

Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

State Democratic Headquarters ♦ 1050 Ala Moana Boulevard, D26 ♦ Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96814
(808) 596-2980 ♦ <http://EnvironmentalCaucusoftheDemocraticPartyofHawaii.com>

March 18,, 2011

Testimony for HB1380 and HB 198

Re: HB1380 and HB198 Hawaii Grown Produce Program

Aloha Chair Tokuda and Chair Nishihara and committee members

HB1380 and HB 198 helps empowers community to be part of the Wellness Policy that is implemented by the Department of Education across the entire U.S. and now the State of Hawaii. Community input is already starting ,Last month at a small community meeting we showed a film called 2 angry moms, Jennifer Ryan with the Department of Health was a panelist along with Kokua Foundation Lydi Morgan Bernal, Rep. Della Bellatti and community and general membership of the ECDPH . We all agreed together that the more we provide good fresh local produce we are building the future.

HB1380 and HB 198 keeps Hawaii dollars spent in and for Hawaii's economy will providing healthy nutritional meals for our Keiki.

Hawaii's money is better spent developing local agriculture for food sustainability and local agribusiness.

We cut down on potential invasive species – these could arrive on shipments of out of state feed.

We reduce carbon footprint because of less import..

We create agricultural and green jobs - more revenue for the State of Hawaii and an increase in UH agricultural students looking to apply for these green career oriented positions and job opportunities. Small family farms can feel good about passing on their knowledge and livelihood to the next generation.

The ECDPH supports this bill and appreciates the opportunity to testify.

Juanita Kawamoto Brown
Sub Committee Chair
Food and Farm Sustainability
Environmental Caucus
Of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

