

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



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SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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**Date:** 01/31/2013

**Committee:** House Agriculture

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB 0478 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Authorizes schools to grow food in school gardens for consumption in the school lunch program; provided that the food is inspected and certified as safe by the Department of Agriculture. Allows nonprofit organizations to establish and administer fresh food distribution services. Effective July 1, 2013.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (DOE) supports school garden programs and curriculum related activities.

The DOE does not support the amended new section, as written, relating to school gardens and consumption of produce in federally funded school meals programs.

In addition to food safety, liability and equity procedures and policies must be established. There may be additional costs associated with processing that is not in the budget.

Administration of a fresh food distribution service to a DOE school should also prescribe to the same standards.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**onishi1-Jerry**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2013 10:38 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** nredfeather@kohalacenter.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB478 on Jan 31, 2013 09:00AM

**HB478**

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for AGR on Jan 31, 2013 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Redfeather	The Kohala Center	Support	No

Comments: Most school gardens are "teaching gardens" but some high school programs have the capability to become production gardens. I would like to see a program to establish a "High School Farm" pilot project, to first become food safety certified, and then to begin providing the cafeteria with some basic foods such as herbs, lettuce, and other salad ingredients. If we want our young people to understand production and markets this would be a real time project. Oregon has established a simple one page sheet for all school gardens to follow if they wish to grow and send food to the cafeteria for student consumption. We could follow their lead.

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