

Date: 02/14/2011

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1380,HD1(hscr135) RELATING TO HAWAII-GROWN PRODUCE.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the farm-to-school program in the department of education to increase the procurement of locally-grown fruits and vegetables.
Establishes the Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program to increase schoolchildren's access to Hawaii produce. Establishes the farmers to food banks pilot program.

Department's Position: There are several components to Section A (the portion that applies to the Department of Education) of this bill.

(1) Establishes a farm-to-school program in Department of Education (DOE) to increase the procurement of locally grown produce. While DOE supports the procurement of locally grown produce, the barriers to DOE's increased procurement of local produce are largely outside DOE's control. DOE respectfully suggests that the Department of Agriculture (DOA) is a more appropriate agency to take the responsibility for a farm-to-school program. DOE is willing to be an active participant in such a program.

(2) Establishes the Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program modeled after the current federally funded Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Program (FFVP). DOE is supportive of such a program. However, we need to point out that funds would be needed to implement it. Factoring the 85 eligible schools (not including the schools participating in the

federal program), enrollment in qualifying schools, times the minimum cost per student, the projected general fund baseline appropriation requirement will be \$2.8 million annually. This is based on the United States Department of Agriculture FFVP criterion of approximately \$63 per student cost for the current program. Included in the \$2.8 million cost would be additional full- and part-time positions: grant manager, procurement specialist, data entry clerk, accountant, and cafeteria helpers.

(3) Authorizes DOE to use produce from school gardens in the school lunch program (p. 6, lines 4-5) and the proposed Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program. For DOE to receive reimbursement from USDA for school meals, fresh produce must come from safety certified farms. School gardens are not currently safety-certified. While produce from school gardens could be served to students in the proposed Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program, providing such produce from sources that are not safety certified would pose a risk to students.

In summary, we respectfully suggest that the bill be amended (a) to make DOA the lead agency for the proposed farm-to-school program, (b) to delete the proposed Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program unless funds will be appropriated to operate it, and (c) to provide that produce from school gardens be utilized only if the garden is safety certified.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SECONDARY STUDENT CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE
475 22ND AVENUE, ROOM 117
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816

February 11, 2011

Testimony for HB 1380 HD 1, Relating to Hawaii-Grown Produce

The Secondary Student Conference (SSC) 2008 students support HB 1380 HD 1. The SSC is an annual conference for secondary students from private and public secondary schools established by Act 94. The purpose of SSC is to give students the opportunity to identify, discuss, and arrive at recommended solutions to current youth problems. At SSC 2008 students adopted a similar resolution #47 (see attached) that was developed into SB 1179 SD2 HD1 introduced in the 2009 Legislature. Attached are their letters of support for a State farm-to-school program.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Sato
State of Hawaii Department of Education Educational Specialist for Student Activities

2008 Secondary Student Conference
RESOURCES AND FACILITIES
Resolution 47

1 **CONCERNING:** Requesting that there be increased appropriations to allow schools to
2 implement a farm-to-school program, which entails serving locally-grown,
3 more nutritious food and providing nutritional education in the State
4 of Hawaii.
5

6 **WHEREAS,** according to the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, school lunch is
7 too high in fats and cholesterol and too low in dense nutrients. They recommend
8 significant changes to halt the rampant increases in obesity, hypertension, early-onset
9 diabetes and other chronic diseases in young people; and
10

11 **WHEREAS,** according to a two-year study conducted by cardiologist Dr. Arthur Agatston,
12 serving more nutritious school lunches leads to a significant increase in student academic
13 performance; and
14

15 **WHEREAS,** according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the cost of imported food is
16 expected to rise substantially in the following years. This year alone, it is expected to rise
17 1-15% compared to last year; and
18

19 **WHEREAS,** according to the Sustainable Living Institute of Maui, Hawaii imports 90% of its
20 food, pays 66% more than the national average for food, and has only seven days worth
21 of food. Their assessment strongly recommends a decrease in importation and increase in
22 local production; and
23

24 **WHEREAS,** according to Laura Weldon, author of Free Range Learning, because local farmers
25 will find it more and more difficult to export their products as the price of transportations
26 increases, serving locally grown food at schools will be financially beneficial for farmers
27 and healthful for students; and
28

29 **WHEREAS,** according to the School Nutrition Association, there are already 8776 schools in 40
30 states that are using some form of a farm-to-school program, providing fresher produce,
31 increasing opportunities for nutrition education, and stabilizing market revenues for
32 farmers. This program has also been proven to increase participation among students and
33 teachers, fruit and vegetable intake, and cafeteria revenues; therefore
34

35 **BE IT RESOLVED,** that the 2008 Hawaii Secondary Students Conference recommends that the
36 Hawaii State Legislature provide increased appropriations to facilitate the
37 implementation of a more nutritious, healthful food initiative modeled after the farm to
38 school program; and
39

40 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of
41 the State of Hawaii, Department of Education, School Community Council, School
42 Principals, and Student Councils.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

JAMES J. NAKATANI
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2011

TIME 2:05 PM

CONFERENCE ROOM 309

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1380, H.D. 1
RELATING TO HAWAII-GROWN PRODUCE**

Chairperson Takumi and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill No. 1380, H.D. 1. The purpose of this bill is to encourage the use of local produce in Hawaii schools by establishing a farm-to-school program and a Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program in the Department of Education; and by authorizing schools to grow food in school gardens for consumption in schools.

The Department of Agriculture supports the overall intent of this bill to increase procurement of locally-grown fruits and vegetables by public schools and recognizes that this measure moves forward the mission of the department.

The Department appreciates the comments added by the House Committee on Agriculture regarding concern with the provisions of ACT175, SLH 2009, which removed the exemption for fresh meats and produce from Chapter 103D, Hawaii Public Procurement Code, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which impact the provisions of this bill.

The Department remains a strong supporter of the "Buy Local" concept. As provided in this measure, the Department of Education, the Department of Health, the Department of Accounting and General Services, and the Department of Human Services will also play prominent roles in the determination of this bill. Thus, the Department defers to the comments from these departments.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



To: Rep. Roy Takum, Chair, Education Committee
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair, Education Committee
Date: February 14, 2011 2:05 p.m., HCR 309 (State Capitol)
Re: Support for HB1380

My name is Jennifer Dang, State Director of the Hawaii Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition. My organization's mission is to improve the health of Hawaii's people by changing policies, systems and environments so that opportunities for healthy eating and active living are equally available to all.

NPAC strongly supports First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move Campaign's call for "Better Food, More Activity." Over the past 30 years, childhood obesity rates in America have tripled. Today, almost one in every three children in our nation is overweight or obese. In Hawaii, over 28% of our kindergarteners are overweight or obese, with disproportionately higher incidence in children of Hawaiian or Pacific Island ancestry. If we don't solve this problem now, one third of all children born in 2000 or later will suffer from diabetes at some point in their lives. Many others will face a lifetime of chronic obesity-related health problems like heart disease, high blood pressure, cancer, and asthma which will cost our country over \$ 139 billion in healthcare cost. It is predicted that this current generation of children will have shorter life spans than their parents.

This is why I strongly support the intent of HB1380. Improving the school food environment is one way to change what our children are eating at a systemic, institutional level. We need to make the healthy choice, the first choice, regardless of the students' social economic status.

Farm to School is an initiative that encompasses three main components:

1. Procuring, cooking and consuming locally grown fruits and vegetables
2. Connecting kids to local farmers so they know where their food is coming from.
3. Integrating gardening, cooking and nutrition throughout the school's core curriculum, particularly math, science, history, environmental education and English.

The Berkeley Unified School District initiated a Farm to School program throughout the district. They studied 238 students as they progressed from fourth and fifth grade into middle school and over three years, compared the students': 1) knowledge about nutrition, food and the environment; 2) attitudes towards healthy eating and environmental responsibility; and 3) eating behaviors.

An evaluation conducted by the University of California Berkeley recently published found that younger students in schools with a fully implemented Farm to School program increased their fruit and vegetable consumption by 1.5 servings a day, while schools without the Farm to School program decreased their intake by nearly a quarter serving. Preference for fruits and vegetables, particularly green leafy vegetables was greater in schools with highly developed components. The test group also scored higher on nutrition tests.

Hawaii needs to start institutionalizing Farm to School programs in our schools. We must pass HB1380 but with these important amendments:

1. Farm-to-school program. (a) There is established in the department of education a farm-to-school pilot program, to be established in a minimum of three schools or school complexes for three years. The purpose of the pilot program is to increase procurement of locally-grown fruits and vegetables by selected public schools.

2. Recommend that a study measuring the impact of the farm-to-school pilot program be conducted by departments such as CTAHR, DOH, and DOA with data provided by DOE.

3. School participating in the Farm-to-School pilot program will be exempt from Act 175, SLH 2009 which removed the exemption of fresh produce from Chapter 103D, Hawaii Public Procurement Code, HRS. In other words, for these certain schools, produce will be exempt from procurement code that have actually had a detrimental effect on procuring local fruits and vegetables.

4. Amend Section 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

I also suggest that lawmakers:

1. Delete the proposed Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program from this bill, since the current USDA FFV program allows schools to purchase locally grown FFV already.

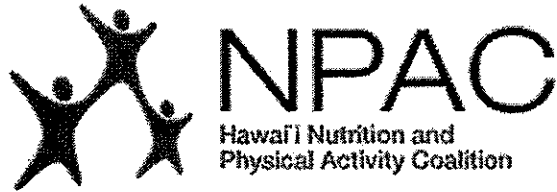
2. Delete the proposed farmers to food banks pilot program, since there will be no funds from USDA or DHS to support it.

With these amendments, there should be minimal financial impact on DOE.

Let's try to work out the bureaucratic barriers that prevent our school children from having the best possible fresh food, and let us teach them how to eat healthier.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Dang", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jennifer Dang, State Director



RE: HB1380 HD1 Establishes a farm-to-school program in the department of education to increase the procurement of locally grown fruits and vegetables....

Before the House Committee on Education: 2/14/11, 2:05pm, Rm 309

Position: In Support, with Proposed Amendments

Organization: Hawaii County Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition (NPAC)

From: Kathie Pomeroy, Hawaii County NPAC Coordinator
A Project of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, Office of Public Health Studies, Funded by the Tobacco Settlement Fund, Healthy Hawaii Initiative, & HI DOH

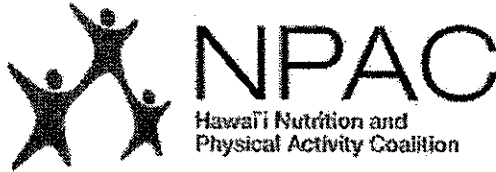
To: Chair Mr. Takumi, Vice Chair Ms. Au Bellati, and Members of the Education Committee

Hawaii County NPAC recommends the following amendments which would make HB1380HD1 effective and utilize existing resources:

- 1. Farm to School Pilot Program:** Established in the Department of Education a farm-to-school pilot program, including a minimum of three schools or three school complexes for three years. The purpose of the pilot program is to increase procurement of locally-grown fruits and vegetables by selected public schools.
- 2. Farm to School Pilot Program Study:** This study, conducted by departments such as CTAHR, DOH, and DOA with data provided by the DOE, will measure the impact of the Farm to School Pilot Program,
- 3. Exemption from Policy Constraints:** All schools participating in the Farm to School pilot program will be exempt from Act 175, SLH 2009 which removed the exemption of fresh produce from Chapter 103D, Hawaii Public Procurement Code, HRS.
- 4. Amend Section 4 of HB1380 to state:** *"This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011."*

Hawaii County NPAC also suggests:

1. Delete the proposed Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program from this bill as the current USDA FFV program allows schools to purchase locally grown FFV already. NPAC is currently doing this in Hawaii County.
2. Delete the proposed Farmers to Food Banks pilot program, since there will be no funds from USDA or DHS to support it.



RE: HB1380 HD1 Establishes a farm-to-school program in the department of education to increase the procurement of locally grown fruits and vegetables....

Before the House Committee on Education

Monday, February 14, 2011

Time 2:05pm

Conference Room 309

Position: In Support, with Proposed Amendments

Organization: Hawaii County Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition

Testifier: Kathie Pomeroy, Hawaii County NPAC Coordinator

Aloha Chair Mr. Takumi, Vice Chair Ms. Au Bellati, and Members of the Education Committee

Statewide, the Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition (NPAC) works to address the obesity epidemic and concomitant diseases by advancing policies that enable people to make healthier diet and exercise choices. In Hawaii County, NPAC promotes ease of implementation of the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) and promotion of Hawaii grown produce to elementary school students via the USDA FFVP program. We work with the Office of Hawaii Child Nutrition, schools (both DOE and Charter), policy makers, farmers, processors, distributors, and the Hawaii Island School Garden Network, all important players in Hawaii's emerging Farm to School movement.

It is extremely important to pass HB1380HD1 with some amendments for both the development of Farm to School and for Hawaii's food security. The long-term goals (5-10 years) of Farm to School can happen if we start now in a three-pronged fashion via this bill:

1. Address policy and procurement issues including but not limited to: the DOE (particularly School Food Authorities), DOA, DOH, and Food Safety hurdles.
2. Develop agricultural infrastructure including supply (especially from small farms), processing facilities, and distribution capacity.
3. Increase demand by students and grow future farmers by supporting school gardens, including physical activity in the garden, and by promoting Hawaii grown produce via the existing and "permanently" mandated USDA FFVP. Kokua Foundation's upcoming "Snack Program Toolkit" highlighting 24 local crops if a perfect adjunct for this.

Hawaii County NPAC recommends the following amendments which would make HB1380HD1 effective and utilize existing resources:

1. **Farm to School Pilot Program:** Established in the Department of Education a farm-to-school pilot program, including a minimum of three schools or three school complexes for three years. The purpose of the pilot program is to increase procurement of locally-grown fruits and vegetables by selected public schools.
2. **Farm to School Pilot Program Study:** This study, conducted by departments such as CTAHR, DOH, and DOA with data provided by the DOE, will measure the impact of the Farm to School Pilot Program,
3. **Exemption from Policy Constraints:** All schools participating in the Farm to School pilot program will be exempt from Act 175, SLH 2009 which removed the exemption of fresh produce from Chapter 103D, Hawaii Public Procurement Code, HRS.
4. Amend Section 4 of HB1380 to state: *"This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011."*

Hawaii County NPAC also suggests:

1. Delete the proposed Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program from this bill as the current USDA FFV program allows schools to purchase locally grown FFV already. NPAC is currently doing this in Hawaii County.
2. Delete the proposed Farmers to Food Banks pilot program, since there will be no funds from USDA or DHS to support it.

On a personal note, my husband and I own a 16 acre farm in North Kohala and, against all odds, have managed to promote ag rather than real estate with the land. I am a commissioner on the Hawaii County Mayor's Agricultural Advisory Commission, and so am very familiar with all the ag issues surrounding recommendations that the other 11 commissioners bring to Mayor Kenoi and the Dept. of Research and Development. This state is a long way from food self-sufficiency and a viable agricultural economy, but it can and must happen. Passing HB1380HD1 with these proposed amendments is an important initial step in a long and multifaceted process. If Hawaii County is to become the future bread basket for the state, one component that is needed is farmers. The Dept. of Education can support agricultural entrepreneurship by developing viable contracts with the existing Hawaii farmers and by paving the way to Farm to School.

Respectfully,

Kathie Pomeroy, N.D.

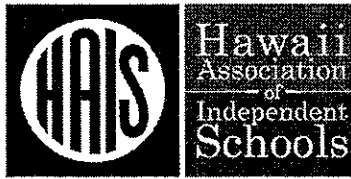
Kathie Pomeroy, N.D., NPAC Coordinator

Hawaii County Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition: www.npachawaiicounty.com

A Project of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, Office of Public Health Studies

Funded by the Tobacco Settlement Fund, Healthy Hawaii Initiative,

and the Hawaii Department of Health



Monday, February 14, 2011
2:05 p.m.
Conference Room 309

TESTIMONY TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: HB 1380 – Relating to Hawaii-Grown Produce

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Au Belatti, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Robert Witt, executive director of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS), which represents 99 private and independent schools in Hawaii and educates over 33,000 students statewide.

HAIS supports the intent of House Bill 1380 and finds that the aspirations expressed in this measure are in many cases aligned with the goals of our own new farm-to-school initiative, GROW HAWAII.

Nevertheless, we are very concerned that this measure may be requiring the DOE and DOA to be in compliance with some very noble and urgently needed goals without enough “readiness” or internal “capacity.”

Whereas the DOE and HAIS and its various partners are moving in the direction outlined in this measure, this may be the kind of situation where “too much, too soon,” is being asked of a department already stretched to the limit, with regard to human and financial resources.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



The Official Sponsor of Birthdays

February 12, 2011

Committee on Education
Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
Representative Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair

Hearing:

February 14, 2011, 2:05 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 309

RE: HB 1380, HD1 – Relating to Hawaii-Grown Produce

Testimony in Support – With Proposed Amendments

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Belatti, and members of the Committee on Education. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1380, HD1 which establishes the farm-to-school program in the Department of Education to increase the procurement of locally-grown fruits and vegetables.

For over 60 years, the American Cancer Society in Hawaii has been leading the battle against cancer. We have made much progress in saving lives through early detection and new cutting edge treatments as a result of ongoing research. Research has shown that obesity increases the risk of multiple health conditions, including diabetes, hypertension and number of cancers.

Obesity is a serious health concern for children and adolescents. Results from the 2007-2008 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, using measured heights and weights, indicate that an estimated 17% of children and adolescents ages 2-19 years are obese. Among pre-school age children 2-5 years of age, obesity increased from 5 to 10.4%; among 6-11 year olds from 6.5 to 19.6%; and among adolescents aged 12-19 from 5 to 18.1%.

Alarminglly, obese children and adolescents are more likely to become obese as adults. One study found that approximately 80% of children who were overweight at aged 10–15 years were obese adults at age 25 years. Another study found that 25% of obese adults were overweight as children. Clearly something has to be done. Accoding to the CDC in 2003, Hawaii’s childhood obesity rate was 13.3%. In 2007, it more than doubled to 28.5%.

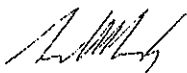
We believe that providing fresh, locally-grown fruit and vegetables in school, especially elementary school, is a very good first start. In the same breath, we acknowledge the Department of Agriculture's concerns regarding ACT 175. However this bill, as we see it, could be an important opportunity to study the actual impact that providing fresh fruits and vegetables could have on obesity rates in our public schools. **We believe that Section 2 of this bill – “Farmers to food banks pilot program” could be further amended to reflect the following:**

- A limited, four year pilot program in a cluster (three to five) of schools within a certain geographical area within the state.
- During the term of the pilot program, those schools participating would be exempt from procurement code provisions regarding purchasing of fresh fruits and vegetables from local farmers.
- That the Department of Education apply for a Childhood Obesity Research Demonstration Grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to fund and evaluate the pilot program. Additional funding could be obtained from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

In moving forward, we would like to see the Department of Education take a leadership role in curbing childhood obesity in Hawaii. This bill, if amended, would give the DOE the authority and more importantly, the tools to begin addressing the growing obesity epidemic among our children.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this important issue.

Respectfully,



George S. Massengale, JD
Director of Government Relations



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

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

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 14, 2011, 2:05 P.M.
(Testimony is 2 pages long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1380 (HD1)

Aloha Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, with 8000 dues paying members and supporters statewide, **supports** HB 1380 (HD1). This measure encourages the growth and consumption of locally-grown fruits and vegetables in Hawai'i schools.

The Hawaii State Constitution, article XI, section, is explicit about the need to “conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase self-sufficiency,” and the obligation to “assure the availability of agricultural suitable lands.” Despite this rather clear directive, Hawai'i has moved in the wrong direction. We import approximately eighty-five percent of our food. Currently, Hawaii has a fresh supply of produce for no more than ten days. Ninety per cent of the beef, sixty-seven per cent of fresh vegetables, sixty-five per cent of fresh fruits, and seventy per cent of all milk consumed in the state are imported.

Further, over the past 50 years, approximately 53% of Class A and B lands have been reclassified to urban use. On Oahu alone, almost 4,000 acres of prime farmland have been reclassified in the past 20 years.

Our current strategy for increasing diversified agriculture and promoting self-sufficiency plainly isn't working. The definition of stupidity is doing the same thing over again and expecting different results. Plainly Hawai'i needs to look at new solutions.

HB 1380 (HD1) is a small, but important step to building Hawai'i's food self-sufficiency. Giving local growers exposure to new markets helps ensure long-term viability. It also educates our keiki to appreciate locally-grown food and hopefully creates long-term eating habits.

This program needs funding. We strongly suggest looking to the Food and Energy Security Fund as a sources of funds. HB 1019 or HB 1386 are both vehicles that could readily incorporate and fund this program. And, as this program grows, we could potentially look at ways to incentivize distributors to assist with food inspection, preparation, and delivery.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Hawaii Farm Bureau
F E D E R A T I O N

2343 Rose Street, Honolulu, HI 96819
PH: (808)848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921

TESTIMONY

H.B. 1380HD1 Relating to Hawaii Grown Produce

Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee;

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation on behalf of our farm and ranch families and organizations supports with amendments, HB1380 HD1, starting a Farm to School program.

Last year, HFBF worked with the Legislature to clarify Hawaii's procurement law. We found it frustrating that very few of our farmers and ranchers were able to enter the State procurement system. HFBF has come before this body many times, with bills requiring increased use of local products in the State procurement system. During those hearings, the procurement office objected stating that agricultural products were exempted from the procurement process so the request was unreasonable. We did not understand the discrepancy.

Annually, HFBF had supported HDOA's request to the procurement office to exempt Hawaii agricultural products from the procurement process. While the justification was that it would allow payment at higher prices, it also provided a condition that the Office was not required to consider local agricultural products. The Bill passed, removed the exemption and required the consideration of local products. Existing laws have other preferential requirements that would need to be considered. By being part of the procurement process, all of these requirements would be in effect. It took us a while to understand this as it was exactly in opposition to what we had been told in the past. Since the passage of the Bill, we have had objections from many entities including the Department of Education that asked that we repeal the law.

Unless the procurement process is remedied, the intent of this program will face challenges. We agree with the measure that the opportunity is huge. The new federal dietary guidelines for school nutrition provides opportunities for our farmers and ranchers. However, they must be able to sell into the system

We suggest an amendment to the Farm to School Program of this measure including the Department of Education Food Service department, procurement office in the process.

We strongly support the collaborative efforts proposed in this measure for without it good intentions may fail. HFBF requests your support of this measure with amendments as suggested. We appreciate your consideration and am willing to work with you to implement this measure. If there are any questions, please contact Warren Watanabe at 2819718. Thank you.

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 8:37 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: jacinthow001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1380 on 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM

Testimony for EDN 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM HB1380

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: William G. Jacintho
Organization: Maui Cattlemen's Association
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jacinthow001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2011

Comments:

Supports with reservations. We would like to see meats and poultry included in a bill that establishes the farm-to-school program in the department of education. Unfortunately, these have not been included in this House Bill. The Hawaii beef industry has been looking into supplying markets like this. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.



Monday, February 14, 2011
2:05 p.m.

Testimony to The House Committee on Agriculture
RE: HB 1380HD1 – Relating to Hawai'i-Grown Produce

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Hashem, and Members of the Committee:

I am the Director of the Hawai'i Island School Garden Network representing 50 Network School Garden Members on Hawai'i Island in public/private/charter schools K-12 serving over 5,000 students. I am also a member of the Hawai'i School Garden Hui, a coalition of Island School Garden Networks, the Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools, Ma'o Organic Farms, Hoa 'Aina O Makaha, and the Healthy Hawai'i Initiative. I am on the steering committee of the Hawai'i Island Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition (NPAC) whose focus this year is the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, and on the Board of Slow Food Hawai'i, whose focus is School Garden/Farm to School Program support.

I support the intent of HB 1380 to establish a Farm to School Program within the Department of Education. The concept of linking schools with local farmers to provide fresher, tastier, and healthier school meals should be part of a healthy school environment. The bill is intended to develop policies and procedures to implement the program, but does not include a funded Farm to School Coordinator position within DOE or DOA. Without a funded staff position within the department, the organizing and implementation of a new and far reaching agriculture economic development program would be extremely difficult.

Increasing the number of schools funded to procure fresh fruit and vegetable snacks, over and above the current number funded through the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) would certainly increase fruit and vegetable consumption at school. The one-two year grant program could be administrated through the Office of Hawai'i Child Nutrition Programs at the Department of Education. Increasing the number of schools that may participate will "potentially" increase the amount of locally produced fresh fruits and vegetables purchased for the program. This will help to improve student nutrition and open the door for creating pathways between Hawaii's farms and the Department of Education Food Services that will be necessary to create a Farm to School Program.

School Gardens are an integral part of any Farm to School Program. However, School Garden Programs are in their beginning stages, and are created as "teaching and



educational” gardens rather than as production gardens for the cafeteria. If the department wishes to move in this direction, we must first establish and support School Gardens in our public, private, and charter schools before we can ask them to be “production gardens.” That idea is not out of the question, especially in our High School Agriculture Programs, however support and capacity needs to be built into the system first, before we can have this level of production and consumption.

I think the farmer to food bank pilot program would require a large amount of subsidy funding. Funding educational programs that would “educate communities to grow food and establish community gardens” would encourage Food Bank participants to grow food for themselves and their ohana for the long term and would increase food sustainability in Hawai’i. Also, I suggest the amendments below:

Farm-to-school program. (a) There is established in the department of education and in the Department of Agriculture a farm-to-school pilot program, to be established in a minimum of three schools or school complexes for three years. The purpose of the pilot program is to increase procurement of locally-grown fruits and vegetables by selected public schools.

1. A study measuring the impact of the farm-to-school pilot program will be conducted by departments such as CTAHR, DOH, and DOA with data provided by DOE and participating schools.

School participating in the Farm-to-School pilot program will be exempt from Act 175, SLH 2009 which removed the exemption of fresh produce from Chapter 103D, Hawaii Public Procurement Code, HRS

Thank You for this opportunity to comment on HB 1380

Aloha,

Nancy Redfeather
Director
Hawai’i Island School Garden Network
The Kohala Center
808-322-2801
nredfeather@kohalacenter.org

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 12, 2011 5:06 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: amybrinker@mac.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1380 on 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM

Testimony for EDN 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM HB1380

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Amy K. Brinker
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: amybrinker@mac.com
Submitted on: 2/12/2011

Comments:

Great bill! Exactly the type of solution we need in our state at this time.

I strongly support this bill.

Mahalo nui,

Amy K. Brinker

William S. Richardson School of Law, JD Candidate 2011 President, Student Bar Association
Founder, Indigenize the Law

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 1:01 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: mheidel@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1380 on 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM

Testimony for EDN 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM HB1380

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Marian Heidel
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mheidel@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2011

Comments:

Our children should eat as healthily as possible. And Hawaii should grow its own food as much as possible. These days we see more and more interest in growing and eating locally from the general public. Many school children are working in school gardens or at home and we adults should back their efforts by setting good examples and supporting the cause. Please do all you can, Legislators, to enable our growers and encourage the eating of fresh, local food...especially for our growing children.

Marian Heidel, Kailua, 96734

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 10:29 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: jacque.leinau@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1380 on 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM

Testimony for EDN 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM HB1380

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jacqueline Leinau
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jacque.leinau@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2011

Comments:

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 10:29 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: josh.leinau@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1380 on 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM

Testimony for EDN 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM HB1380

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joshua Leinau
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: josh.leinau@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2011

Comments:

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 10:32 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: pupukea@live.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1380 on 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM

Testimony for EDN 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM HB1380

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tanya Molina
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: pupukea@live.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2011

Comments:

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 10:32 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: annegeertman@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1380 on 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM

Testimony for EDN 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM HB1380

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anne Geertman
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: annegeertman@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2011

Comments:

December 6, 2008

From: Christine Badua, Central District-Radford High School

Subject: Supporting Resolution 47 of the SSC Conference, allowing schools to serve locally grown food.

Aloha, I Christine Badua would like to ask you for your support on Resolution 47. Currently, schools are serving lunches that are too high in fats and cholesterol as well as too low in nutrients. These lunches should be improved by nutritious, locally grown food; not only to feed students healthier meals but to save these young people from the diverse diseases they're susceptible to get from eating wrong.

The Hawaii State Board of Education agrees, as they passed a resolution supporting serving more nutritious foods to attract students should take the initiative to take care of their health, preventing them from diseases such as obesity, hypertension, early onset diabetes, and other chronic diseases in young people. By serving more nutritious lunches it produces a significant increase in students' academic performance. Many locally grown foods are Imported from Maui, which I believe may decrease importation and increase in local production.

Therefore, in order for Hawaii to become a healthy state it must take place in students. Without allowing this to happen, kids our age will produce a higher number of diseases in the next ten to five years. There are many small farmers that if they were to sell their produce they probably might have a positive income. It supports a healthy lifestyle and takes a step toward sustainability, and I believe this is the right choice because this connects to our roots and ancestry.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I truly hope that you will support the Secondary Student Conference's Resolution 47.

December 6, 2008

From: Micah Matsumoto, Central District-Aiea High School

Subject: Support of Resolution 47, to implement a farm-to-school program in schools of Hawaii.

Hi, my name is Micah Matsumoto, senior from Mililani High School, and I am in full support of Resolution 47, requesting that the schools of Hawaii implement a farm-to-school program, which entails serving locally grown, more nutritious food in our lunches.

As stated in whereas statement 1, "According to the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, school lunch is too high in fats and cholesterol and too low in dense nutrients." Regarding this statement, I must agree because our school lunches are simply not high enough in nutrients. Also, as stated in whereas statement 4, "the Sustainable Living Institute of Maui, Hawaii imports 90% of its goods, pays 66% more than the national average."

I am in full support of this resolution because with Hawaii paying 66% more than the National Average, why not put that money towards Hawaii's local produce companies? This will help our economy in Hawaii on top of having healthier, more nutritious lunches. I am also in support of this resolution because the obesity rate in Hawaii is one of the highest in the nation. So, I believe that this resolution will help with this crisis in Hawaii because with more nutrients and healthy lunches we can start the good eating habits in our schools.

I just want to thank you for taking the time to read this and go over Resolution 47. I hope you will join me in support of this resolution.

December 6, 2008

From: Alesha Gooden, Central District-Aiea High School

Subject: Support of implementation of a farm-to-school program in Hawaii secondary school cafeterias.

Aloha! My name is Alesha Gooden and I am currently a senior at Aiea High SCHOOL. Currently, school cafeterias have vague regulations/guidelines for the food served by its account. Because of this, students often receive meals that lack nutritional merit and are high in cholesterol and fat.

In a world where health is increasingly valued, yet increasingly undermined, it is essential that the youth of today are presented the opportunity to lead healthy, proactive lifestyles. Implementing a farm-to-school program would not only improve the quality (and therefore, nutritional merit) of cafeteria foods, but also the state of Hawaii's economy. In these times of economic strife, it is vital that we do all we can to keep our local businesses afloat. By implementing a farm-to-school program we will accomplish just this.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I hope you will strongly support this effort.

From: Kelly Andrews, Hawaii district, Kealahou Inter.
Subject: Support of a farm-to-school program in schools of the state of Hawaii

Hello, my name is Kelly Andrews, and I am a 7th grader at Kealahou Inter-School, in Kailua-Kona, HI. I support the idea of a farm-to-school program, which would enforce healthy nutrition in schools (having foods grown in school or bought from local farms, could lower the cost of school lunch. Buying food from the mainland is expensive and un-nutritious. Imported food has less nutrition, even day that the food is out, lower the nutrition of it. Having food fresh, will make students lunch good and healthy. Imported food is expected to rise substantially in the future years, making it more hard for schools to be able to purchase food for a reasonable price. Serving more nutritious food will lead to a significant increase in academic performance. Having students increase their performance in school, just by nutritious foods is amazing and impressive. School lunch is high in fats and cholesterol and doesn't have enough nutrients. If we have the farm-to-school program ~~enforced~~ in school will lower the enforced

Chances of obesity, hypertension, early-onset diabetes and other chronic diseases in young people. Young people should not have problems with their health at such a young age. If we start promoting healthy eating now, it will stop the chances of having problems with health, and ~~that~~ I support this resolution deeply. ~~Thank~~ and I hope you will too.

Thank-you for your time and consideration, please support resolution #47.

-December 6, 2008

-From: Lorena Kō'ani'ani-shire; Kua o Kala Public Charter

School, District of Hawaii

- Subject: In support of a farm-to-school program,

which entails serving locally grown, more nutritious

food and providing nutritional education in the state

of Hawaii.

Aloha! My name is Lorena Shire and I attend a

Hawaiian Based Public Charter School, Kua o Kala,

located in Puna Hawaii. I strongly believe in the idea

of this resolution because it promotes a more sustainable

Hawaii; I would like to ask for your understanding

and support.

We are so fortunate to live in a place with such

abundant resources like soil and year round sun

and rain. Apparently it's cheaper to import foods from

around the world or we would already be eating fresh,

healthy fruits and vegetables and supporting our local

people who are agriculturally educated and farm for a

living.

I believe sustainability is something Hawaii should

strive for because it connects us to our culture and

the many cultures who we share this land with; our

ancestors, who once lived a sustainable lifestyle; and

times when we as a group of people took care of our-

selves, each other and had a greater appreciation for

what we had because of the hard work and sacrifice put

into getting it. Back then it was understood how to use

and protect our resources. I think bringing those values

back into society would ~~change~~ result in a very positive

change in the outlook of our youths somewhat "spoiled"

lifestyle.

Mahalo Nui Loa for your time, I truly believe in

Hawaii's future.

December 06, 2008

From: Alexis Lincoln - Kea'au High School - Hawai'i District

Subject: Schools increase standards to their meals as to implement farm-to-school program, serving locally grown food, Resolution 47.

Aloha! My name is Alexis Lincoln and I am currently a Junior at Kea'au High School on Hawai'i Island. I stand in strong support of resolution 47 because I believe that not only does it sound helpful to our economy, but it can help lower the obesity rate as for Hawai'i is well known for. Also, if Hawai'i was to suddenly stop importing food for some apparent reason, will we have what it takes to survive?! Then again nothing lasts forever so as to be prepared, action must be taken seriously, and as soon as possible!

Although this will take time, room, and money, it is possible! But Hawai'i alone provides the proper resources, to make farms, and crops to help reduce imported food. This is not in replacement of importing foods as to stop importing, and grow, and live just off of the 'Aina, but only help slow down importing, resulting in a more sustainable Hawai'i. Change is what we need, and yes, we can! Thanks for your time!

December 6th, 2008

From: Kristin Schmitz, Windward District - Kalaheo High School

Dear Representative,

My name is Kristin Schmitz, I am an honors student at Kalaheo High School. I would like to ask for your support in promoting District 4's bill. I have written my own name for this children and preservation of this coastline, such as acquiring a PE credit for an effort of a person takes on more food, calories and carbohydrates than they can burn in the winter they take PE at least 4 out of five days a week, then in the end, although with working out they may gain weight gradually, the weight will be on average number.

It is my belief that in our nation if it were more in general more than necessary, we should be proud and confident. It suggests that although this change is a significant one, it is not a liability increasing unit. On island grown fruits and vegetables being incorporated in our winter menu, our that produce can grow till it is ready to be used, but it can be for those who have from programs to communities, have oil costs will not have to be paid in addition to produce brought from mainland companies and the resources don't need to be used, and with our farmers our supply and demand, our economy can also self-sufficient. For those reasons, and our oil has not helped our economy, you to support this legislation. Thank you for listening and helping for your support also.

Thank you,
Kristin Schmitz

December 6, 2008

From: Dorlai Munga, Leeward-Kapalei High School.

Subject: support of implementing farm-to-school programs.

Hello, my name is Dorlai Munga and I am currently a Junior at Kapalei High School. I strongly agree with the farm-to-school program and I would like to ask for your support. Not only will this program provide a healthy and financial system, but it includes foods that will stimulate brain activity, whereas current foods have negative effects on the body. It supports a healthy lifestyle and takes a step towards sustain ability.

According to the physician's committee for Responsible Medical School lunch is too high in fats and cholesterol and too low in dense nutrients. By providing nutritional education and meals in the state of Hawaii, this will decrease the high obesity rate. This program will not only benefit a healthier Hawaii, it will also benefit local food industries.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will support this beneficial program.

December 12, 2008

From: Bessie Jane Beachig, Kauai District, Waimanā High School

Subject: Support to allow schools to implement a farm-to-school program.

Aloha! My name is Bessie Jane Beachig and I am a junior

attending Waimanā High School in the island of Kauai.

The farm-to-school program is for ~~local farms~~ for

schools to receive their meals from local farms. Getting

food locally is much more benefiting because it has

less or no preservatives, and it is much more ~~healthier~~ nutritious

for the students according to a two-year study by cardiologist

Dr. Arthur Agoston. This resolution will also help our

economy as it is now in a struggle. The businesses in

our community would be making money, therefore we would

become a more sustainable unit.

The secondary student council agrees, as they passed this resolution

supporting a farm-to-school program. One of the major reasons

why this resolution passed was because the students would

be served with ^{more} nutritious, locally-grown food, that will additionally

help in the efforts to fight obesity. I also urge you to support this

resolution because our state should be more sustainable

instead of being dependent on the mainland. Our businesses would

boom and it will create a sense of pride throughout our ~~state~~

farm businesses. I know that the farms are not able to supply

all the schools, that is why we should conduct a pilot

system for a few schools and see if it works. If it becomes

successful, I urge this resolution to follow through for other schools.

Mahalo for

I appreciate your time and effort for consideration. I hope you

support this resolution.

December 5, 2008

From: Beau Heeba, Kauai District - Waima High School

Subject: Increased appropriations to allow schools to implement a ~~water~~ farm-to-school program.

Aloha! My name is Beau Heeba and I am a sophomore at Waima High School on Kauai. I would like to ask for your support with this resolution. One thing I would like to point out is that this resolution is it benefits any school that ~~have~~ this program. It states in the resolution, locally grown food increases in student academic performance.

Another great thing with this program is that it gives agriculture classes around Hawaii a chance to grow their own lunches. It could also teach the agriculture students how to have skills in our plantation ~~rents~~ back ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~land~~ so they can survive in case another hurricane hits.

I would like to thank you for your time and consideration and I hope ~~you~~ will support this resolution.

December 6, 2008

From: Travis Navarro, Kauai District - Kauai High School

Subject: Requesting more appropriations to allow schools to implement a farm to school program

Hello, My name is Travis Navarro and I am currently a freshman at Kauai High School. I would like to ask you for your support on this resolution. As it currently stands Hawaii imports 90% of its food. Much of this food loses a lot of its nutritional value. With Hawaii importing most of its food, our food prices are highly susceptible to fuel and shipping cost rises.

Also by buying food locally we will inject much needed money into our slipping economy. I believe that passing this resolution is in the best interest of Hawaii because this addresses the economy, obesity, sustainability and food cost.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I hope you will support this effort

December 6, 2008

From: Kori Sakamoto, Kāua'i District, Waiimea High School

Subject: Support to increase appropriations to allow schools to implement a farm-to-school program

Aloha! My name is Kori Sakamoto, and I am currently a senior at Waiimea High School in Kāua'i. I would like to ask for your support.

As it stands at the current time, Hawaii schools are importing the food that they serve. There are already 950 schools in 35 states that are using some form of a farm-to-school program, providing fresher produce, increasing opportunities for nutrition education, and stabilizing market revenues for farmers. This will not only benefit the students, but the economy as well especially in this time of need.

The Secondary Student Conference agrees, as they have passed this resolution implementing a farm-to-school program. One of the major reasons why the resolution passed was that the delegates were impressed with the student's knowledge of the issue.

Implementing this program will provide a "win-win" situation. The economy will learn to become more independent and it will increase the health of many students in Hawaii.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I hope you will support this effort.

December 16, 2008

From: Chadyn Briones, Kauai District - Waiimea High School

Subject: Support of allowing schools to implement a farm-to-school program.

Program.

Alana! My name is Chadyn Briones, and I am currently a senior at Waiimea High School on Kauai. I would like to ask for your support. Economically, we aren't doing so well, and I believe that this resolution will benefit the economy. This will also benefit students because locally grown foods are more nutritious and this will allow students to develop nutritious habits. We shouldn't spend money on imported goods, when we have our own resources that we can use.

The Hawaii Secondary Student Conference has passed this

resolution for many reasons. According to the Physicians

Committee for Responsible Medicine, school lunch is too high

on fats and cholesterol, and too low in dense nutrients. By

having nutritious school lunches, there will be a significant

increase in student academic performance. If we keep on

depending on the mainland for goods, how can we survive

when ships aren't able to come to Hawaii. We can save money

on locally grown foods and financially benefit local farmers.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the cost of

imported goods will rise. This resolution will help out the

problem in our economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I hope that you will help support this effort.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION, AND I HOPE YOU WILL SUPPORT THIS EFFORT.

MUCH BECOME AFFORDABLE. UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP, SUPPLEMENTING THIS REVENUE WITH THE STUDENTS' OWN CONTRIBUTIONS IS EXPECTED TO BE A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE SOLUTION. THIS REVENUE WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION. THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ACCORDING TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, IS EXPECTED TO BE A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE SOLUTION. THIS REVENUE WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION.

HOWEVER, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO BENEFIT OUR ECONOMY AND THE REST OF THE WORLD. WE CAN HELP SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FARMERS, AND BENEFIT THE FARMERS AND NEIGHBORHOODS FOR STUDENTS. IF SERVING LOCAL AND NEIGHBORHOODS WILL BE FINANCIAL. EXPORT THEIR PRODUCTS TO OTHER COUNTRIES WILL BE NECESSARY. LOCAL FARMERS WILL FIND IT MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO EXPORT THEIR PRODUCTS TO OTHER COUNTRIES. LOCAL FARMERS WILL FIND IT MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO EXPORT THEIR PRODUCTS TO OTHER COUNTRIES. LOCAL FARMERS WILL FIND IT MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO EXPORT THEIR PRODUCTS TO OTHER COUNTRIES. LOCAL FARMERS WILL FIND IT MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO EXPORT THEIR PRODUCTS TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

FROM: KIMBERLY

DECEMBER 8, 2008

December 6, 2008

From: Preston Tavares (Maui District, Kamehameha Schools)

Subject: In support for schools to serve locally-grown, more nutritious food and provide nutritional education.

Aloha! My name is Preston Tavares, and I am currently a junior at Kamehameha Schools Maui. I strongly believe in public

schools to serve locally-grown, more nutritious food and

provide nutritional education, and its importance to all students.

As it stands, many public high schools uses imported

produce because of the cheaper costs, however not all

of the produce needs to be locally-grown, but if a good

percentage is locally-grown schools can provide support

for island businesses and keep the farm industry in Hawaii's

in operation.

I also agree and support the need for schools to serve

locally-grown produce, because by keeping our island

farmers in operation and utilizing the land and great

growing conditions that Hawaii's has for crops, will

decrease the development in Hawaii's therefore, keeping

the island values the same as our Hawaiian ancestors

has and utilizing the land for sustainable living.

Also, by schools serving more nutritious school lunches,

leads to a significant increase in student academic

performance. With an increase in students academic perfor-

mance, schools will be able to have an increase in all academic

areas.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I truly hope that you will support, schools to serve locally-grown produce and provide nutritional education.

December 6, 2008

From: Tyson Suehiro, Maui District - Maui High School

Subject: Support for the use of locally-grown, more nutritious foods in the schools of Hawaii

Aloha! My name is Tyson Suehiro, and I am currently a senior at Maui High School in Kahului. I would like to ask for your support. School lunches need a change. With the rise of imported foods, the decline of Hawaii's economy, and the gained importance of health in the youth there needs to be a transition to this alternative of using locally-grown foods.

There seems to be no negative in the use of local, fresh foods. According to Laura Weldon and the Sustainable Living Institute of Maui, locally grown foods should be kept from export and should stay in the islands. This change will not only allow for local food in school cafeterias, but it will help local farmers. In these tough economic times farmers and local businesses need all the help they can get. A move to these foods will obviously be much healthier than imported foods that are filled with preservatives, sugars and salt. In order to take a step towards a healthier future in Hawaii, changes like this must occur. Finally nutritious meals may lead to smarter students. A two-year study conducted by cardiologist Dr. Arthur Agatston, serving more nutritious school lunches leads to a significant increase in student academic performance. Isn't this the primary goal of education, to have students succeed and perform at their maximum potential? If this is so, then I see no problem in the conversion of school lunches to have foods that are locally-grown.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I hope you will support this effort.

December 6, 2008

From: VYV Huryn

Subject: Support of using locally grown foods instead of imported food.

Hello! My name is VYV Huryn and I am

from Maui High School from the Maui District. I would

like to ask for your support. Using locally grown

foods in our school meals will increase nutrition,

and decrease the chance of obesity, diabetes, and

cost from shipping.

As gas prices are going up, the shipping cost

will go up too. As the cost of imported food increase

it will result in student having

We are currently in an economical and global epidemic

We can not rely on something like we did before. Like

relying on an unreliable resource. What if we have

a national disaster and our current food supply, Maaton,

is unable to provide for us? It will leave thousands of

people starving in the island of Hawaii. If we start

a local farm program, then we can start depending our

own state rather than depending another state to

produce food for us.

As food is produced it passes through many hands

What if someone is sick? One shipment of contaminated

food might cause an epidemic. Also, weather is not

a problem. Hawaii weather and climate make it

perfect for this program. But for the rainy days we

can use a green house.

Thank you for your time and consideration I hope for your support

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 7:19 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: foodguy2009@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1380 on 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM

Testimony for EDN 2/14/2011 2:05:00 PM HB1380

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dexter Kishida
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: foodguy2009@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/14/2011

Comments:

I support an amended version of this bill. I propose deferring the farmer to food bank program until the state has more funding, and starting the Hawaii Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program as a pilot with funding for just a few schools, with a plan to grow the program each year.

I also feel it is essential to institutionalize a farm to school program in the DOE, to create eco literate citizens. Teaching kids where their food comes from and creating a hands-on, real life, problem based learning experiences helps to create life long learners, and not just 'smart' citizens.

Thank you.