

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND**

**Wednesday, February 5, 2014
9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2177
RELATING TO COMMUNITY FOOD FORESTS**

House Bill 2177 proposes to establish a community food forest program that works collaboratively to provide a source of healthy food. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the intent of this bill, but does not feel it is necessary.**

House Bill 2177 proposes to create a program within the Department focused on the establishment and maintenance of community food forests. The idea of community food forests or agroforestry systems provides a number of benefits to the public, including increasing tree canopy cover, improving watershed health, providing a source of food, and contributing to healthier and happier communities. The Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife has already begun discussions with communities surrounded by forest reserves to engage their interest in community managed agroforestry systems as a part of the forest reserve system. These community discussions have raised a number of issues for the Department; include the ability to provide long-term maintenance to manage these food forests, as well as protection of these areas from vandals. The Department does not have sufficient resources to maintain or police such areas. Ideally, these agroforestry systems would be managed by their communities, thus encouraging engagement with our natural environment, connecting communities with their food resources, discouraging vandalism, and improving health through the active maintenance of these areas.

Through the Forest Stewardship Program, the Department has been encouraging private landowners to invest in such agroforestry projects, which has included both privately owned food forest establishment as well as community managed agroforestry systems. The Kokua Kalihi Valley project on Oahu is an excellent example of a community managed forest that provides forest resources and opportunities for the public to engage in forest management. Additionally, the Department also supports the implementation of Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ESTHER KIA'AINA
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Program, funded in part by the United States (U.S.) Forest Service, which works with local government and communities to increase and improve management of our urban forests and trees. Kaulunani has participated in and funded numerous tree planting projects at our elementary, intermediate and high schools; at our urban parks and cemeteries; along roadways; and in our city zoos.

The purpose of a food forest is to plant and grow an edible urban forest garden that grows our own food, bring the community together while improving public health. Adequate and sufficient spaces are needed, along with sufficient funding and personnel to run such a program. The Department recognizes that community forest gardens are important to an island state. The existing Urban and Community Forestry Program has funded food forest type projects, and also has worked with numerous communities across the state over the last 20 years. If this initiative were adequately funded there would be ample opportunities to have a successful program.

The Department believes that through these two existing programs, the goals for House Bill 2177 could be met without creating a new program. The Department does note that due to increase interest from the public over the last two years as well as the reduction in grant support provided by the U.S. Forest Service, funding for these programs is becoming more limited. The Kaulunani Program is funded entirely through the U.S. Forest Service grant program and donated match from community groups and tree planting projects.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2014 2:35 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: lynhowe1946@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM*

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyn Howe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Aloha,

Establishing a food forest program would be a great asset for the community and a platform to teach the importance of healthy eating in communities who have been neglected by the overall health community. I have seen programs like this work in urban communities where farm land is limited, but the exposure to fruits and vegetables brought awareness to people who, due largely to their poverty, had limited access to healthy food, due to socio-economic disparities. Please let this bill go forward.

C Amina Peterson
45-130 Popoki St
Kaneohe, HI 96744

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 2:58 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: squeamish527@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Umipeg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, my name is Michelle Umipeg. I am a resident of Hawai'i and I have a 12 year old son. I support HB 2177 because I feel we should have more access and education to farming healthy, organic food. I receive food stamp benefits and use them for as much local, organic, and GMO-free groceries as possible. My son attends SEEQS (The School of Examining Essential Questions of Sustainability), a public charter school. He has learned about garden design, farming, chicken coop construction, aquaponics, and food waste. Living a healthy lifestyle is very important to me and I am thankful my son's school reinforces our beliefs of mindful living. However, many people are unable to reap the benefits of this type of lifestyle or even have this sort of exposure, especially low-income families. HB 2177 can present opportunities for many people of Hawai'i including education, encourage bonding, and jobs. Thank you for your time.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 5:08 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: rachellefurst@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM*

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
rachelle furst	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 6:53 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: lrrn@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM*

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Reichhardt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 7:00 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: akamaimom@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Felicia Cowden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I enthusiastically support bill 2177 for establishing community food forests in public spaces. This is a really positive step forward in role-modeling self-determined food solutions community by community on their own cultural terms. Provision of healthy food will encourage more people to understand they can replicate this possibility in their own homes and neighborhoods that will help Hawaii to become more resilient in all ways!!!

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To: waltestimony
Cc: madcower@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bryce Boeder	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Much needed. I support this bill.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 7:17 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mauimagic5711@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Evans	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please note that this Bill is originated by a 14 yr old ! When the young people of today are bright enough to understand that THEY are our future, we need to LISTEN. This is a STEP towards helping all communities take the important step forward toward healthy self-reliance. Such a SIMPLE way to TRULY do the bidding of the people!

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To: waltestimony
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strong Support.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 7:30 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: taliaabrams@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Talia	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am Talia Abrams. I am 15 years old, and I am so honored to see my Bill make it to the floor of the house. It is exceed my hopes that my dream of helping feed people that I see in the park that I know are hungry. I thank Representative Derek Kawakami and all the other Representatives that helped build a reality from my Teanpact Experience. It gives me faith that our government is always looking out for all the people. Please pass this Bill Because I want to help people have healthy food to eat, even if they can't afford it.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 7:35 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: bryn_berg@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM
Attachments: testimony for food forests.xwd

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bryn	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please count me in on being very supportive of the concept of food forests. I live on the island of Hawaii, and in Hilo, we have food planted around the downtown area, including papaya, pineapple, sweet potato, banana, taro and other foods. The plants are beautiful and nourishing, and available for local people in need. These food forests are maintained voluntarily out of a commitment to sustainable resources. I feel this is something that can be done on all islands and for all people. We are so fortunate to have a 12 month growing season. Let's take advantage of it! Thank you, Bryn Berg

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To: waltestimony
Cc: trykauai@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
meredith murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Wonderful beautiful idea to be implemented, please support this one

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To: waltestimony
Cc: 2da1wahine@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandra Herndon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Mahalo nui loa for supporting this bill! It is vital in our communities abilities to feed our selves!

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To: waltestimony
Cc: ponosize@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM*

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pono Kealoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: waltestimony
Cc: islekisses@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM*

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Burch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: waltestimony
Cc: esfhawaii@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elijah Frank	Ohana O Kaua'i	Support	No

Comments: HB 2177 is a wonderful idea. Local food production will empower and strengthen communities. I hope for great success for this community based food production program. Mahalo, Elijah Frank Ohana O Kaua'i

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 8:26 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: psgegen@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
pat gegen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly support this great and sustainable idea! I am looking forward to incorporating this into our Open Space, Natural Resource Preservation FundCommission deliberations... Great use of Open Space! Thanks to the person who initiated this bill for such a Life giving use of our natural resources!!!!

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 8:30 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: meleabrams@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meryl Abrams	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I wholeheartedly support this bill, and hope to see community food forest as a way of life, just as it was in plantation days. This proposal cuts across all age, sex, race, political and socioeconomic barriers, as all people here can appreciate healthy organically grown food. I am excited to offer support!

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 8:44 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kim.saporito@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Saporito	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Community Food Foresting is really important. I have been a part- time resident in Hanalei for roughly 25 years. We also live in Boulder, Colorado which makes consistent efforts for resilient living, and this community food foresting proposal seems wise and appropriate. The Garden Island of Kauai should be visibly represented as honoring abundant food in the parks. The presence of being in "The Garden of Eden" is what people come here for. I remember a time when there wasn't even a farmers market. It is refreshing to see positive messaging about agriculture while here instead of the opposite. We are grateful that this initiative is being considered.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 9:03 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: fernrosenstiel@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fern Rosenstiel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strong support for this measure! Please move it forward. Mahalo!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 9:20 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: seanlathrop@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean Lathrop	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support this bill. The state of Hawaii could become an example for the entire country by adopting and implementing this bill. This bill allows sustainability to become institutionalized and therefore it exemplifies the progressive vision of the Alo ha State. Please pass the bill.

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To: waltestimony
Cc: brenkitch@gmail.com
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HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brendon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 9:23 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kiranabrams@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kiran Abrams	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I would like to show my support for HB2177 because I believe that it will greatly benefit the undeveloped areas of Hawaii. I have been following edible landscaping ideas and developments for a while, and I would love to see this Bill turn into a law. Talia Abrams has always been interested in making a difference, and I believe that her Bill is just the way to make a perfect difference to Hawaii. I have wanted to see someone step up to the plate and take charge of such a needed development, and to see such a young person so devoted is truly amazing. I truly hope that HB2177 passes and I would love to see all of the amazing outcomes.

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To: waltestimony
Cc: kayalathrop@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaya Lathrop	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a very inspiring, amazing idea that could easily spread world wide!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 9:31 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mamakayti@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathryn Lathrop	Individual	Support	No

Comments: With the immense amount of food that Hawaii imports, this is an amazing idea to move toward a more local and sustainable way of food production for the residents of this state. It could provide jobs as well as help feed the hungry. It is a positive community building project that can only benefit all. Please consider this even on a smaller scale as a test of what could be possible with this kind of progressive thinking of our future generations!

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To: waltestimony
Cc: rangien2010@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Puanani Rogers	Ho`okipa Network - Kauai	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this bill unanimously! Food Forests are Food sovereignty, and all humans want to be sovereign. Mahalo for voting yes!

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Cc: themomhui@gmail.com
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Submitted on: 2/4/2014

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mercy Ritte	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Forming community food forests with the help of community organizations and local government is a wonderful idea! What a way to support a more sustainable Hawaii and food security! I support this proactive bill 100%. Mahalo!

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 10:05 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: naldajw@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM*

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jw nalda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 10:05 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: dan.marks99@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Marks	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I like growing food. Do more of it.

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lowen2-Lanaly

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 10:05 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: OccupyHiloMedia@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM*

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kerri Marks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 10:29 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: nimo1767@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Petricci	Puna Pono Alliane	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair and WAL committee members: My name is Robert Petricci, Representing Puna Pono Alliance. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB2177. We support HB2177 as a win win for the community and the environment. Thank you for your consideration. Robert Petricci President Puna Pono Alliance

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 10:34 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: foodsovereigntynow@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mitsuko Hayakawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am strong support of food forests. Please, however, I do not want GMOs in this public forest. Mahalo for hearing this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 10:48 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: typaguy@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joel Guy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you Chair Evans for scheduling this important bill. Mahalo to Rep Kawakami for introducing this legislation. I stand in support. Joel Guy

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Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 10:51 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mascha.g@gmx.at
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mascha Gugganig	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Having witnessed the first year of the Kauai Food Forest, and the incredible transformation that has occurred to the place that before was only a piece of grass, the transitions it has gone through, the community it has drawn, the healthy lifestyle it allows, the potential to teach the next generations how to grow food, the creativity it allows people to live out, the connections to traditional mahi 'ai it enables us to learn, and most importantly the regenerative sustainability and empowerment it gives people in their own communities, I fully and strongly support HB2177. Together with other dedicated solution seekers I have witnessed its real outcome that this measure can have. Mahalo for sponsoring this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 12:30 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: dawilkinson83@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Drew Wilkinson	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support bill HB 2177. Allowing the community to create food forests in public spaces serves the communities now and sets a positive example for future generations to follow. This is a great way to improve food self reliance and increase the health of the community by providing fresh local foods. It also helps spread the knowledge and awareness of how to grow your own food to the general public. Please acknowledge this as a very important step for Hawaii towards regaining food independence. Aloha

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 4:58 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: The "Let's Grow Hilo" Project is the perfect example of Food Forests in Public Places. This project which has created "edible gardens" in all public strips of Hilo town, is not only beautiful but tasty!

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lowen2-Lanaly

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 7:39 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: acthalmann@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
alison thalmann	Individual	Support	No

Comments: What a brilliant idea! I believe in this food forest, and I feel that this little girl is on to something much greater than herself. We need to stay connected as a community and this Bill will help do that, all the while providing a place for clean organic food. Bringing people back together and to nature. Isn't that what Kaua'i should be known for? It is so raw and beautiful here. Please support this Bill, give us a chance here...please. Together we can change the world and make it such a healthier place. The future is up to us, the future is in your hands. Please listen to what we are saying, we really need more food forests and less chemical wastelands of GMOs. This thought could really shift America, and become something HUGE! How do we know unless we try? We need more organic, clean food here, less exporting and importing. Food should be safe to eat, and with safety comes health, security, happiness, and less illness. Lets keep Kaua'i healthy! We can supply enough if we create and support the platform with ideas like these. Thank you! Much aloha and mahalo nui loa for your time. Sincerely, Alison Thalmann

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 7:55 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: gabeabrams@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gabriel Abrams	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I'm so excited about this bill! I am very excited to see a community- outreach project in the making that can really affect all of the people of Hawaii. Please push this!

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February 5, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of HB2177, which is scheduled to be heard today, Wednesday, February 5. I am the CEO of TeenPact Leadership Schools, an organization that takes students to Capitols in 40 states and trains them in the political process. As part of that program, each student is encouraged to write a piece of legislation on an issue of personal interest.

Talia Abrams, a student from Kauai that attended the program last year wrote a bill on food forests, due to her interest in helping the homeless and indigent of the state of Hawaii. During last year's class, I had the opportunity of accompanying her on a visit to her representative, Representative Derek Kawakami, where she shared her idea. Representative Kawakami was very interested in the idea, and has turned it into HB2177.

Not only is this idea good for people of Kauai, but also it shows Talia that even though she cannot yet vote, her voice can be heard. Would you please seriously consider this bill?

I will be back in Honolulu in March with another group of students, and it would be wonderful to have an opportunity to hear that Talia's idea has moved forward. I would enjoy having her recognized by the House of Representatives of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Peter J. Martin'.

Peter J. Martin, President and CEO
TeenPact Leadership Schools
860-508-0975
peter.martin@teenpact.com

lowen2-Lanaly

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 8:03 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: waioli2@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
	Individual	Support	No

Comments: please support hb2177. this is such a positive and doable project for our communities!!! mahalo.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 8:23 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: babesagainstbiotech@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM*

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nomi Carmona	Babes Against Biotech	Support	No

Comments:

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Satya Whitlock

2/5/2014

HB2177 Testimony

I think that this bill would be an easy way to bring an image of self-sustainability to the public while also increasing the availability of healthy food. With edible landscapes, not only do we get beautiful scenery, but it also makes that scenery useful and beneficial to the public. The tourists get to see the beauty and, the locals can use it for food.

lowen2-Lanaly

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 9:17 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mmcardle19@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peggy McArdle	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support for Organic or Conventional Food Farming only and as long as the watershed is not affected. No GE crops permissible. Mahalo.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 9:46 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: haha@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Kong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I STRONGLY support this very positive bill HB 2177 originated by 14-year-old, Talia Abrams, for instilling community FOOD FORESTS IN PUBLIC PLACES. Supported by 24 legislators, including all three Kauai representatives. It is an innovative and realistic approach to food security in the islands... INTRODUCED BY 14 YEAR OLD!!! Incredible and inspiring. Lets DO this: together. Mahalo Nui, Caroline Kong

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 10:25 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: nothingisnew88@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rob Cruz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, If sustainability is desired, then food needs to be grown with in the peoples reach, with in the city's, towns & neighborhoods. Kauai has a young food forest in place that could be a replicable model for the rest of the state. This is a win win bill. hope to see it passed. Thank you. Rob Cruz Kauai food forest

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 11:16 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: ninaalena@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2177 on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM

HB2177

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for WAL on Feb 5, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nina Alena Beatty	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is great! There is so much opportunity to feed our residents looming in our parks and empty land. Not only could these food forests feed us, they could educate us, enrich our health, and beautify empty spaces! I support this bill. Please pass it!

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