Haloa who are lobbying for SB958 that asks for a 10 year moratorium on GMO on Native Hawaiian kalo. IT IS NOT PONO!

Mahalo,

Syndi-Mei Spencer
Student

Jaime Uluwehi Hopkins
Graduate Teaching Assistant
Kamakakuokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies
2645 Dole St. 103A
Honolulu, 96822
945-1413, jaime.hopkins@hawaii.edu

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For over 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and have protected the most extensive collection of varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i, taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture, and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of kalo is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

The kalo plant is our ancestor, 'ohana (family), sustenance, religion, history and modern day pillar for our generations to come after us. The kalo is our genealogy thru Haloa, our elder ancestor, and Hawaiians have traced this genealogy over hundreds of centuries. With all these things being said, it is our origins and our future survival, kalo needs to be sustained in a natural way, not modified or manufactured for profit or fame.

Native planters of the wa kahiko (old days) were proficient in managing over 300 varieties tailored for different uses, these varieties were acquired through natural propagation and farming. Each variety had qualities suited for different environments and uses, therefore satisfying sustainability and longevity. Other work around the world with genetically engineered crops have unfolded inevitable risks, such as elimination of diverse crops, and risk of famine due to catastrophic loss of crops that are the sole surviving species. These unknown risks are alarming, and at the same time ownership of the only surviving variety of kalo will result in a monopolized control of our most valuable source of the Hawaiian culture.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting kalo from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases. I also ask that the legislators pursue other avenues such as more public lands to grow kalo and more access to the water for growing kalo. I also ask the legislators to really find the truth behind the research in GMO of kalo; do they really want to help the farmers and Hawaiians, or are there other reasons? The ultimate question that should be posed to the researchers is "DO YOU EVEN LIKE TO EAT THE POI?"

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawai'i's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro. As faculty and staff who teach the Hawaiian culture and the importance of the 'aina (land & environment) which is the source of the culture, how should I explain to my students that the Hawaiian culture is not respected by the University of Hawai'i or the State of Hawai'i Government? How do I tell them that the very foundation of Haloa, who also represents the 'aina, is being altered by irresponsible scientific research?

In conclusion, please consider my plea for Hawai'i to preserve our heritage and the integrity of the kalo plant. I am in favor of the House bill SB958, which relates to banning research and growing of GMO taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Jaime Uluwehi Hopkins
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
Kamakakuokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies
Hawai'inuiakea School of Hawaiian Knowledge
2645 Dole Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

ong king arts center

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Peace Legislators,

Taro must grow and live and thrive with the people of the land who cultivate it and have been by its side for centuries. I ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification of taro (kalo) plant species.

Taro is a beautiful cycle of nourishment...the hands, the patience, growing with the land. Everywhere the cycle is threatened. Patience is replaced by patents, mutual benefit is replaced by greed. This is an opportunity to stand along side the aina, and the sustainable culture of giving. It is a blessing to protect taro from being patented and manipulated. Be the blessing, please, vote in support of the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification of taro (kalo).

Thank you,
See/Cristian Ellauri
Director, Ong King Arts Center



Ong King Arts Center
184 N. King St.
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Paul Massey P.O. Box 2078 Kapaa, HI 96746 (808) 652-7898 paul@kauainature.com

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

County of Kauai Council
 4396 Rice Street, #206
 Lihue, HI 96766

-TESTIMONY: RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SB958-

Dear Council Members,

I request that you pass a resolution supporting Senate Bill 958, which aims to enact a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification of taro.

Hāloa the Taro (*Colocasia esculenta*) is a sacred plant to the Hawaiian people, and remains an important source of life-giving nutrition for island residents throughout the Pacific, and in Africa, Asia, and America. Any potential benefits gained from tinkering in genetic modification of this vital plant resource is heavily outweighed by the potential risks. Increased allergic reactivity, unintended gene transfer to humans and the environment, and desecration of a revered elder are some examples of these risks. Genetic modification is still in its infancy and we cannot afford to contaminate our environment with its unpredictable products—once they are released into the biosphere they can never be recalled. In addition, the legal implications of patenting a life form that sustain our dietary and health needs places us in further unacceptable risk.

The Hawaiian culture masterfully developed over 300 varieties of taro, which represent a wealth of genetic diversity of the species. Perpetuating this diversity through the careful stewardship of our local farmers and planters is the natural and safest way of insuring against disease, pests, and changing environmental conditions. In this way we also benefit from building our relationship with so many different kinds of taro, varying in texture, taste, color, beauty, and spirit.

I am grateful that the Kaua`i County Council represents the will of its citizens by passing resolutions of support, and I ask that you do so for Senate Bill 958.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Massey



Marvin Kaleookalani Manuel
1550 Wilder Ave. A505
Honolulu, 96822
(808) 756-1045 *marvinma@hawaii.edu*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

My name is Marvin Manuel. I am currently a Master's Candidate in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I also have a Bachelor's Degree in Hawaiian Studies from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa with an emphasis in *Mālama 'Āina*, or Native Hawaiian land and resource management. I am in support of SB958 which places a 10 year moratorium on developing, testing, propagating, cultivating, growing, and raising genetically engineered *kalo* (taro) in the State.

I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the *kalo* plant species. For over 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and have protected the most extensive collection of varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i, *kalo* is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. *Kalo* provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture, and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of *kalo* is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

The *kalo* plant is our ancestor, *'ohana* (family), sustenance, religion, history and modern day pillar for our generations to come after us. The *kalo* is our genealogy thru *Hāloa*, our elder ancestor that connects and unites all Native Hawaiians. With all these things being said, it is our origins and our future survival, *kalo* needs to be sustained in a natural way, not modified or manufactured for profit or fame.

Native planters of the *wā kahiko* (old days) were proficient in managing over 300 varieties tailored for different uses, these varieties were acquired through natural propagation and farming. Each variety had qualities suited for different environments and uses, therefore satisfying sustainability and longevity. Other work around the world with genetically engineered crops have unfolded inevitable risks, such as elimination of diverse crops, and risk of famine due to catastrophic loss of crops that are the sole surviving species. These unknown risks are alarming, and at the same time ownership of the only surviving variety of *kalo* will result in a monopolized control of our most valuable source of the Hawaiian culture.

I support sustainable farming and precautionary scientific research that does not expose the *kalo* species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers and scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting *kalo* from land and water issues and invasive pests and diseases. I also ask that the legislators pursue other avenues such as allocating more public lands to grow *kalo* and establishing greater access to water which is essential for growing *kalo*.

Kalo is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join *mahi'ai* (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawai'i's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of *kalo*. As a student and now a teacher of Hawaiian culture and the importance of protecting, preserving, and conserving the *'āina* (land and environment) which is the source of our culture, how should I explain to my students that the Hawaiian culture is not respected by the University of Hawai'i or the State of Hawai'i Government? How do I tell them that the very foundation of *Hāloa*, who also represents the *'āina*, is being altered by irresponsible scientific research?

In conclusion, I humbly ask that you consider my testimony in support of SB958, which relates to banning research and growing of GMO *kalo*.

Mālama Hāloa! Mālama Pono,

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Marvin Kaleokalani Manuel

Master's Candidate
Department of Urban and Regional Planning
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Noah Keola Ryan
2645 Dole St. 103A
Honolulu, 96822
(808) 542-1299, nryan@hawaii.edu

Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (*kalo*) plant species. Aside from all cultural aspects that this behavior conflicts with, GMO testing is not in the best interest for our biodiversity and health of both environment and people.

Time and time again people around the world have been assured that GMO organisms and their patenting would not affect other crops and/or farmers. Recent experience has taught us otherwise. GMO plants have naturally cross bred with other organisms and patent laws have been enforced in support of large corporations at the expense of small local farmers.

This is not only an outrage but an immoral offense beyond compare. Where does it stop? Think about the potential effects GMO taro could have on the environment, the rest of the Taro population, or even our families. Land is one thing, taxes and laws are another, but food affects every human on the planet...whether you like it or not, we are all affected by GMO Taro. Research and think, please.

For over 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and have protected the most extensive collection of varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i, taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture, and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of *kalo* is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

The *kalo* plant is our ancestor, *'ohana* (family), sustenance, religion, history and modern day pillar for our generations to come after us. The *kalo* is our genealogy thru *Hāloa*, our elder ancestor, and Hawaiians have traced this genealogy over hundreds of centuries. With all these things being said, it is our origins and our future survival, *kalo* needs to be sustained in a natural way, not modified or manufactured for profit or fame.

Native planters of the *wā kahiko* (old days) were proficient in managing over 300 varieties tailored for different uses, these varieties were acquired through natural propagation and farming. Each variety had qualities suited for different environments and

uses, therefore satisfying sustainability and longevity. Other work around the world with genetically engineered crops have unfolded inevitable risks, such as elimination of diverse crops, and risk of famine due to catastrophic loss of crops that are the sole surviving species. These unknown risks are alarming, and at the same time ownership of the only surviving variety of *kalo* will result in a monopolized control of our most valuable source of the Hawaiian culture.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting *kalo* from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases. I also ask that the legislators pursue other avenues such as more public lands to grow *kalo* and more access to the water for growing *kalo*. I also ask the legislators to really find the truth behind the research in GMO of *kalo*, do they really want to help the farmers and Hawaiians, or are there other reasons, the ultimate question for the researchers is "DO THEY EVEN LIKE TO EAT THE POI?"

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join *mahi'ai* (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawai'i's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro. As faculty and staff who teach the Hawaiian culture and the importance of the *'āina* (land & environment) which is the source of the culture, how should I explain to my students that the Hawaiian culture is not respected by the University of Hawai'i or the State of Hawai'i Government? How do I tell them that the very foundation of *Hāloa*, who also represents the *'āina*, is being altered by irresponsible scientific research?

In conclusion, please consider my plea for Hawai'i to preserve our heritage and the integrity of the *kalo* plant. I am in favor of the House bill SB958, which relates to banning research and growing of GMO taro.

Mālama Hāloa! Mālama Pono,

Me ka ha'aha'a,
Keola

Noah Keola Ryan

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies
2645 Dole Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

Mary Stone
2363 Pu'u Road #3A
Kalaheo, HI 96741
maliastone@earthlink.net

Aloha Legislators,

There are many issues with supporting the introduction and use of any GMO foods crop for people with allergies. Traditional food items have stood the test of time and their qualities are known and the knowledge of their cultivation and characteristics forms a legacy to build upon. Farming traditions and practices have resulted in medicinal and positive general health knowledge which cannot be duplicated by short term intensive experiments without long term even centuries of wise farming practices.

For myself, personally, my allergies to wheat and rice have lead me to kalo and poi and it has provided a wonderful staple. Eating those foods that are part of the land we live on provides the best nourishment for our bodies as well as celebrates our environment and our spirit's connection to it. Please protect this staple starch food of Hawaii which is also is the bedrock for many of us as health food.

The special people who are the farmers and their families are our connection to that tradition of caring for all the aspects of making the land sustain us. Money and research would be better used to ensure clean water by recycling programs and working with the farmers directly to listen to their needs and experiences to grow more organically.

Aloha to support living to care for all,

Mary Stone

March 11, 2008

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a descendant of two generations of taro farmers, an educator in the Department of Education, a Kumu Hula, musician, and native practitioner of Hawaiian culture and arts. I reside on the Northshore of the island of Kauai, in the Hanalei to Haena area.

As an educator, Kumu Hula, and native practitioner, I teach my students in the 4th grade, hula students, and visitors to *malama ka'āina*, to care for the land and sea by immersing them in programs and activities that teach traditional ways of caring for the native plants and conservation of resources.

It is imperative that kalo is preserved in its true form and not altered in any way, shape, or form. Our responsibility or *kuleana* is to preserve this vital source of food that has provided sustenance for countless generations. Do not alter our traditional food source!

Aloha,



Naomi L. Yokotake

Re: SB958 / HB704 - 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Kalo
Alohi M. M. Y. (Kanohe Chang) Ae'a
1335 Makaikoa Street
Honolulu HI, 96821
aluhi@yahoo.com

Aloha Mr. Calvin Say,

I am not a person who is inclined to be very politically active. I vote during major elections, show up at the occasional rally, and sign a random petition every now and then. While I sometimes think I would make a great governor (doesn't everyone?), I have never before composed a letter to a legislator. However, **the issue of "Hāloa's Law", also known as SB 958 / HB 704, is so important that I feel I must speak up.**

This past Sunday, I cooked kalo at my house for the first time in years. Earlier that day, I spent a few hours at my cousin's farm, hacking down ginger and bamboo. He is clearing land for lo'i. Three months ago, I pounded kalo for the first time in my life. I added too much water and ended up with a lumpy mass that also managed to be very sticky at the same time. I watched the seven year old next to me go home with a fistful of smooth pa'i 'ai and wondered how she did it.

While I have, for the most part, become largely disconnected and far removed from the kalo that my ancestors worked with and depended on for daily subsistence, **I find great comfort in knowing that the huli that we plant today are offshoots of huli that my ancestors planted hundreds of years ago.** Somewhere in its history, the huli that I hold (on the rare occasions that I do plant kalo) is directly linked to a plant that my ancestors planted, harvested, consumed and replanted. **Genetic modification will change this assurance.**

You know the arguments:

Hawaiians consider Hāloa, the kalo plant, a sacred sibling, an elder brother, a much-respected kupuna. **To genetically modify kalo is culturally inappropriate and disrespectful.**

The negative effects of genetic modification are not completely known. Long term studies on the effects of GM foods on humans, the environment, and other species have not been adequately researched.

The ills that GM of kalo proposes to "cure" can be taken care of with proper management of natural resources—clean, plentiful water, rotation of land and crops, and an understanding of the simple yet complex interworkings of a healthy ecosystem. **GM is completely unnecessary for kalo to continue to thrive.**

This is also an issue about a people who are trying very hard, against immense odds, to maintain traditional integrity and practices in a world that is becoming increasingly hostile to such things. The societal, economic, and environmental obstacles to growing kalo are already great without the negative factor of genetic modification added.

I urge you to **listen to the voices of those closest to Hāloa**, the practitioners who work with kalo on a daily basis, the farmers whose livelihood depends on kalo, and those who, like me, acknowledge their cultural, familial and spiritual connection to Hāloa. Support SB 958 / HB 704 and put a moratorium on genetic modification and the patenting of kalo.

Me ka mahalo,

Alohi Ae'a
29 February, 2008

Patricia Finch Houston
P.O. Box 2317
Telluride, CO 81435
970-728-5814

Member of The Daughters of Hawaii

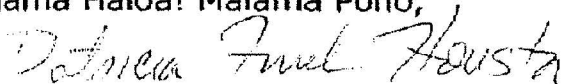
**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro**

Aloha Legislators,
I am asking that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests and diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by voting "AE" for the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,



Patricia Finch Houston


2/10/08

Re: SB958 HD1 10 Year Moratorium on the Modification of Taro.

Name: Anthony Moon
PO Box 1112
Pahoa, HI 96778

Honorable Legislators

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on developing, testing, propagating, growing and raising genetically engineered taro in the state.

Honorable,
Anthony Moon


Full Name Harmony Ku'ualohamakahaimai Kalani Johns-Kama

Town, State Kaneohe HI

Re: NO GMO Kalo

All Hawaiians can trace their genealogy back to Hāloa, by Genetically modifying Kalo you guys ~~are~~ are messing with our older brother who takes care of us. If they do GMO then it will get a patent and the ~~Kalo~~ Kalo will not be available for us and that is wrong.

The same thing happened to the corn they Genetically modified it and the people who grew it and harvest it for yrs were told they could not be able to because the company had a patent on it. I dont want that to happen to our Kalo. I want my children to eat Kalo that ~~is~~ has ~~not~~ not been genetically modified and I want Kalo to be available for all the Hawaiian generations to come.

Full Name Lisa Ann Pauahi Ho'okano

Town, State Wailuanui, Maui, Hawai'i

Re: Taro

To: Kalani English, Mele Carroll, Russell S. Kokubun

Aloha kākou pākahi a pau,

I am writing to ~~to~~ express my support for S.B 958, regarding a 10 yr moratorium for the genetic research and modification of taro. Biotech companies as well as UH Mānoa feel it is important to research ~~the~~ the genetic modification of taro in order to "save" the taro from pests, viruses and diseases. Unfortunately, the focus of g.e. as a solution to the problems facing taro is a short sighted one, and one that ~~has~~ has ~~unknown~~ unknown consequences. A better solution would be to allow taro farmers ~~adequate~~ adequate fresh flowing water; as many of the ~~g.e.~~ diseases of taro is a result of lack of fresh ~~flowing~~ flowing water.

Aside from the fact that taro is the food staple for Hawaiians, we also trace our genealogy to Hāloa. As is our belief, Hāloa is our elder brother. It is our responsibility to care for and protect him; his kuleana in return is to hānai or feed us. We, Kanaka Maoli o Hawai'i, are striving to fulfill our kuleana to Mālama iā Hāloa, so that Hāloa, in turn will continue to

Full Name Blake Drolson

Town, State Kilauea, HI (Kauai)

Re: SB958 & HB709

Alpha Legislators,

I strongly support protecting Kalo from all forms of genetic engineering & patenting. Genetic engineering has too many unknowns & risks to be safe to eat. Furthermore I find the patenting of life forms, taro or otherwise to be unacceptable. If people can not have the choice to plant food without a contract or fee payment, then how can people be free? If you support the freedom of people to live food, then please pass this bill protecting kalo from GMO's.

Full Name Wāhealani Elizabeth Hīgala Matuani-Jones

Town, State Waimānalo

Re: GIMO

ʻO Kōy mānāʻs nō ka GIMO. He kama loa no ka mea
ʻaʻole he mea pono e kōu nō iko ʻo Hāloa no ka mea
he kanaka ʻo Hāloa. Ke kōu nō ka Lāʻau ʻino ma
laka ʻo Hāloa a ʻaʻole e like ana ke kanaka
no ka mea ua kōu nō ka Lāʻau ʻino. ʻO kēia
kekahi a kōu nō. A ʻaʻole e lōʻiʻa
ʻo ia paha no ka hōʻiʻi e hiki mai.

Wāhealani

Full Name Gregory Paul Owen

Town, State KumuKahu, Puna, Hawaii

Re: no to GMO

to Pepe Tsujis

The Community has spoken
loud and clear. Please do not
sell us out to outside interests
who only care for money.

Pls. respect the community!
Thank you very much.

Nobody deserves to be contaminated.
We will not allow this to happen
in Hawaii. Or else.

Valerie Van Balen

Full Name Nina Puhikapu

Town, State Waialua O'ahu

Re: GMO FREE HAWAII

Support Sustainable Agriculture.

&

Responsible Technology

Biodiversity is good!

Monocropping is bad!

Full Name Jaysen Lokahi - o-kala ho'opai - Ferreira

Town, State Kaneohe/HI

Re: GMO

I believe that what the university is doing is wrong. I believe that genetically modifying any race/culture's genealogy should be illegal. WHAT THE UNIVERSITY IS DOING IS

WRONG !!

Full Name

TOI PUALAA NORWOOD

Town, State

PO BOX 1663 HANALEI, HI 96714

Re:

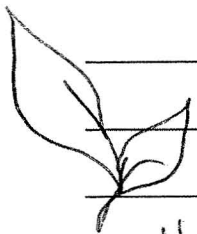
SUPPORT SB 958 PROTECT HĀLOA

* PLEASE STOP GMO OF TARE.

THE DANGERS OF CONTAMINATION +

THE POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO

HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT ARE IRREVERSIBLE.



HĀLOA, the KMO IS SACRED TO

HAWAIIANS, + IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF
OUR CULTURE, HERITAGE, + SUSTAINABILITY.

IF YOU KILL THE KMO, YOU KILL THE CULTURE

YOU THEN KILL THE PEOPLE. THAT IS GENOCIDE.

THE FUTURE RAUIFICATIONS ARE

UNPREDICTABLE, UNCONTROLLABLE + IRREVERSIBLE.

PLEASE EXERCISE CAUTION. STOP, +

ACCESS THE FULL extent of GMO experimentation.

MAHALO!

Full Name Timoteo Hewlen

Town, State Po, Box 1663 Hanalei, Hi 96714

Re: support bell 958 and Protect Hālea

Stop G.M.O of taro and other plants.

Stop the supper farrge from going enewer.

Full Name NEWLIGHT, Nadine

Town, State Paia, HI 45 Lanani Place 573 7730

Re: Moratorium on GE Taro

The genetic structure of our food plants, evolved by nature and farmers over centuries, seems to be available to auction for the highest bidder. How does this benefit the consumer? All industry's claims of greater yields and reduced chemical usage have been shown as false.

Now, the Hawaiian ancestor, Hāloa the Taro, is threatened by Big Ag. Recently, UH tore up patents on non-native species after vehement protests. Because our federal govt offers no safeguards, GE food is permitted to enter the market without testing or labelling. So, eventual damaging side-effects must be traced or rectified. The situation is out of hand, with 60% of processed food containing GE ingredients.

Where will it stop? Scientists and big corporations have no right to invade 100% of our world. We demand a 10-yr moratorium on any GE of Hawaiian taro.

email:

Full Name Sylvia E. Hoffmeyer / sylvie.hoffmeyer@gmail.com

Town, State 3566 Piikoa Pl., Makawao, HI 96768 / 808-372-7240

Re: SB 958 / HR 704 / Moratorium on GMO Taro experiments

As an elected official of the state of Hawaii, it is your sworn responsibility to protect, promote, and yes, even to nurture, the people and land - the environment of this beautiful island state.

It's bad enough that we have open-air testing with its unknown and potentially irreversible dangers and side effects on corn and sugar, papaya, rice and other crops; without extending this irresponsible experimentation to TARO!

Please vote in favor of a minimum 10 yr. ban on GMO Taro experiments. Some issues are sacred. Some issues are so important that they stand beyond special interests, stand above those who wish to manipulate and water down - wave off - real concerns and principle.

It's almost too much to write in this small space - the issues are health, environment, sacred, moral, economic, freedom of choice and more.

Please vote in favor of a 10 yr. moratorium of GMO Taro experiments.

Please consider and protect the people & 'āina of Hawaii.

Thank you

Sylvia Hoffmeyer

Full Name Nancy Ravelo kynolive@yahoo.com
Town, State 2190 Anala Pl Kualapuu HI 96757
Re: SB 958

Genetic Engineering is not a solution. Engineering anything without safety is insanity. Would you support building material for your home that is questionable? Would you buy products that your neighbors said was junk and endangering your health?

I hope not. I hope you would check it out. I hope you would go beyond the manufacturers and their "experts". Please go beyond "special interests". Do your home work. You owe this to your constituents and your children.

Full Name Steven C (Ede) Bruhjeil
Town, State P.O. Box 945 K2U12K2K2i
Re: 96748

Testimony -

Please do not mess with the genetics of life. (or any plant, animal species). Is not the most important aspect of our existence our genetics? Why has our creator taken care to properly develop genetics of all species naturally and now men can change all that with a swift shot in the stem? ^(cell) May we call this genetic blasphemy? Will this ignorant arrogant procedure ~~to~~ create monsters or extermination of species? Who knows? Who gave them authority to feed us spermicides and abortifacients? What are they really up to? A ten year moratorium would certainly give more time to understand these questions and the opportunity to develop wiser decisions. It would be prudent of us humans to pass this bill - give us more time to understand. Respect - save the land! Save it from this unnecessary mutilation. Set a precedent for all life forms and please pass this Bill.

Steven C. Bruhjeil

Full Name KATHLEEN J. FLYNN

Town, State HALEIWA, HI.

Re: S.B 958

We are in the time of great change & we all have an opportunity to steer that change for the good of humanity and our planet home.

The Native Hawaiian People have been the stewards of this land for eons. We can trust the Kupuna to know the right thing to do because they love and honor the land. I Right know their ancient spiritual brother is being threatened. Please take time to learn what is going on. GMO's are Franken-food Any gene can be ~~can~~ be spliced with any gene. What are the implications?

Do the right thing for the family, for yourself.

Full Name MAX MAKANA MARTIN

Town, State HANAIEI

Re: GMOs Not PONO Pass Bill SB958 and HB764

"Aloha Aiiwa" legislators

I MAKANA MARTIN, of the North Shore Kauai Am Against ANY tampering or genetic modification of the Kalo, and I will fight this till the Day I Die. Because what you guys are doing is not PONO (Right) Because The Farmers Don't want it, The consumers Don't want it, and the Keiki's of the Future will not want it, Because GMO Kalo is simply not Kalo any more and us the People of the Present and Future Don't need GMO so just stop what you are doing and leave the Kalo alone.

MAHAIO

email: hereforthejourney@msn.com

Full Name Mary M. Brewer 808 637-3040

Town, State 66-351 Haleiwa Road Haleiwa Hawaii 96712

Re: PASS SB 958 PROTECT OUR KALO ~~STOP THE TESTING OF KALO - GMO~~

STOP THE TESTING OF KALO - GMO

experiments are not safe, have not been properly tested and can not be contained once the DNA has been tampered with and changed, GMO corporations only care about greed, money and are totally insensitive to the Culture of Hawaii.

Monsanto Corporation is a disgrace to our country and the people of America.

Kalo does not need "Help" from genetic engineering, this is a smoke screen to make people think they care about the environment.

Haloa is the ancestor of the Hawaiian people. It is not just a plant, it is our brother, Kalo is a perfect food that can sustain babies adults and elders. If you alter Kalo with GE it will no longer be the safe food source it has been for thousands of years. There is no way to control GMO from contaminating all Kalo once open field testing begins.

The people do NOT want GMO in Hawaii the farmers do NOT want GE "HELP" from corporations. Your responsibility is to safe guard the people and the aina. You are not elected to protect corporations!

Full Name TERRI KEKOOLOANI

napua4u@yahoo.com

Town, State 3704 Pele Place Honolulu HAWAII 96816

Re: Senate Bill 958

My name is Terri Kekō'olani. I am a long time resident of Kaimuki. I am opposed to the genetic modification of ~~kalo~~ & patenting of taro or Kalo.

First & foremost I ~~am~~ am a Kanaka maoli, a native Hawaiian. KALO & HALOA is my ancestor. I do not want my ancestor to be subjected to genetic modifications. I have talked to & respect ~~the~~ knowledgeable Kalo farmers, ~~the~~ in our community who say ~~we~~ ^{they} have the ike (knowledge) & experience to deal with diseases without genetic modification. So be it. Their ~~voices are~~ position is based on generational knowledge. It should be respected & listened to & followed. Haloa, as an older of my people, must ~~not~~ be attended to by our people. ~~Further~~ Our people have been successfully breeding and farming many varieties of Kalo for thousands of years. Time & experience have proven that access to CLEAN WATER & LAND is what is

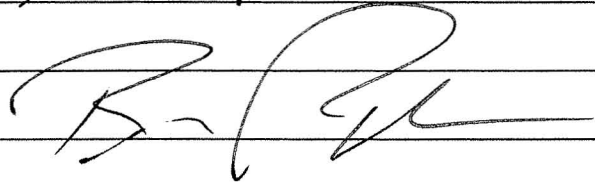
Full Name Rusty Hanalei Pundyle

Town, State Wai'ohuli, Maui

Re: GMO Kalo

Aloha my heart is to keep Kalo pure. Don't taint the Kalo by genetically modifying it. Kalo is something that has been special and sacred to my ancestors for many generations. I am very opposed to any modification of Kalo.

my E-mail is maoliola@hotmail.com
PH 758-2556.



Phaedra Pilago
Pilago 'Ohana
Kona
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740
anelaproductions@hawaii.rr.com



**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro**

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by voting 'AE! for the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Signature/Name

Phaedra Pilago

Claire Ann “Kalaunuola” Domingo
Ke Kula ‘o Samuel M. Kamakau LPCS
Ko‘olauloa,
Ka‘a‘awa, 96730
808-284-7922, kaleapea@yahoo.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Name: LeAnn Kahookete-Paman
Organizations: Reinstated Kingdom of Hawaii
Neighborhood: Hana Subdivision
Town, Zip Code: Hana 96713
Phone/Email: 808 2488341

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

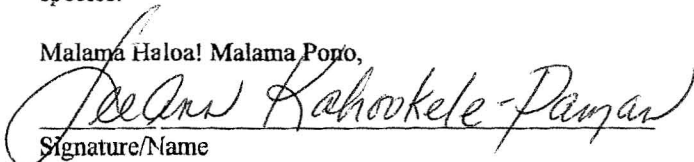
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Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,


Signature/Name

Email Testimony to: NaKahuOHALoa@gmail.com

Or send to: KAHEA: The Hawaiian Environmental Alliance, Attn. KALO

P.O. Box 270112
Honolulu, HI 96827-0112

MALAMA HALOA! MALAMA PONO!

Kahea.org

Name: *Prince Jacob*
Organizations: *Reinstated Kingdom of Hawaii*
Neighborhood/Town/ZipCode:
Email/Phone:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

We must support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro plant species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that our elected officials actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on all legislators to protect Hawai'i's unique culture and resources by voting 'AE!' for the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Prince Jacob Kanakaole Kelukipi
Signature

Sarah Reinhardt
Joshua Broberg
HCR 3 Box 13011, Keaau, HI 96749
808-966-4805
saruna71@yahoo.com
baliwo@hotmail.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of tarois culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible an irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Sarah Reinhardt
Joshua Broberg

Name: Bonnie Morgan

Neighborhood: Kahana

Town, Zip Code: Lahaina ,96761

Phone/Email: 808 669 1612 artsyoceanic@yahoo.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species. This bill must protect ALL varieties of kalo in Hawaii. Not only the Hawaiian varieties of kalo. Genetic modification of any variety of the taro plant species is a danger to the entire species and a danger to the purity of our Hawaiian varieties.

We must protect our sacred plants and aina and this is a matter that should be treated with the utmost integrity and care .Our future depends on it for a safe and healthy environment!

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Bonnie Morgan 5095 Napili Hau #109B-311 Lahaina HI 96761

Elisabeth Wertheim
Haiku, Hi, 96708,

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

--

Sincerely,

Liz Wertheim
liz.ched@gmail.com

Guy & Sis Dudoit Naehu & Ohana
c/o HC-01 Box 750
Kaunakakai, Molokai, Hawaii 96748
PH: (808) 336-1510
E-Mail: snaehu@hotmail.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We are asking that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

We support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. We ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Mahalo,

Guy & Sis Dudoit Naehu & Ohana

Sunnye Newport
Kea'au HI 96749
sunnyehawaii@gmail.com

03/05/08

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition.

Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Sunnye Newport

Barbara, Michael & Camry Gach
2198 Auina Place
Kihei, HI 96753
gach@maui.net
March 6, 2008

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. Poi, made of taro, was the first food we feed our baby who was born on Maui in 2004 and she still enjoys eating fresh poi to this day. We feel it is a very important food staple that has kept her healthy and nourished.

For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,
Barbara, Michael & Camry Gach

Monica Cajudoy
33 Holomakani pl.
Lhaina Hi 96761
(808)-357-0648
mauim2001@hotmail.com

Testimony-In support
SB958-10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification Of Taro

Aloha Legislature,

We write to ask that you support the moratorium 10 year on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in hawaii have cared for and protected the most varieties of the taro on the planet. In hawaii taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecology tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming and precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risk of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislature actively support farmers/scientist in publicly accepted and safely advance methods of protecting taro from land and water issue and invasive pest and disease.

Taro is an incomparable sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislature to protect all of us and Hawai'i unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Mahalo... Monica Cajudoy

Stuart Karlan
2752 Kauhale Street
Kihei, HI 96753
808-891-8457, stuart@well.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,
We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,
Stuart Karlan

C. Rihl
Volcano, Hawaii
creek2@rocketmail.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic
Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

C, Rihl

Lindsay Nielsen

Mauna Lani / Kamuela
96743

Lindsayloo22@hotmail.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Lindsay Nielsen

Jennifer Sargenti
Hana, Maui

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification
of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Jennifer Sargenti
Hana, Maui
ox_y_jen@yahoo.com

JAmel Badrieh
Don Nunamaker, Realtors
Hood River, OR
Zip Code: 97031
541-806-6576
moonjam_99@yahoo.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,
We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

____Jamel Elena Badrieh____

Steven Eminger
Molokai
Kaunakakai, HI
553-9056, StevenEminger@yahoo.com

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro**

Aloha Legislators,

I am writing to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. There is no good reason that I can see to rush ahead with something so controversial and something so unknown and untested. Please leave politics out of this issue and support the moratorium on taro - at least. Corn has already been polluted on the continent of America to the point where there are very few (no?) wild and natural communities not affected by commercial GMO varieties.

Please hear the people and support this critical moratorium before it is too late and we make mistakes that we can never take back or reverse.

I won't go into the details of this amazing plant except to say that this is one species that should deserve the utmost respect and care.

I DO support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa!

<signed> Steven Eminger

Kiope Raymond
740 Copp Road,
Kula, HI 96790

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo plant species. For 1200 years, farmers in Hawaii have cared for and protected kalo. In Hawaii, karo is the plant of the people. It is our living culture and a part of our collective history. It provides nutrition is part and parcel of our ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii.

Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that legislators actively support farmers and scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro.

Kalo is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. I join mahiai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10-year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro. Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Mahalo,
Kiope Raymond
740 Copp Road, Kula, HI 96790
kiope@hawaii.edu

Cory Harden
18-4033 Kanahele Pl.
MT View Hawai'i Island 96771
mh@interpac.net

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

Please support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of taro. For over a thousand years, farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming and precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Mahalo,

Cory Harden

Renee Kinimaka
3 Island View Drive, Kincumber New South Wales 2251 Australia
Renee.Kinimaka@dadhc.nsw.gov.au

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Renee
Kinimaka
Signature/Name

Clawz Lee
England

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

clawz lee

Name: D. Honi Pahio
Organizations: Kanu o ka Aina Learning Ohana
Neighborhood:
Town, Zip Code: Honoka'a, 96727
Phone/Email: honi@kalo.org

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Name: Brandon Lee
Organizations: Pohakuloa Training Area
Neighborhood:
Town, Zip Code: Honoka'a, 96727
Phone/Email:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Name: Devynne Pahio
Organizations: Kanu o ka Aina Learning Ohana
Neighborhood:
Town, Zip Code: Honoka'a, 96727
Phone/Email: pono@kalo.org

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Name: Thomas Pahio
Organizations: Kanu o ka Aina Learning Ohana
Neighborhood:
Town, Zip Code: Honoka'a, 96727
Phone/Email:

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Signature/Name

Name: V. Kaiulani Pahio
Organizations: Kanu o ka Aina Learning Ohana
Neighborhood:
Town, Zip Code: Honoka'a, 96727
Phone/Email: kaiulani@kalo.org

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Leeann Poaipuni

Waiohuli Hawaiian Homestead

Kula, 96790

[808-870-4203](tel:808-870-4203)/leeann_aolani@yahoo.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Leeann Poaipuni

Leita Kaldi

leita@genuitygroup.com,

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic
Modification of Taro**

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy. I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/ scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases. Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Leita Kaldi

leita@genuitygroup.com

Shanna Blumenfeld
Waimanalo, HI
96795
349-0243
shanna_75@hotmail.com

Aloha Legislators,

I writing to you today in support of the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not degrade the cultural importance of kalo or expose the people of Hawai'i to further risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Shanna Blumenfeld
Waimanalo, HI

A. Russell, Ph.D., D.D.

Kapa'a/Kapahi Neighborhood
Kapa'a, 96746
annalia@acenter4welbeing.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

/s/ A. Russell, Ph.D., D.D.

--

In true Aloha, Annalia, Ph.D., D.D.

<http://www.ACenter4WellBeing.com>

Michael Nawaiki O'Connell

A Native Hawaiian

87-104 Kipaoa Pl Waianae HI 96792

Phone/Email: Michaelo@hawaii.rr.com

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy. I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases. Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Michael Nawaiki O'Connell

87104 Kipaoa Pl

Waianae Hi 96792

Cell 723-5967

e-mail: Michaelo@hawaii.rr.com

Diane Lobre
Kaimuki
Honolulu, HI 96816
diane@tobaccofreehawaii.org

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

Aloha Legislators,

I am writing to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming and precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Diane Lobre

**TESTIMONY
IN SUPPORT**

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aimee Ida

Lawai

96765

aimee_ida@yahoo.com

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous, irreversible long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will support farmers/scientists in their research and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our kalo from land & water issues and related pests & diseases.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Aimee Ida

10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-
SB958- IN FAVOR

Bridget A. Mowat
P.O. Box 315
Kaunakakai, Molokai, HI. 96748

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous, irreversible long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai`i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and business.

I support farming and precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will support farmers/scientists in their reheard and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our kalo from land and water issues and related pests and diseases.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join mahi`ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Mahalo,

Bridget A. Mowat

Melanie Ke`alaokamailelauli`i Soares

History Teacher, `Iolani School

Makiki, Honolulu 96822

(808)2303691

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous, irreversible long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture, and business. I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will support farmers/scientists in their research and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our kalo from land & water issues and related pests & diseases. Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Mahalo,

Melanie K. Soares

Roland "Bula" Logan, Ahi Logan And Na Pilikana O Ko'olauloa

Malama Na Pua Healing Center

Wailuku 96793

Maui No Ka Oi

(808)-244-9008

**IN SUPPORT SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification
of Taro-**

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous, irreversible long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture & business. I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will support farmers/scientists in their research and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our kalo from land & water issues and related pests & diseases. Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Please Kokua and Do the pono thing.

Bula Logan, Ahi Logan And Na Pilikana O Ko'olauloa

Kevin Brown
HC1 6728
Kaunakakai
HI 96748

Support SB958

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous, irreversible long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will support farmers/scientists in their research and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our kalo from land & water issues and related pests & diseases.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join the farmers of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Thank you,

Kevin Brown

HC1 6728
Kaunakakai
HI 96748

IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Pat L Puaa
Kaunakakai
96748
Ph. 553 3369
hawaiipat4@hotmail.com

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because there are so many unknowns, a great risk to our generations to come, health, for our people. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture.

How rude and disrespectful to treat our ancestor with genetic engineering. I hope that you will support farmers/scientists in their research and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our kalo from land & water issues and related pests & diseases.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Mahalo,

Pat L Puaa

Peter and Chris Fuller
P.O. Box 1802
Kaunakakai, HI. 96748
808-553-3312
fuller@fastermac.net

Support SB958

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of Kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous, irreversible long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The Kalo plant species in Hawaii is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the Kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will support farmers/scientists in their research and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our Kalo from land & water issues and related pests & diseases.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our land life and culture. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of Kalo.

Mahalo, Peter and Chris Fuller
P.O. Box 1802
Kaunakakai, HI. 96748
808-553-3312
fuller@fastermac.net

IN SUPPORT SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Healani Trembath
Lihue, Kauai
96766
245-5058

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous, irreversible long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture & business.

I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will support farmers/scientists in their research and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our kalo from land & water issues and related pests & diseases.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Mahalo, Healani Trembath

heatrembath@aol.com

IN SUPPORT SB958

Lurlyn Moana Scott

Honopou Road Association, Member

Honopou, Hamakualoa, Maui

Haiku, HI 96708

Phone/Email:alohaHaiku@hawaiiintel.net

Aloha Legislators,

I strongly support a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous, irreversible long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture & business. I support farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope that you will support farmers/scientists in their research and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our kalo from land & water issues and related pests & diseases. Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Mahalo,

Lurlyn Moana Scott

IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Earlyn Robin Kahealani Worley

4578 Kahala Avenue

Honolulu, HI 96816

808-226-6594 lyn_worley@msn.com

Aloha Legislators,

I support STRONGLY a 10 year (minimum) moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of kalo (taro) because it is culturally inappropriate and poses unknown, potentially dangerous, irreversible long term risks to our food, health, environment and economy. The kalo plant species in Hawai'i is our local culture, ecological tradition, a unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture & business.

I wholeheartedly support farming & precautionary scientific research that DOES NOT expose the kalo species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I hope and pray that you will support farmers/scientists in their research and use of publicly accepted and advanced methods of protecting our kalo from land & water issues and related pests & diseases.

Kalo is an incomparably valuable part of our island life and culture. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year minimum moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of kalo.

Mahalo,

Lyn Worley

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. >For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by voting 'AE! for the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Daniel Grantham
P.O. Box 610
Haiku, HI 96708
808-572-4571

Jessica Ting
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
tingj@hawaii.edu/(626)319-5388

TESTIMONY – IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

For 1200 years farmers in Hawaii have been caring for and protecting taro. In Hawaii taro is the plant of the people. It is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition.

Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

We must support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that doesn't expose the taro plant species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that our elected officials actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawaii in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's unique culture and resources by voting 'AE! For the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Jessica Ting

Name:Kari Leong
Organizations:DOE
Neighborhood:Manoa
Town, Zip Code:Honolulu, HI 96822
Phone/Email:karileong@yahoo.com

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro**

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by voting 'AE! for the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

**Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,
Kari Leong**

Name: Sandy Jansen

Neighborhood: Grew up in Hawaii Kai

Town, Zip Code: Sequim, Washington 98362

Phone/Email: naupaka@juno.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

I am asking that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy. The full effects of genetically modifying plants is not known, but it is known that the new genes are able to 'escape' through breeding. Once a modified gene gets out into the environment, we can never take it back! This should be of great concern to everyone, since we don't know the effects these modified genes can have!

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests and diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by voting "AE" for the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

_____Sandy Jansen_____

Name: Courtney Koncan
Organizations: Courtney Inc., Education Therapy, Inc.
Neighborhood:
Town, Zip Code: Haiku, 96708
Phone/Email: courtneyinc@gmail.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is their living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy. If Hawaiian culture is to survive and be shared with the world, measures need to be taken now.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. I join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by voting 'AE! for the 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Courtney Koncan

Name: Gary Wiseman
Organizations: GMO-Free Maui
Neighborhood: Maui
Town, Zip Code: Wailuku, 96793
Phone/Email: 808-205-2986 <gwise@clearwire.net>
*TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro*

Aloha Legislators,

/I write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

/Malama Haloa! Malama Pono, Gary Wiseman

Kalon Prensky
Huelo, Maui
PO Box 792040
Paia, HI 96779
808-572-2995 alf@maui.net

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species. For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have cared for and protected the most varieties of taro on the planet. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition. Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

I support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that the legislators actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on you and your fellow legislators to protect all of us and Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of all varieties of the taro plant species.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Kalon Prensky

Name:Pohaikalani, Larry and Penina Kirkland and Kaleikaimana Mo`okini
Organizations:South Kohala Hawaiian Civic Club
Neighborhood:Waikoloa, Hawai`i Island
Town, Zip Code:96738
Phone/Email:(808) 883-8781 (e) pohaikalani@aol.com

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

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Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Signature/Name

nancy@nwelham.com

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Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Nancy-Lynn Welham

Lauryn Po'aiaka'ohu Galindo
Papa Lawae 'O Makana

PO Box 982

Hanalei, HI 96714

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

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Lauryn Po'aiaka'ohu Galindo

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Jane B. Cole

jame2@cox.net

Here is my testimony in attachment.
Loya Whitmer from Hanapepe, HI
PS I am a registered voter

Loya Whitmer
loyasunshine@yahoo.com
PO Box 955
Hanapepe, HI 96716
808-335-6855 HI

TESTIMONY. IN SUPPORT 58958.10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro

Aloha Legislators,

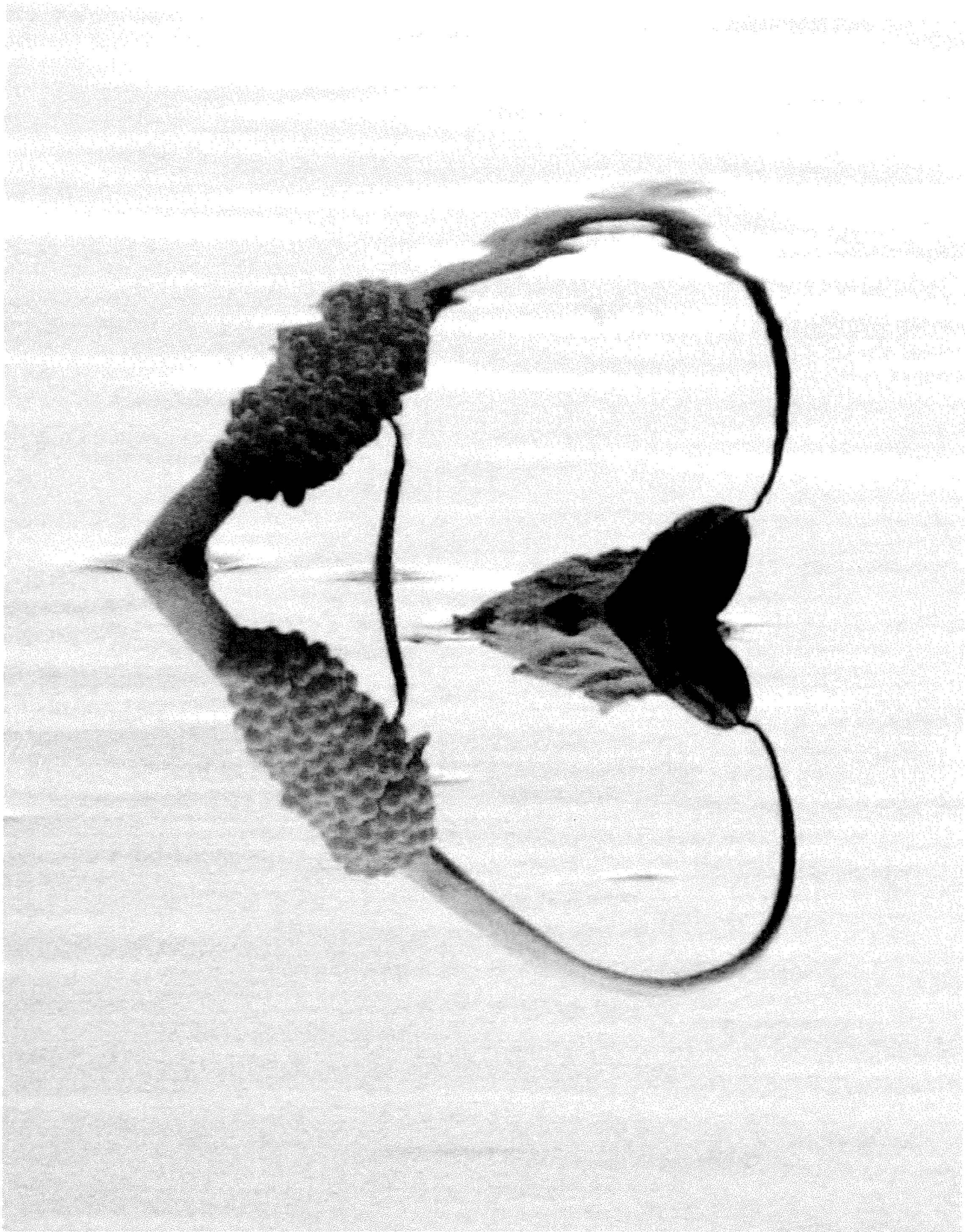
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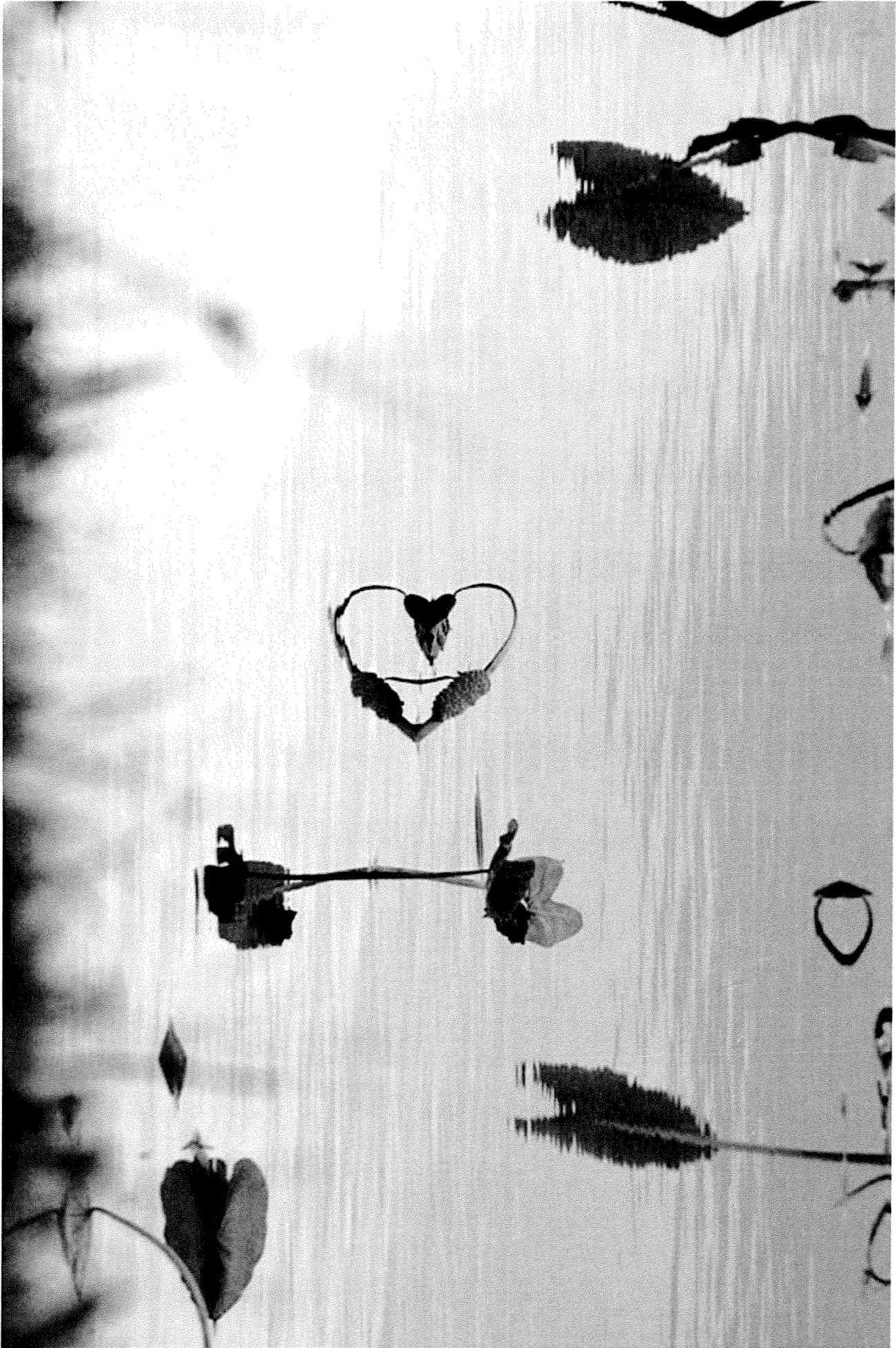
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Mal~!~al~~a pono; ~ / ~

Magdalena, 1971





Name: *Summer Shimabukuro*
Organizations/School: *MAD Organic Farms*
Neighborhood/Town: *Wai'anae, HI*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

We grow kalo and make pa`i`ai (undiluted poi) in our school. We experienced how much the kalo means to Hawaiians, many who believe that it is our older brother from the time of the first Hawaiian. Since I learned about our kalo I`m saying no GMO, leave our older brother alone!

Genetic modification is unnatural. Kalo has been naturally changed by our kupuna who cherished it, grew it and observed it for hundreds of years. Our kalo belongs to the people and the `aina and we know that if something is genetically modified then someone can own it. We feel that our kalo should not be owned by anyone, it should be shared with everyone.

Also we feel that genetic modification is unsafe. The companies that genetically modify plants and food haven`t had it tested by independent scientists. So we do not know the effects of genetically modified foods and just as the companies refuse to label genetically modified food that makes more people wonder if it is really good for us. So if they don`t know what the effects are then we don`t know what it could do to our kalo. Did you know that more than half of all foods in stores have genetically modified ingredients? So that means we are the ones they are testing the GMO foods on. So how do you feel about that?

Well we feel that that is completely wrong. What if this food is unsafe? What will this do to us or our families? Or our future families? We believe that food should be grown naturally and not genetically modified. We think its wrong how after someone genetically modifies something that they own it. Did you know that companies are modifying plants like corn so they can`t reproduce? So people will have to go back to the companies to get seeds to grow more corn. The GMO companies are preventing nature from doing its work.

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Do your job. Represent us and protect us, the youth, the future- as you are all fond of saying. Vote for at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

Malama Haloa,

Summer Shimabukuro

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Kainoa Aila*
Organizations/School: *MAO/LCC*
Neighborhood/Town: *Wai'anae*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Lopes, Tiand
Organizations/School: MTO
Neighborhood/Town: Wai'anae

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Alexis López
Organizations/School: Leeward Community College
Neighborhood/Town: Waiʻanae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Ted Kabanua
Organizations/School: ~~_____~~ Malo Farming
Neighborhood/Town: Waipuae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Ted Kabanua

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Chrysa Suna*
Organizations/School: *LEC*
Neighborhood/Town: *Wai'anae*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Dan Rudolf
Organizations/School: MA'D
Neighborhood/Town: Kaimuki

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Keoni Etoay
Organizations/School: we are a community
Neighborhood/Town: Waipahoehoe

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Stylen Awana*
Organizations/School: *Waianae Intermediate*
Neighborhood/Town: *Waianae*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Do your job. Represent us and protect us, the youth, the future- as you are all fond of saying. Vote for at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Kalaé Martin
Organizations/School: Waianai Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Waianai

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

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SIGNATURE/NAME

Name:
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Camille Hidaro
Organizations/School: waianae intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: waianae 96792

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: [Handwritten Name]
Organizations/School: [Handwritten Organization]
Neighborhood/Town: [Handwritten Location]

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

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Malama Haloa,

[Handwritten Signature]
SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Chiahi Jones*
Organizations/School: *Waianae Intermediate School*
Neighborhood/Town: *Waianae*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Chiahi Jones

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: WENDELL

Organizations/School: WIS waianae intermediate

Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Shanti Apana Kurt
Organizations/School: Waianae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: JODDANO SLAWSON-GONIGAN
Organizations/School: WAIAHAE INTER
Neighborhood/Town: WAIAHAE

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: ~~Lexun Kamea Ioha~~ Lexun Kamea Ioha
Organizations/School: ~~Waianae Inter~~ Waianae Inter
Neighborhood/Town: ~~Waianae~~ Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Kamalani
Lexun A. Kamea Ioha

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Shawn Brown
Organizations/School: Waiānae Inter
Neighborhood/Town: Waiānae 96792

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Makoa Wilson
Organizations/School: Waiananani High School
Neighborhood/Town: Waiananani

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Kelvin Bean
Organizations/School: Waiānāe Inter.
Neighborhood/Town: Waiānāe

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Do your job. Represent us and protect us, the youth, the future- as you are all fond of saying. Vote for at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Keoia Smith*
Organizations/School: *waina e m. c.*
Neighborhood/Town: *waina e*

*Kalo
3/04*

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

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Malama Haloa,

Keoia

SIGNATURE/NAME
Keoia

Name: Ahren Kalahiki
Organizations/School: Waianae Inter.
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Hokuani Florence - Ke Aie
Organizations/School: Malama Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Hilo

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: ~~Johnna-Rae Leedy~~ Johnna-Rae Leedy
Organizations/School: Waianae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Jerusha Shaw
Organizations/School: Waianae School / In intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

J.S.

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Ho'olaila Campos-Whitford
Organizations/School: Waionae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Waionae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Kori Chalmers
Organizations/School: Waiānāe Intermediate Waiānāe
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Chelsey Broome
Organizations/School: Waianae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

Chelsey Broome

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Feurilla May Tagalosa
Organizations/School: Waimanalo
Neighborhood/Town: Palolo

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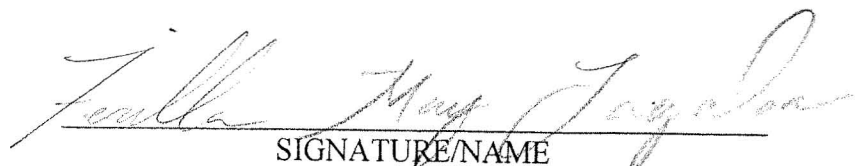
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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

review
5

Name: *Denasia Kuroda*
Organizations/School: *Waianae High School*
Neighborhood/Town: *Waianae*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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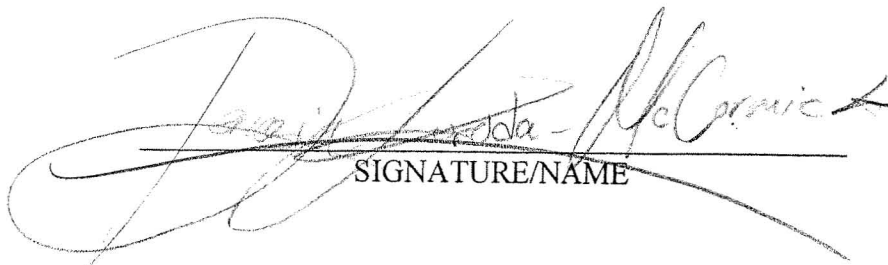
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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: LEAVITT KAUWE
Organizations/School: Waiānānui Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Waiānānui HI 96792

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: TAYLOR Timoteo
Organizations/School: Waianae Inter.
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

We grow kalo and make pa`i`ai (undiluted poi) in our school. We experienced how much the kalo means to Hawaiians, many who believe that it is our older brother from the time of the first Hawaiian. Since I learned about our kalo I`m saying no GMO, leave our older brother alone!

Genetic modification is unnatural. Kalo has been naturally changed by our kupuna who cherished it, grew it and observed it for hundreds of years. Our kalo belongs to the people and the `aina and we know that if something is genetically modified then someone can own it. We feel that our kalo should not be owned by anyone, it should be shared with everyone.

Also we feel that genetic modification is unsafe. The companies that genetically modify plants and food haven`t had it tested by independent scientists. So we do not know the effects of genetically modified foods and just as the companies refuse to label genetically modified food that makes more people wonder if it is really good for us. So if they don`t know what the effects are then we don`t know what it could do to our kalo. Did you know that more than half of all foods in stores have genetically modified ingredients? So that means we are the ones they are testing the GMO foods on. So how do you feel about that?

Well we feel that that is completely wrong. What if this food is unsafe? What will this do to us or our families? Or our future families? We believe that food should be grown naturally and not genetically modified. We think its wrong how after someone genetically modifies something that they own it. Did you know that companies are modifying plants like corn so they can`t reproduce? So people will have to go back to the companies to get seeds to grow more corn. The GMO companies are preventing nature from doing its work.

Food is supposed to feed us. Kalo does this, and has done so for over a thousand years. Kalo does not need to be genetically modified.

Food is not supposed to be dangerous to ones health. The GMO industry has demonstrated beyond any doubt that their products, GMO foods are dangerous for human consumption by absolutely refusing to have their products labeled. They have spent millions of dollars to fight every attempt that requires labeling. Think about that when the GMO companies say that their food is safe.

Do your job. Represent us and protect us, the youth, the future- as you are all fond of saying. Vote for at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Shaylyn Cleaver*
Organizations/School: *Waianae Intermediate*
Neighborhood/Town: *Waianae*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

Shaylyn Cleaver

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Victoria

Organizations/School: Waianae Intermediate

Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

Victoria Kooi

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Chavez
Organizations/School: Waianae Intermediate School
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Ashley Perez
Organizations/School: WAEANA TUTE
Neighborhood/Town: WAEANA

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: CHESTER BLUE
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Chester Blue

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Lincoln Lopez
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Trent Pasa
Organizations/School: WFS
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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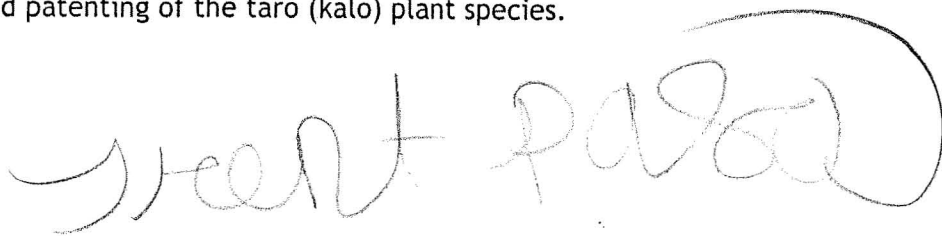
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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Litiq Ho
Organizations/School: Waianae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: James Steppstra
Organizations/School: Waialeale Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Nānākuli

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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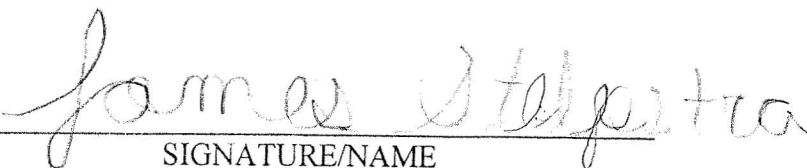
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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Princess Pimental
Organizations/School: Waiānāne Intern. Middle School
Neighborhood/Town: Waiānāne HI 96792

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: NAME S
Organizations/School: WAHIAWA I, LLC
Neighborhood/Town: WAHIAWA DISTRICT

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Patricia Pugh*
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

We grow kalo and make pa`i`ai (undiluted poi) in our school. We experienced how much the kalo means to Hawaiians, many who believe that it is our older brother from the time of the first Hawaiian. Since I learned about our kalo I`m saying no GMO, leave our older brother alone!

Genetic modification is unnatural. Kalo has been naturally changed by our kupuna who cherished it, grew it and observed it for hundreds of years. Our kalo belongs to the people and the `aina and we know that if something is genetically modified then someone can own it. We feel that our kalo should not be owned by anyone, it should be shared with everyone.

Also we feel that genetic modification is unsafe. The companies that genetically modify plants and food haven`t had it tested by independent scientists. So we do not know the effects of genetically modified foods and just as the companies refuse to label genetically modified food that makes more people wonder if it is really good for us. So if they don`t know what the effects are then we don`t know what it could do to our kalo. Did you know that more than half of all foods in stores have genetically modified ingredients? So that means we are the ones they are testing the GMO foods on. So how do you feel about that?

Well we feel that that is completely wrong. What if this food is unsafe? What will this do to us or our families? Or our future families? We believe that food should be grown naturally and not genetically modified. We think its wrong how after someone genetically modifies something that they own it. Did you know that companies are modifying plants like corn so they can`t reproduce? So people will have to go back to the companies to get seeds to grow more corn. The GMO companies are preventing nature from doing its work.

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Malama Haloa,

Patricia Pugh

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: George Martin
Organizations/School: Malama! Ina
Neighborhood/Town: Maui

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Malia Ayau
Organizations/School: Waianae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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SIGNATURE/NAME

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Organizations/School: _____
Neighborhood/Town: _____

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: CAREFULLYN
Organizations/School: WAICANAO INTERMEDIATE
Neighborhood/Town: WAICANAO

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

CAREFULLYN CHIOSEY
SIGNATURE/NAME

CAREFULLYN CHIOSEY

Name: DERRICK A. APIT
Organizations/School: WIS
Neighborhood/Town: WAIMALEA

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

DERRICK A. APIT
SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Justin Napalapalai
Organizations/School: Wainia Intermediary
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Joshua Hawaii
Organizations/School: Waiananai
Neighborhood/Town: 96792

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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SIGNATURE/NAME

Name:
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have been caring for and protecting taro. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition.

Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

We must support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro plant species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that our elected officials actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,



Signature/Name

Name:
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

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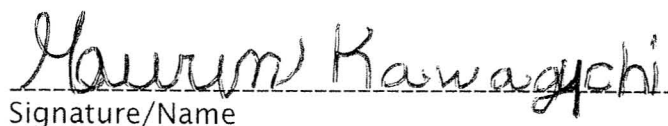
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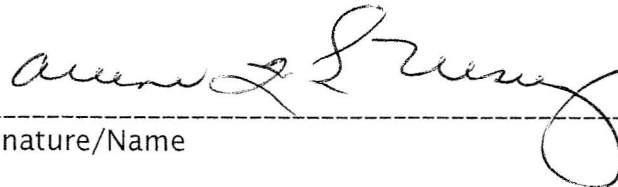
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Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Johannah Laisana

Signature/Name

Name:
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
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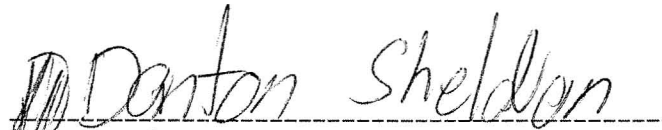
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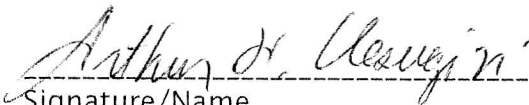
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Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,



Signature/Name

Name: *Alexandra Larson*
Organizations/School: *Wai'anae Intermediate*
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

We grow kalo and make pa`i`ai (undiluted poi) in our school. We experienced how much the kalo means to Hawaiians, many who believe that it is our older brother from the time of the first Hawaiian. Since I learned about our kalo I`m saying no GMO, leave our older brother alone!

Genetic modification is unnatural. Kalo has been naturally changed by our kupuna who cherished it, grew it and observed it for hundreds of years. Our kalo belongs to the people and the `aina and we know that if something is genetically modified then someone can own it. We feel that our kalo should not be owned by anyone, it should be shared with everyone.

Also we feel that genetic modification is unsafe. The companies that genetically modify plants and food haven`t had it tested by independent scientists. So we do not know the effects of genetically modified foods and just as the companies refuse to label genetically modified food that makes more people wonder if it is really good for us. So if they don`t know what the effects are then we don`t know what it could do to our kalo. Did you know that more than half of all foods in stores have genetically modified ingredients? So that means we are the ones they are testing the GMO foods on. So how do you feel about that?

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Food is supposed to feed us. Kalo does this, and has done so for over a thousand years. Kalo does not need to be genetically modified.

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Do your job. Represent us and protect us, the youth, the future- as you are all fond of saying. Vote for at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

Malama Haloa,

Alexandra Larson

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Keely
Organizations/School: Wai'anae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Felita Folau
Organizations/School: Waianae Inter
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Felita Folau

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Bryson Chong Pacheco
Organizations/School: Wai'anae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

Bryson Chong pacheco
SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Clarence Ramos*

Organizations/School: *Wai'anae Intermediate*

Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

Clarence Ramos (Clarence Ramos)

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Lokekani Kelii
Organizations/School: Waianai Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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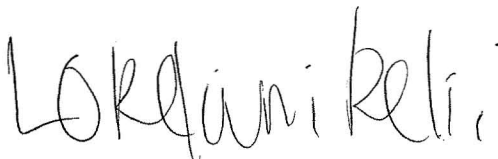
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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Ziandra Benjamin
Organizations/School: Waianae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

Ziandra Benjamin

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Kari Miller

Organizations/School: Wai'anae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Elizabeth
Organizations/School: Waianae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Mafaha

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Elizabeth Pina

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Shamder

Organizations/School: Waianae ~~Intermediate~~ Intermediate

Neighborhood/Town: Waianae / Makaha

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Kohine

Name: Malia Kohane
Organizations/School: Waianae Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

Malia Kohane
SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Erika - Jane Otani
Organizations/School: wai'ale
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Do your job. Represent us and protect us, the youth, the future- as you are all fond of saying. Vote for at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

Malama Haloa,

Erika - Jane Otani
~~*Erika - Jane Otani*~~

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: William Dale
Organizations/School: Waianae Inter
Neighborhood/Town: waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

We grow kalo and make pa`i`ai (undiluted poi) in our school. We experienced how much the kalo means to Hawaiians, many who believe that it is our older brother from the time of the first Hawaiian. Since I learned about our kalo I'm saying no GMO, leave our older brother alone!

Genetic modification is unnatural. Kalo has been naturally changed by our kupuna who cherished it, grew it and observed it for hundreds of years. Our kalo belongs to the people and the `aina and we know that if something is genetically modified then someone can own it. We feel that our kalo should not be owned by anyone, it should be shared with everyone.

Also we feel that genetic modification is unsafe. The companies that genetically modify plants and food haven't had it tested by independent scientists. So we do not know the effects of genetically modified foods and just as the companies refuse to label genetically modified food that makes more people wonder if it is really good for us. So if they don't know what the effects are then we don't know what it could do to our kalo. Did you know that more than half of all foods in stores have genetically modified ingredients? So that means we are the ones they are testing the GMO foods on. So how do you feel about that?

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Malama Haloa,

William Dale Gaeas Garcia

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Kaleha Kahi Arosato
Organizations/School: Wainae Inter
Neighborhood/Town: Wainae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

Kaleha Kahi Arosato

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Anthony
Organizations/School: Waialeale Inter
Neighborhood/Town: Waialeale

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Anthony Lindsey-Ilala
SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Bernadette Vazquez
Organizations/School: Naiaia Inter.
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Bernadette Vazquez
SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Rachelle Mafaroni*
Organizations/School: *Wahine Intermediate School*
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

R. Mafaroni - Leged. Onawa

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Antonia Meyer
Organizations/School: Waianae High School
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

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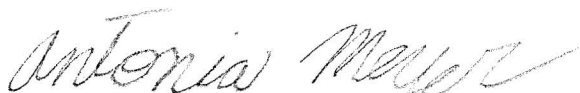
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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Jonah Kalo*
Organizations/School: *Waimanalo Intermediate HS*
Neighborhood/Town: *Waimanalo*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Jonah Kalo

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Daralyn Strong
Organizations/School: Wai'anae Intermediate School
Neighborhood/Town: Makaina

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,

Daralyn Strong
SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Jared Hamaoka*
Organizations/School: *Waianae Intermediate*
Neighborhood/Town: *Waianae*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: aiya

Organizations/School: Waianan Intermediate

Neighborhood/Town: Mukouliwa

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: *Sumana Jani*
Organizations/School: *Wai'anae Inter*
Neighborhood/Town: *Wai'anae*

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

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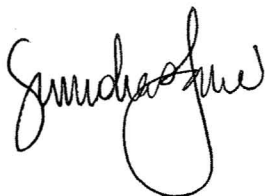
For 1200 years farmers in Hawai'i have been caring for and protecting taro. In Hawai'i taro is the plant of the people- it is our living culture and ancient history, native nutrition and ecological tradition.

Taro provides a beloved and unique hypoallergenic food, medicine, sustainable agriculture and industry for Hawaii. Genetically modifying any variety of taro is culturally disrespectful and also poses irreversible and irresponsible dangers to our food, health, environment and economy.

We must support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro plant species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that our elected officials actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,



Signature/Name

Name: *Brandon Medeiros*
Organizations/School: *Waianae Inter*
Neighborhood/Town: *Māhe*

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

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Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Brandon Medeiros

Signature/Name

Name: *Soutip*
Organizations/School: *Wai'anae Inter*
Neighborhood/Town: *Maui*

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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We must support sustainable farming & precautionary scientific research that does not expose the taro plant species to the disrespect and risks of genetic engineering. I ask that our elected officials actively support farmers/scientists in publicly accepted and safely advanced methods of protecting taro from land & water issues and invasive pests & diseases.

Taro is an incomparably sacred and valuable part of our island community. We join mahi'ai (farmers) of Hawai'i in calling on all legislators to protect Hawaii's unique culture and resources by passing a law to provide a 10 year moratorium on the genetic modification and patenting of taro.

Malama Hahaione Malama Pono,



Signature/Name

Name: *Mark Kane Koo*
Organizations/School: *Waianai Int'l*
Neighborhood/Town: *Mai'i*

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

Aloha Legislators,

We write to ask that you support the 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

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Malama Haloa! Malama Pono,

Mark Kane Koo

Signature/Name

Name: Michelle Galano
Organizations/School: Waianae Inter.
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

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We grow kalo and make pa`i`ai (undiluted poi) in our school. We experienced how much the kalo means to Hawaiians, many who believe that it is our older brother from the time of the first Hawaiian. Since I learned about our kalo I`m saying no GMO, leave our older brother alone!

Genetic modification is unnatural. Kalo has been naturally changed by our kupuna who cherished it, grew it and observed it for hundreds of years. Our kalo belongs to the people and the `aina and we know that if something is genetically modified then someone can own it. We feel that our kalo should not be owned by anyone, it should be shared with everyone.

Also we feel that genetic modification is unsafe. The companies that genetically modify plants and food haven`t had it tested by independent scientists. So we do not know the effects of genetically modified foods and just as the companies refuse to label genetically modified food that makes more people wonder if it is really good for us. So if they don`t know what the effects are then we don`t know what it could do to our kalo. Did you know that more than half of all foods in stores have genetically modified ingredients? So that means we are the ones they are testing the GMO foods on. So how do you feel about that?

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Food is supposed to feed us. Kalo does this, and has done so for over a thousand years. Kalo does not need to be genetically modified.

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Do your job. Represent us and protect us, the youth, the future- as you are all fond of saying. Vote for at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Raynelle
Organizations/School: Wai'anae Intermediate School
Neighborhood/Town: Wai'anae

**TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-**

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Malama Haloa,

Raynelle
SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Josiah Waianae Inter, Makaha
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Josiah Kalin

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Tyler
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT
SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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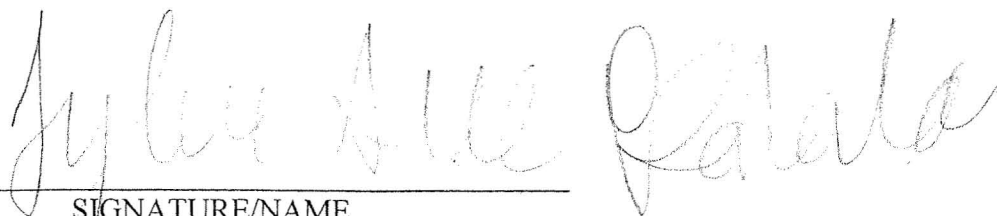
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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Shawana
Organizations/School: WHS
Neighborhood/Town: Waianai

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Shawana-Marie

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name:
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Natasha Delos Santos Cordeiro
Organizations/School: WIS
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Natasha Delos Santos Cordeiro
SIGNATURE/NAME

Name:
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name:
Organizations/School:
Neighborhood/Town:

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Mākaʻalahi ah-Kin
Organizations/School: WPS
Neighborhood/Town: Waialeale 797

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,



SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Jayson Matamua-Fraser
Organizations/School: Waiānāe Inter.
Neighborhood/Town: Nākeāna

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,

Jayson Matamua-Fraser
SIGNATURE/NAME
Jayson Matamua-Fraser

Name: Tealei Fesili
Organizations/School: Waiānāe Inter.
Neighborhood/Town: Makaha

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

Aloha Legislators,

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We grow kalo and make pa`i`ai (undiluted poi) in our school. We experienced how much the kalo means to Hawaiians, many who believe that it is our older brother from the time of the first Hawaiian. Since I learned about our kalo I`m saying no GMO, leave our older brother alone!

Genetic modification is unnatural. Kalo has been naturally changed by our kupuna who cherished it, grew it and observed it for hundreds of years. Our kalo belongs to the people and the `aina and we know that if something is genetically modified then someone can own it. We feel that our kalo should not be owned by anyone, it should be shared with everyone.

Also we feel that genetic modification is unsafe. The companies that genetically modify plants and food haven`t had it tested by independent scientists. So we do not know the effects of genetically modified foods and just as the companies refuse to label genetically modified food that makes more people wonder if it is really good for us. So if they don`t know what the effects are then we don`t know what it could do to our kalo. Did you know that more than half of all foods in stores have genetically modified ingredients? So that means we are the ones they are testing the GMO foods on. So how do you feel about that?

Well we feel that that is completely wrong. What if this food is unsafe? What will this do to us or our families? Or our future families? We believe that food should be grown naturally and not genetically modified. We think its wrong how after someone genetically modifies something that they own it. Did you know that companies are modifying plants like corn so they can`t reproduce? So people will have to go back to the companies to get seeds to grow more corn. The GMO companies are preventing nature from doing its work.

Food is supposed to feed us. Kalo does this, and has done so for over a thousand years. Kalo does not need to be genetically modified.

Food is not supposed to be dangerous to ones health. The GMO industry has demonstrated beyond any doubt that their products, GMO foods are dangerous for human consumption by absolutely refusing to have their products labeled. They have spent millions of dollars to fight every attempt that requires labeling. Think about that when the GMO companies say that their food is safe.

Do your job. Represent us and protect us, the youth, the future- as you are all fond of saying. Vote for at least a 10 year moratorium on all forms of genetic modification and patenting of the taro (kalo) plant species.

Malama Haloa,

Tealei Fesili / Tealei Fesili
SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Dayton Quizon
Organizations/School: Waimanalo Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Makaha

TESTIMONY- IN SUPPORT

SB958- 10 Year Moratorium on the Genetic Modification of Taro-

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Malama Haloa,


SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Matthew Brewer
Organizations/School: Waianae Inter
Neighborhood/Town: Waianae

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Matthew Brewer

SIGNATURE/NAME

Name: Ersita James
Organizations/School: Waialeale II Intermediate
Neighborhood/Town: Makaha

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