



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/10/2014

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 2008 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds to the Department of Education to operate and implement the Future Farmers of America Program. Effective July 1, 2014.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports HB 2008 and appreciates the continued program support provided by the Legislature for the Future Farmers of America Program to educate and encourage youth to pursue agricultural careers.

This measure provides a year 2 appropriation to assist with school-level program implementation in school year 2014-15 as we would not have the means to do so under our budget appropriation. Respectfully, the Department would also like to ensure that HB 2008 would not replace or adversely impact priorities set forth in the Department's Supplemental Budget.

ohno2-Rexie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2014 8:31 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: tabalos@hsta.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2008 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

HB2008

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for EDN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanya Abalos-Arceneaux	HSTA	Support	No

Comments:

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National FFA Center
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P.O. Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960
Phone: 317-802-6060
Fax: 317-802-6061

*The FFA Mission: FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth and career success** through agricultural education.*

NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION

February 9, 2014

Chairman Takumi and distinguished members of the House Education Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2008. It is a privilege for the National FFA Organization to support the intent and purpose of this bill. The National FFA Organization stands with measures across the US that provide needed additional funding for agricultural education and FFA. My sincere thanks to the authors of this bill for taking notice of a vital need that supports ag education and career and technical education in Hawaii.

The National FFA Organization sees value in this bill to help support agriculture education programs directly at the local level. Hawaii ag ed programs have a systematic and long-standing need for direct monies to support program building at the local level. The National FFA Organization stands in support of discretionary dollars flowing to the local level to support program growth, curriculum enhancement, and teacher professional development.

One of the core tenants of ag education is the student supervised agricultural experience (SAE). The National FFA Organization supports HB2008 with hope that monies can be directed to local ag educators and their schools to grow SAE and work-based learning as an intracurricular component of the classroom and overall ag ed program. Furthermore, the National FFA Organization will continue to provide direct, on-site professional development for Hawaii agricultural educators at no charge. Successful passage of legislation such as HB2008 provides added incentive for strong professional development as requested by local teachers and in concert with Hawaii Department of Education officials.

Thank you for your time and consideration of HB2008.

Ben Meyer
National FFA Organization
Western US LPS Specialist

ohno2-Rexie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 09, 2014 11:15 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: kellensmith@placeshawaii.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2008 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

HB2008

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for EDN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kellen Smith	University of Hawai'i PALS and PLACES	Support	No

Comments: Aloha House Committee on Education, I support this bill. I work for a project, place- based learning organization that regularly partners with the agriculture teacher at Nanakuli High School. One of the complaints from ag teachers across the state is that there are not funds available for schools to enter the Future Farmers of America Program. With an annual budget of \$1200 for the ag program at Nanakuli High, \$800 of it would go to FFA registration, leaving very little for seeds, tools, soil ammendments, or various other supplies needed to sustain a decent ag program. I know that this particular school we get involved again in FFA if is was financially feasible for them. Thank you for your time. Malama Pono, Kellen Smith

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February 10, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

TESTIMONY ON HB 2008
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 309
2:00 PM

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,832 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

HFBF strongly supports HB 2008, which appropriates funds to the Department of Education to support FFA Program.

Hawaii's FFA program is vitally important to the future of agriculture in Hawaii. The passion and direct interaction of teachers, volunteer farmers and ranchers with young people will help grow and perpetuate the ranks of the next generation of farmers and ranchers. Programs such as the FFA address sustainability on social, economic and environmental levels. The FFA program has a proven track record of not only exposing and educating young people to positive, hands on experience in agricultural production, but is also a program that instills leadership and life skills in a wide variety of projects.

It is clear that we must strongly support agricultural education for our young people if we are to increase Hawai'i's long-term resilience and sustainability.

Please support HB 2008 as a continuing step towards rebuilding the vitality of the FFA program.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Association of Independent Schools, Maui School Garden Network, Malama Kaua‘i, and Ulupono Initiative.

We believe that working together we can help produce more local food, support an economically strong homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta
General Partner
Ulupono Initiative

Email: communications@ulupono.com

ohno2-Rexie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 08, 2014 10:03 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2008 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM

HB2008

Submitted on: 2/8/2014

Testimony for EDN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	The Kohala Center	Comments Only	No

Comments: I propose an amendment that creates a Report to the Legislature to be submitted not less than 20 days before the Session begins in 2015. How was this funding spent? What was last year's funding spent on? Last year, many of the Teachers didn't have enough funds (only 7 programs left in the State) to take their students to State Conference. The DOE Weighted Student Formula is not recommended to distribute these funds, and a report on how the funds were used is essential. FFA needs at least a PTT position to administrate the funding correctly.

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ohno2-Rexie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 07, 2014 3:52 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2008 on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM*

HB2008

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for EDN on Feb 10, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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