



HB 1344
RELATING TO HEALTH
House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

February 2, 2011

8:30 a.m.

Room 329

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following comments on HB1344, which exempts the preparation of poi using traditional Hawaiian cultural food preparation practices from Department of Health (DOH) regulation regarding food safety.

The OHA Administration will recommend that the OHA Board of Trustees support HB1344 with amendments. OHA staff will ask our Board to support the proposed bill language offered by the community, which is modeled after a honey producers exemption enacted as Act 63, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2005. The proposed language would exempt producers of hand-pounded pa'i 'ai from having to use certified kitchens or getting a DOH permit if they comply with product labeling and other conditions. The bill would also subject producers of pa'i 'ai, which is hand-pounded kalo undiluted with water, to inspection by DOH.

Our traditions hold that kalo is the elder sibling of the Native Hawaiian people. Poi, which is made from kalo, is the staple of our traditional diet. While poi mills have provided our communities with poi for many years, the traditional practice of hand pounding poi is enjoying a powerful resurgence today. We must nurture this movement, as it supports our local agricultural industry, ensures food security and promotes a healthier diet, all while encouraging one of our most important Native Hawaiian cultural practices.

OHA understands and appreciates DOH's sanitation concerns relating to the preparation of pa'i 'ai that will be sold. Many of our beneficiaries are consumers of pa'i 'ai, and we want to ensure that their health is protected.

We believe that the community's proposed bill represents a reasonable compromise that allows for hand-pounded pa'i 'ai to be sold; provides DOH with the authority to inspect pa'i 'ai producers; and informs consumers about the product.

The OHA Administration will make this recommendation to our Board at its meeting on Feb. 3, 2011. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
808.538.6616 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

February 2, 2011, 8:30 A.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1344 (IN AMENDED FORM)

Chair Hanohano and members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, with 8000 dues paying members and supporters statewide, strongly supports the proposed amendments to HB 1344. This measure would appropriately authorize the traditional and customary practice of making taro.

While we recognize the Department of Health is legitimately concerned about exemptions to health regulations, we can follow other states in safely authorizing small cottage industries to continue. DOH's concerns can be resolved through reasonable statutory wording, such as requiring disclosure to each purchaser of the fact that the poi was not made in a commercially certified kitchen.

We appreciate the Legislature's willingness to support this important cultural practice.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Papa Ola Lokahi
 Nana I Ka Pono Na Ma

Papa Ola Lokahi
 894 Queen Street
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: 808.597.6550 ~ Facsimile: 808.597.6551

Papa Ola Lokahi

Non-profit Native Hawaiian organization founded in 1988 for the purpose of improving the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians and other native peoples of the Pacific and Continental United States.

Board of Directors

Member Organizations

Hoola Lahui Hawaii

Hui No Ke Ola Pono

Hui Malama Ola Na Ohi

Ohi

ALBUKE

Ke Ola Mamo

Ke Ola Mau

University of Hawaii

Hawaii State Department of Health

Na Puuwa

Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Ex-Officio Members

Hawaii Primary Care Association

Ke Alaala

Executive Director

Hardy Spoehr

TESTIMONY: HB 1344, RELATING TO HEALTH

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Faye Hanohano, Chair

Sen. Chris Lee, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 2, 2011

8:30 am

Conference Room 329

State Capitol

Hardy Spoehr, Executive Director

Aloha Chairman Hanohano, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs. Papa Ola Lokahi supports for this measure.

As a traditional food, poi should be able to be 'pounded' and produced as it was traditionally. The important thing is that this is done in clean surroundings by those without chronic or infectious disease. We would hope that as the Department of Health develops rules and regulations for this that it will consult with those in the Native Hawaiian community who are knowledgeable about these things.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide strong supportive testimony for this important measure.

TESTIMONY of
KIM KU'ULEI BIRNIE
Before
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Wednesday, February 2, 2011, 8:30 AM, House conference room 329

HB1344: RELATING TO HEALTH

I am in support of House Bill 1344, exempting traditional Hawaiian cultural preparation of poi from current department of health regulations regarding food safety.

Over the past 10 years or so more lo'i, taro terraces, have opened or reopened in effort to return to a traditional diet, improve the health of Hawai'i's residents, depend less on imported food by "eating local" all toward developing a more sustainable island economy. It's more extraordinary when these young farmers and processors take on the additional kuleana to teach these to others, including keiki. Kalo farmers and poi processors deserve our thanks and respect.

Were cleanliness and sanitation not integrated into traditional Hawaiian poi making, our history would include stories of food poisoning and related ill health. But it doesn't. Our history tells us that poi was a staple, and that Hawaiians were a sturdy, healthful population.

The traditional practices that are being implemented today include principles of cleanliness and sanitation, but they are still not in alignment with Department of Health policies.

How can we support a blossoming industry when poi processors are constrained by incompatible policies, and then singled out by regulatory offices and fined on a regular basis.

I am in support of exempting traditional Hawaiian cultural preparation of poi from current department of health regulations regarding food safety until its regulations can accommodate such cultural preparations. And I urge the department of health to work with the kalo farming and processing industry and Hawaiian health organizations so that, better than being exempt, such practices are part of acceptable, best practices.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony IN SUPPORT OF HB 1344.

O wau no me ka ha'aha'a,

/s/ Kim Ku'ulei Birnie

3546 Alani Drive, Honolulu 96822
Phone: (808) 383-1651 E-mail: kkb@aloha.net

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
ATTN: Faye P. Hanohano, Chair and Chris Lee, Vice-Chair

Testimony of Laulani Teale, MPH
Supporting House Bill 1344, RELATING TO HEALTH.

February 1, 2011

Aloha Kākou,

I want to give brief testimony in strong support of HB 1344.

I am a community peacemaker, la'au lapa'au student, and also a public health practitioner. I earned a master's degree at the UH School of Public Health, studying both the epidemiology of food safety issues and, quite intensively, the many shocking health problems affecting the Hawaiian community, many of which can be directly attributed to lack of access to traditional foods. As a member of the Hawaiian community, I have also (like most) had the firsthand experience of grieving for family members, friends, and mentors who left this world far too young, due largely to lack of access to their traditional foods. Great warriors of our time, who have fought amazing battles to protect our land and people, have often succumbed to their own personal struggles with the colonization of diet. I do not want to see this happen, ever again.

HB1344 is a crucial step in the right direction. At this point in time, the Hawaiian people need the help of our elder brother, Hāloa, to help us in the restoration of our physical and spiritual well-being. Pa'i'ai made by loving, hardworking hands is what has kept generations of our people strong, mai kinohi - since the beginning of time - and is what our children need in order to flourish as true keiki o ka 'aina.

Please pass HB 1344 into law.

Mahalo nui loa,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laulani".

Laulani Teale

February 1, 2011

Aloha mai kakou,

Mahalo nui to chairperson and members of the committee. My name is Vince Kana`i Dodge. My home is Wai`anae. I am a cultural practioner and I have been hand pounding kalo into pa`i`ai and poi for over 20 years.

We are here today because someone complained to the DOH about the sale of hand-pounded traditionally made pa`i`ai and/or poi. Would like to thank those people.

We live in an amazing time- the resurgence of `aina based practices and consciousness. I have been working with youth for over 25 years and have been seeing hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of them brought up in this consciousness. This conversation about legitimizing the sale of hand-pounded pa`i`ai and poi was not to be avoided. If it didn't happen today it would happen tomorrow.

I am deeply grateful and would like to recognize uncle Eddie Ka`anana, my calabash uncle, for mentoring myself and hundreds and hundreds of other maka`ainana. My first introduction to ku`i, or hand-pounding was with uncle Eddie. He is the piko or start of my ku`i moku`auhau (genealogy).

Uncle Eddie was born in the little fishing village of Miloli`i in 1926, on Hawai`i island and raised by his grandparents. They raised him in the old ways.

Hawaiian was his first language. He grew-up fishing in a canoe, caring for and eating directly from the `aina. They grew kalo on their mauka lands and every week for family consumption they harvested, cooked, cleaned and hand-pounded 55 gallons of poi. Every week, 55 gallons. Imagine that.

They knew what they were doing. They were intimately connected to their `aina and deeply connected to Haloa, the older brother, the kalo. And all these things, uncle shared with us. That was uncle's way. In 2006 uncle and his cousin, Walter Paulo were recognized as a living treasures. He passed that summer.

What we are seeking here is appropriate regulation of the time proven traditional and customary practice of ku`i kalo (hand-pounding pa`i`ai and poi), giving practioners the legal means to support themselves and their families. This would also enable groups, schools and other organizations to legally fundraise by pounding kalo and "selling" pa`i`ai and poi.

The Dep. of Health (DOH) is concerned with sanitation as well as permitting.

Traditionally, cleanliness is of the highest importance in the hand pounding of kalo into pa`i`ai and poi. That process begins long before the pounding begins. It starts with the care of `aina and the planting and care of the kalo. It is in the design and construction of the papa and pohaku (board and stone). It is in the relationship we have with our food, the source of our food and each other- as providers of food.

Our pa`i`ai hui is putting together a "best practices" ku`i kalo document. It will be available soon, digitally.

A first draft includes the following:

We grow kalo organically.

We use food and people friendly wood and stone for our papa and pohaku ku`i`ai.

We delight in the hand-pounding, we continually deepen our connection with the source of life, we see all of us as providers and encourage each other to provide the most healthy food possible.

We pass on our experiences.

We harvest kalo at peak maturity, when the starch content is highest.

We cook and clean kalo in relationship to its pounding characteristics.

We get harvested kalo into the cooking pot sooner than later.

We clean the cooked kalo removing all soil, skin, rot and unpoundable material.

As people who ku`i we all use time proven methods of cleaning/sanitizing our ku`i equipment. This includes the scrubbing and washing of hands and equipment with water usually under pressure. We take appropriate measures to keep dust down. And use clean containers to store the pa`i`ai and poi in.

We do not contaminate our ku`i equipment with chemicals.

Further cleaning is done by soaking pohaku and papa (stones and boards) in salt water.

The DOH issues three types of food making permits.

1) for a restaurant

2) for a lunch wagon

3) for temporary use, which allows the permit holder to prepare and serve food outdoors at farmers markets, festivals, etc for 20 out of 100 days- basically once a week.

The first two are too burdensome for a pa`i`ai and poi producer.

The third is too narrow. Producing once a week is not economically practical.

HB1344 with the honey exemption amendments will protect consumers and support practioners in this growing cottage industry who will grow our food security and the small business backbone of our communities.

DOH director Gary Gill said in last week's senate hearing on SB101 that they could work with the honey exemption amendments.

I support HB1344 with the honey exemption amendments.

Please call me @ 478-6492 if got questions.

mahalo nui,
vkd

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 7:12 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: kaifonoimoana@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kailani Raass
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kaifonoimoana@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:
with ammendments modeled on the honey exemption

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 6:54 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: msk.mehr@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Maria Mehr
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: msk.mehr@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 3:45 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: NaLeoHawaiian@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mahelani Sylva
Organization: Individual
Address: 4160 Hoala Street, 22C
Phone: 808-635-4735
E-mail: NaLeoHawaiian@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

Madam Chair Hanohano and Members of the House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 1344.

As a kanaka who loves poi, this is a no brainer. Hmmm, now where's my tutu's poi board and pounder?

Mahalo, for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me:

Respectfully,

Mahelani Sylva
P. O. Box 927
Lihue, HI 96766
Kaua'i Moku
808-635-4735

February 2, 2011 (3)

Aloha Rep. Hano Hano, chair, Rep. Lee, vice chair and Committee Members:

Re: HB1344 Relating to Exemption from Food preparation requirements customary & traditional preparation of poi

I support HB1344, because I believe in ancient times, Hawaiians lived a very long time prior to the arrival of Foreigners who brought with them diseases that killed many Native Hawaiians.

Please support HB1344.

Mahalo for your time.

Paulette Tam, Concerned Kaneohe Resident

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 12:37 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: aipohaku@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Vince Kana`i Dodge
Organization: `Ai Pohaku
Address: 86-557 Hakalina Road Waianae, Hi
Phone: 808 4786492
E-mail: aipohaku@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 11:42 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: thomaskhackett@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tom Hackett
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: thomaskhackett@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

Find a way to protect traditional practices and allow for poi pounding in our modern society.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 10:30 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: kanealii@il.hawaii.net
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diane Kanealii
Organization: Individual
Address: 61-4011 Kailapa St. Kawaihae
Phone: 808-640-3195
E-mail: kanealii@il.hawaii.net
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:
HB1344 with the honey exemption amendments will protect consumers and support practioners in this growing cottage industry.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 10:30 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: kanealii@il.hawaii.net
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diane Kanealii
Organization: Individual
Address: 61-4011 Kailapa St. Kawaihae
Phone: 808-640-3195
E-mail: kanealii@il.hawaii.net
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

HB1344 with the honey exemption amendments will protect consumers and support practioners in this growing cottage industry.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:59 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: shannon.sinton@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shannon Sinton
Organization: Individual
Address: 2858 Kahawai Street Honolulu, HI
Phone: 978 239-8188
E-mail: shannon.sinton@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:
I support this bill 100%!!!

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:34 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: joshys2@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joshua Morimoto
Organization: Individual
Address: 85-157 Ala Akau st. apt # E Waianae, Hi
Phone: 808-489-1347
E-mail: joshys2@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

I'm a sophomore at Waianae high school and I ku'i kalo at my Kumu's house his name is Vince Dodge. I enjoy pounding kalo it helps me relax, and it gives me something to do after school so I dont get in any trouble, we also ku`i to raise money for going to outer islands to help other people restore kalo patches. Doing these things help me do other things besides just staying home and getting fat. Passing HB1344 will make it legal for us to do that.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:34 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: joshys2@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joshua Morimoto
Organization: Individual
Address: 85-157 Ala Akau st. apt # E Waianae, Hi
Phone: 808-489-1347
E-mail: joshys2@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

I'm a sophomore at Waianae high school and I ku'i kalo at my Kumu's house his name is Vince Dodge. I enjoy pounding kalo it helps me relax, and it gives me something to do after school so I dont get in any trouble, we also ku'i to raise money for going to outer islands to help other people restore kalo patches. Doing these things help me do other things besides just staying home and getting fat. Passing HB1344 will make it legal for us to do that.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:45 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: uhi96792@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Kalae Maunakea-Forth
Organization: Ai Pohaku Workshop
Address: 89-134 Haleakala Ave Waianae, Hi
Phone: 808 450 5781
E-mail: uhi96792@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

MY PASSION, JOY, LOVE, CULTURE, is in the art of ku'i ai. I am 16 from Nanakuli on the Wainainae coast. i was raised to take pride and give respect in those things that are special and share a divine meaning with myself and others. i am willing to do anything to protect this no matter the distance because without this way of living, i truly dont know where i would be. this is a fun way to fundraise and to find funds to travel. its an inspiration, what Daniel Anthony has done and i hope to be involved with him as i grow older. ku'i ai is not just a passion, its a lifestyle choice

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:06 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: www.shortii123@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brittany Bermundo-Sheets
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: www.shortii123@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

I am a youth who dropped out of waianae high school. I graduated from Youth Challenge and am learning the practices. I believe they are wonderful and they help reduce stress and help keep me thinking straight when things are not going so good.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:06 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: emunesystem@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: aaron silva
Organization: Individual
Address: 3314A Pahoia Ave Honolulu HI
Phone: 8083986562
E-mail: emunesystem@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:08 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: adonlin@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Amanda Donlin
Organization: Individual
Address: 611 University Ave. #203 Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
Phone:
E-mail: adonlin@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:
Amended version from the Senate (sb101).

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:09 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: rooots215@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Derek Furman
Organization: Individual
Address: 611 University Ave. #203 Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
Phone:
E-mail: rooots215@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:
Amended version from the Senate (sb101).

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:11 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: dragon6964537@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: james erik clarke jr.
Organization: Individual
Address: 87-173 Maliona st Waianae, Hi
Phone: 808-699-3408
E-mail: dragon6964537@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:13 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: dragon6964537@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: james erik clarke jr.
Organization: Individual
Address: 87-173 Maliona st Waianae, Hi
Phone: 808-699-3408
E-mail: dragon6964537@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:22 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: joe96792@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joseph Peters-Holokahi
Organization: Individual
Address: st Johns Waianae, Hi
Phone: 808-772-9309
E-mail: joe96792@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

I'am a junior at Waianae high school and I ku'i kalo at my Kumu's house his name is Vince Dodge. I enjoy pounding kalo it helps me relax, and it gives me something to do after school so I dont get in any trouble.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 7:58 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: joan@jparchitectural.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joan Pawsat
Organization: Individual
Address: 11314 boardwalk baton rouge, LA
Phone: 8082810290
E-mail: joan@jparchitectural.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:
less hoops to jump through on more issues. BUT MORE HOOPS AND CANCELLATION OF GMOs ETC.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 7:59 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: joan@jparchitectural.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joan Pawsat
Organization: Individual
Address: 11314 boardwalk baton rouge, LA
Phone: 8082810290
E-mail: joan@jparchitectural.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

less hoops to jump through on more issues. BUT MORE HOOPS AND CANCELLATION OF GMOs ETC.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 7:17 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: adairf@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Adair Fincher
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: adairf@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

Testimony by Earl Kawa'a regarding H.B. 1344

Aloha mai e na alaka'i o ka pai'aina o Hawai'i nei. Ia 'oe e Hanohano ka luna, a o'oe e Lee ka luna hope,

Honorable chair, Mr. Hanohano, Vice chair Lee and members of the committee,

Aloha. I am submitting testimony in support of H.B 1344 to legalize the sale of hand pounded poi, also known as pa'i 'ai. As a member of the committee to legalize pa'i 'ai, we recommend that H.B.1344 be amended and incorporate the language found in S. B. 101 which was patterned after the Honey Bill.

It gives me great pleasure to stand before this committee, the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs to candidly share my ike and mana'o 'io on Kalo/ Pa'i 'ai. I come from a long line of fishing and kalo growing family. My genealogy on the topic is 12 generations deep and unbroken. My daughter continues to carry and nurture that legacy.

Before the great tidal wave of 1946, Halawa, Molokai was noted for growing kalo. My family, like all the others families in the valley, grew kalo and made a living selling kalo. At one point my father was known as the "Taro King of Molokai. He alone cultivated ten acres of kalo with the help of my mother, and we four children worked as we grew older. During the war years (1940s), when the supply of kalo was low, my father's hard work paid off. He harvested four hundred bags of kalo a month to meet the demand on Molokai and Oahu.

The 60 plus families living in Halawa ate hand pounded poi daily. In my family we consumed about 150lbs a week. Every family in the valley followed the same process in turning kalo into poi / pa'i. Back then we took water from the stream or auwai that ran in front of our house for cooking clean and pound poi. We use the same source of water to wash, bath and drink. No one in the valley was treated for food poisoning, no one got ill from eating poi. Sanitation back then was equally important as it is today.

The families all found a cool shady spot to clean and pound poi. our parents were strict about cleanliness. Poi is 'ai kapu, food of the god Haloa and the progenitor of the Hawaiian Nation. Poi, Pa'i ai is like no other food and there for must be treated differently.

First and foremost the "Committee" strongly recommend that pa'i 'ai be removed from the list of hazardous food, labeled by the DOH, 1/2011. Second, Pa'i 'ai be exempted as stated in S.B.101. Third, require the DOH and the "Committee" to develop sanitation regulations to protect the consumers and the provider as mentioned in S.B. 101. It is utterly important that the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs take steps to protect the cultural integrity of Pa'i 'Ai by passing this bill.

Please know that the sanitation issue is very important to the members serving on the Legalize Pa'i 'Ai Committee. We strongly recommend that members serving on the Hawaiian Affairs committee look closely at the positive sociological impact on the family operated pa'i 'ai cottage business. "Mama no need work at 7/11 for minimum wage, part time." Family income increases by \$8, \$10 or \$12,00.00 per year from this cottage industry. Stress decreases when mom is at home when the children return from school.

During these difficult economic times, when jobs are so few, families are struggling and hurting. Unemployed Daniel Anthony has found a way to hold his family together. If the bill passes a few families will follow after Daniel and prosper.

During the past year, I have taught over 400 individuals how to ku'i 'ai and eat pa'i 'ai. 99% enjoy the process, love pa'i 'ai and want more. The demand for kalo has risen. For the first time in 100 years, farmers are getting a reasonable price per pound for kalo. More young men want land to grow kalo and the younger families are feeding their children pa'i 'ai.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 5:43 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: Kristinardo@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kristin ardo
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Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 4:44 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: real22deal@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kamuela Chun
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E-mail: real22deal@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:
with amendments modeled on the honey exemption.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 4:23 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: mgreaney2002@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
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Comments:

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 4:25 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: kaaihue89@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position:
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kauai Kaaihue
Organization: Individual
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Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 4:28 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: abraleen@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1344 on 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 2/2/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1344

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Abraleen Keliinui
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Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments: