



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

JESSE K. SOUKI
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
Fax: (808) 587-2824
Web: <http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/op/>

Statement of
JESSE K. SOUKI
Director, Office of Planning
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Friday, February 22, 2013
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of
HB 508 HD1
RELATING TO THE PROCUREMENT CODE.

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the House Committee on Finance.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports HB 508 HD 1 Relating to Procurement which exempts the purchase of fresh meats and produce, animals, and plants by any governmental body from the Hawaii Public Procurement Code. One of the reasons for this bill as stated in Section 1 is to increase the consumption of locally grown foods. OP supports the exemption of the purchase of fresh meats and produce by government agencies for consumption in order to increase food security.

OP's recently released *Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy* identifies encouraging public institutions to buy locally grown foods as a key policy item. The current procurement process for fresh meat and produce is not efficient as they are highly perishable and vary in availability, quality, and quantity. An exemption will allow agencies to procure fresh meat and produce to meet the required needs. A policy commitment to procure locally grown fresh meat and produce is critical to an effective campaign to increase our State's food security and food self-sufficiency for Hawaii's people, and expand markets for Hawaii's farmers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

P.O. Box 119
Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119
Telephone: (808) 587-4700
e-mail: state.procurement.office@hawaii.gov
<http://hawaii.gov/spo>

TESTIMONY
OF
AARON S. FUJIOKA
ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
FINANCE

February 22, 2013

11:00 a.m.

HB 508, HD 1

RELATING TO THE PROCUREMENT CODE.

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, Vice-Chair Johanson, and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 508 HD 1. This bill establishes an exemption for 'fresh meat and produce' and 'animals and plants' in HRS chapter 103D, Hawaii Public Procurement Code.

The State Procurement Office (SPO) supports this bill. For many years the SPO has held the position that formally procuring these items is problematic for agencies, is not an efficient process, and does not benefit Hawaii businesses. This exemption will allow agencies to simply purchase these items that are highly perishable, vary in availability, quality and quantity, to acquire from best available sources on an as needed basis. In the spirit of competition, the SPO encourages governmental bodies to continue allowing informal price comparisons as is practical.

Thank you.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 02/22/2013

Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0508,HD1(hscr436) RELATING TO THE PROCUREMENT CODE.

Purpose of Bill: Exempts from the procurement code any contract by governmental bodies to procure fresh meat and produce, and animals and plants for use by any governmental body.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education supports the change in the Hawaii Public Procurement Code for State governmental bodies.

Federal procurement regulations for USDA child nutrition programs under the National School Lunch Program would supersede this exemption, as federal regulations require open and competitive bidding.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

FEBRUARY 22, 2013
11:00 A.M.
ROOM 308

HOUSE BILL NO. 508 HD1
RELATING TO THE PROCUREMENT CODE

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 508 HD1. This bill proposes to exempt the purchase of fresh meats and produce, and animals and plants by any governmental body from the Hawaii Public Procurement Code. The Department is in support of this bill.

The Department has a strong belief in the importance of buying locally grown agricultural commodities to promote the availability of fresh produce for our local communities and for the resulting economic benefits of supporting local agricultural businesses. The language in this bill was crafted in tandem with the State Procurement Office with the goal of allowing agencies to more efficiently purchase items such as fresh meat and produce that are highly perishable and vary in availability, quality, and quantity.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.





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Victor Geminiani, Esq.

Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Supporting HB 508 Relating to the Procurement Code
House Committee on Finance
Scheduled for Hearing on Friday, February 22, 2013, 11:00 AM, Room 308

Thank you for an opportunity to testify in strong support of House Bill 508, which would exempt fresh meats and produce from the state procurement code.

Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) law firm created to advocate on behalf of low income individuals and families in Hawai'i on civil legal issues of statewide importance. Our core mission is to help our clients gain access to the resources, services, and fair treatment that they need to realize their opportunities for self-achievement and economic security.

Increasing access to healthy foods is paramount to addressing food insecurity and hunger as well as obesity. State food procurement laws impact government workers, the general public, and populations for whom access to healthy foods is particularly important: students, hospital patients, and those living in institutions. Flexibility with food procurement policies will enable the state government to craft policies that will maximize the amount of fresh produce and meat served in its facilities.

Greater leeway in food procurement can also be used to support local farmers. Agencies can develop sound procurement policies that will promote the purchase of locally-grown produce and meat. We are particularly hopeful that the flexibility granted by this exemption will facilitate farm to school programs and increased purchasing of fresh produce to be served in public schools.

House Bill 508 creates a more sensible procurement code that exempts fresh produce and meat, enabling the state to pursue a food policy that can improve our local economy, increase food self-sufficiency, and promote public health.



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

2343 Rose Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Phone: (808) 848-2074 • Neighbor-Islands: (800) 482-1272
Fax: (808) 848-1921 • Email: info@hfbf.org
www.hfbf.org

February 22, 2013

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 508, HD1
RELATING TO THE PROCUREMENT CODE

Room 308
11:00 AM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson and Members of the Committee:

I am Dean Okimoto, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,950 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 is provides the following comments and suggestions to HB 508, HD1, seeking to amend the Hawaii Procurement Code relative to agricultural products.

The suggested change will bring the Procurement Code to where it was before HFBF modified the language resulting in the current code. The changes were suggested because our farmers and ranchers were having a difficult time entering into state contracts. As we modified the code it was clear that education at all levels, not just our farmers and ranchers but at the procurement offices was needed. While HFBF attempted to move in this direction the training was never accomplished.

Something needs to be done. We respectfully request that the proposed measure be amended to include 1) clear metrics that can determine the success of the procurement code with the exemption and 2) a sunset date which will force reevaluation of this section and to address change if farmers and ranchers still are not within the system.

HFBF respectfully requests your support with amendments needed to fulfill the State's vision for increased self sufficiency and sustainability. HFBF is willing to work with your staff to craft the necessary language for an HD2. Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 3:38 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB508 on Feb 22, 2013 11:00AM*

HB508

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 22, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Hawaii Cattlemen's Council	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2013 6:22 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB508 on Feb 22, 2013 11:00AM

HB508

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 22, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: The Kohala Center supports the change in procurement to exempt produce and meat. We think the changes this will bring to our School Food Authority will be very positive.

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Email: communications@uluponoinitiative.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Friday, February 22, 2013 — 11 a.m. — Room 308

Ulupono Initiative Supports HB 508 HD 1, Relating to the Procurement Code

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson and Members of the Committees:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally grown food, increase renewable energy, and reduce/recycle waste.

Ulupono supports HB 508 HD 1, which amends the State procurement process required for government entities to acquire locally grown foods to help support local food and agriculture businesses while increasing availability of fresh food to government-run institutions. This move would help put fresh, healthy produce into schools, hospitals, correctional facilities and other institutions. This would help to level the playing field for local food producers competing with larger out-of-state operations. It would do so while providing a more consistent source of fresh local food through government operations that serve a diverse range of our citizens — from schoolchildren to the elderly or those in frail health.

The bill exempts purchase of unprocessed or minimally processed Hawai'i-grown food by any governmental body from the Hawai'i Public Procurement Code. By exempting fresh meats, produce, plants and animals, this measure can help increase revenue for local farmers/producers by providing access to larger institutions, helping to create jobs and increase Hawai'i's food self-sufficiency.

Ulupono has joined with a diverse group of organizations who have come together for the first time as the Local Food Coalition to support proposals designed to help grow more local food. The coalition brings together farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations. The idea is that putting more local food on local plates can best be accomplished by bringing people and organizations together who can work on the entire food value chain in a systematic way. 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

Pacific Guardian Center, Mauka Tower
737 Bishop Street, Suite 2350, Honolulu, HI 96813

808 544 8960 o | 808 544 8961 f
www.uluponoinitiative.com



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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2013 9:38 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: namaka@interpac.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB508 on Feb 22, 2013 11:00AM*

HB508

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 22, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joan Lander	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: kula96712@gmail.com
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HB508

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 22, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kirsten garrabrant	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: maliadamon@gmail.com
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HB508

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 22, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Malia Damon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB508

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 22, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelsey Amos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB508

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 22, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Thornburg-Homcy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Committee on Finance
Fri. 2/22/2013 11:00am
Room 308
RE: Support of HB508 HD1 relating to procurement code

Aloha Representatives,

I am writing to testify in support of HB508 which exempts from the procurement code any contract by governmental bodies to procure fresh meat and produce, and animals and plants for use by any governmental body.

This measure will go a long way to boost our economy and encourage growth in food-producing agriculture in our state. I work and live on a small organic farm on the North Shore of Oahu, and can attest that over-regulation makes it hard for small food-producing farmers to succeed in Hawaii. HB508 is a great start to Hawaii's food security!

Mahalo,
Angela Breene

angelavideotron@gmail.com

Halewila, HI 96712