

HB 1997

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA
DIRECTOR

LEONARD HOSHIO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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March 16, 2016

TO: The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair,
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair,
The Honorable Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

Date: Friday, March 18, 2016
Time: 2:55 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 224, State Capitol

From: Linda Chu Takayama, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: H.B. No. 1997 Relating to Agriculture

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

HB1997 proposes to add a new section to chapter 371, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), which establishes within the department a K-12 agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators regarding agricultural self-sufficiency. The bill includes establishment of a coordinator position and workforce development specialist in the department to carry out this initiative.

The department supports this bill provided its passage does not replace or adversely affect priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget request.

An appropriation of \$250,000 from general funds would support this initiative as a pilot project. DLIR respectfully offers suggested amendments in item III below for consideration by the Committee.

II. CURRENT LAW

Section 371-19, HRS, established the Hawaii Agricultural Workforce Advisory Board to advise the department on developing the next generation of agricultural

workers; developing a mission, objectives, and goals of the Board; developing partnerships to further goals of the Board; supporting local chapters of Future Farmers of America; and recommending projects that expand the agricultural workforce in Hawaii.

III. COMMENTS ON THE HOUSE BILL

The Agricultural Workforce Advisory Board was an outgrowth from a series of Agricultural Skill Panels convened in all counties in 2013¹. Over 600 stakeholders collectively identified issues regarding expansion of the agricultural workforce and developed recommendations.

The Board reviewed the Agricultural Skill Panel recommendations and recommended the language reflected in this proposal. The Board focused on widening the pipeline of students to the agricultural workforce through the biggest potential pool of agricultural workers: Hawaii's youth. .

Interest in agriculture is waning among Hawaii youth because they have an inaccurate perception of farming as a low-paying, low-skilled trade and are not aware of the increasingly technical nature of jobs in the industry. To update teachers and school administrators about the current state of agricultural jobs, this bill proposes to provide them training, with exposure to real-life settings for students and teachers. The intended result is to generate interest and excitement for jobs in agriculture that can be passed on to students and promote expansion of the agricultural workforce.

DLIR supports this bill as a potential, important method to increase the agricultural workforce provided sufficient funds are appropriated and its passage does not replace or adversely affect priorities identified in the Governor's Supplemental Budget request.

To carry out the purpose of the bill, DLIR respectfully suggests the following amendment:

- Section 2, page 2, line 9-10, revise to read as follows: "...subject to chapter 76, to carry out the purposes of this section, which may include developing and proposing incentives, such as scholarships, travel offsets,"

This language would give the department the flexibility to carry out purposes of the bill without being limited to developing and proposing incentives.

¹ http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2013/06/AgSkillPanelReport_web.pdf

<http://dlir.state.hi.us/labor/sesp/pages/agriculture.cfm>

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 03/18/2016

Time: 02:55 PM

Location: 224

Committee: Senate Water, Land, and
Agriculture Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

Purpose of Bill: Implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education supports HB 1997 to establish a K-12 agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to guide training for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency, but defers to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for any administrative or budgetary implementation concerns.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

And

Senate Committee on Education
Friday, March 18, 2016 at 2:55 p.m.

By

Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor

And

Maria Gallo, Dean

And

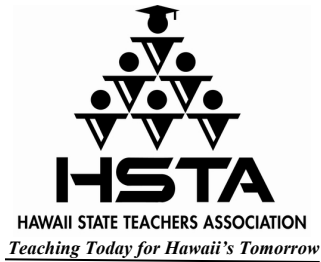
J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 1997 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairs Gabbard and Kidani, Vice Chairs Nishihara and Harimoto, and members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture, and Senate Committee on Education, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawai'i agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

HB 1997 will implement the recommendation of the Hawai'i agriculture workforce advisory board, of which the Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, is a member. Although we defer to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations on the fiscal and management implications of HB 1997, we believe that implementation of this recommendation will greatly assist in the development of an educated and well-trained agricultural workforce in Hawai'i, and complements such related efforts as Future Farmers of America, 4-H, and Farm to School programming.

Should HB 1997 be considered a viable approach by the legislature and the referenced departments, we will be glad to continue to work, as resources permit, with all the parties concerned to promote agricultural workforce development and further the goal of agricultural self-sufficiency in Hawai'i.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

Corey Rosenlee
President
Justin Hughey
Vice President
Amy Perruso
Secretary-Treasurer
Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: HB 1997 - RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2016

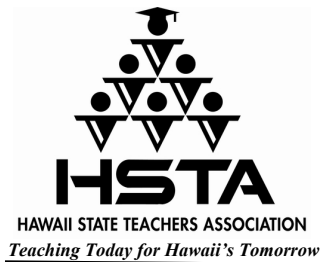
COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Gabbard, Chair Kidani and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports HB 1997**, relating to agriculture.

We need to restore the balance in our public educational system in Hawaii. Hawaii's Career and Technical Education programs need to be expanded to provide greater opportunity to prepare young people to design their own futures. Providing teachers in the DOE with training from experts in the agricultural field would help them understand not only how the agriculture workforce needs have changed over time, but also how to incorporate sustainability in agriculture that is in high demand in Hawaii. According to the Hawaii Agriculture Skill Panel Report from the Workforce Development Council, the average age of Hawaii's commercial farmers is over 60 years old. Interest in agriculture is waning in our youth and this is worrisome to the industry and to the economy and self-sustainability of our state.

There is a common misconception that farming is a low-paying, low-skilled trade. Our youth need to understand that there are a variety of careers within the agricultural industry that need to be filled. They need more workers that are not only technical in nature, but also those who will help to solve the problems listed in the report such as developing new technology and developing ideas for innovation that are critical components to the growth and expansion of the agricultural industry in Hawaii, especially in the areas of sustainability. The agricultural industry also needs workers in business, marketing, and management to refine and streamline production and distribution, along with workers to guide the industry in using sustainable practices, Organic farming, Soil building, and Natural Farming.



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Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

Passage of this bill would help provide teachers with the knowledge they need to incorporate agricultural career paths into their curriculum using school gardens, and farm to table programs with their students.

Hawaii, like most states, is working toward the goal of getting their students 'college-and career-ready,' but CTE experts are concerned that what we mean by 'career-ready' is not always clear, and the supply of quality career-technical education programs has not kept pace with demand. Students must have several options available to them in order to explore a variety of career options, one of them being in agriculture. This bill supports these efforts.

According to a national study, *The Shocking Truth About The Skills Gap (2015)*, only 25 percent of polled job seekers reported receiving career path in high school, and 41 percent said they wished they had received more guidance.

Because a robust education involves developing all aspects of learning for our ever-changing world including the changes in agriculture, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.



Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture and Senate Committee on Education

Hawai'i Center for Food Safety Supports: HB1997 Relating to Agriculture

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto and Members of Both Committees,

My name is Dr. Ashley Lukens and I am the Hawai'i Director for the Center for Food Safety (CFS). CFS is a nationwide public interest, sustainable agriculture nonprofit organization whose mission centers on furthering the public's right to know how their food is produced, through labeling and other means. We have over 750,000 farmer and consumer members across the country, including nearing 10,000 in Hawai'i. On behalf of CFS and our members, I thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today regarding this important bill.

CFS has been dedicated to addressing the human health and environmental impacts of our increased reliance on pesticide use in food production, both in the State of Hawai'i and nationally. We were instrumental in providing legal and communications support in the passage of numerous ordinances relating to pesticide use and disclosure, such as Kaua'i's Bill 2491. Since 2014, as the inaugural director here in Hawai'i, I have worked closely with community members across the state, in all counties, and have played an instrumental role in the passage of Maui's moratorium on GE production until companies submit environmental and public health impact assessments.

I am writing in support of HB1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawai'i agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency. Further, we suggest amending this bill so that the educational pathways offered focus on the production of food, rather than simply agriculture writ large.

This measure is extremely important to the future of Hawai'i's food workforce and security due to the need for local food production. Our state imports nearly 90% of its food and if cut off due to tsunami or other event, it is estimated that we would not have enough food to even last a week. The Hawai'i Department of Business Economic Development & Tourism and the Department of Agriculture stated in a 2012 report that "replacing just 10% of the food Hawaii currently imports would amount to approximately \$313 million dollars which would remain in the State."ⁱ This money could be put back into local communities to support organic and sustainable farming and ranching.

Not only would the increase of local food production increase Hawai'i's food security and local economy, but growing more food would immensely benefit our environment. One study found that a single cargo ship can emit almost the same amount of chemicals as 50 million cars.ⁱⁱ By

reducing the amount of cargo ships needed in our pacific ocean, we would benefit our Makua, Makai, and Ohana.

Due to the reasons stated above, we feel this measure should prioritize training in food production to support the state's efforts to increase local food production for local consumption. This all starts with educating Hawai'i's next-generation on safe and efficient food producing agriculture. If more schools implemented sustainable agriculture practices into their curriculum, students would be more inclined to grow food for hobby and profession.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony, and I am happy to provide further analysis or respond to any follow-up questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashley Lukens', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Ashley Lukens, PhD
Hawai'i Director
Center for Food Safety

ⁱ DOBEDT & DPA. (2012). Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy.
http://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/op/spb/INCREASED_FOOD_SECURITY_AND_FOOD_SELF_SUFFICIENCY_STRATEGY.pdf

ⁱⁱ Vidal, J. (2009). Health risks of shipping pollution have been 'underestimated.'
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2009/apr/09/shipping-pollution>



March 15, 2016

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Education

Comments in Support of HB 1997 Relating to Agriculture (Implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.)

Friday, March 18, 2016, 2:55 p.m., in Conference Room 224

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support of HB 1997** and of the various agricultural stakeholder groups who defend the goals of viable agricultural operations and the conservation and protection of agriculture, including important agricultural lands (IAL) in Hawaii. The bill conveys the need for collaboration amongst diverse sectors of the community - business, government, educational institutions, and agricultural stakeholders - and the importance for them to work together cooperatively to improve the economic viability of the State's agricultural industry.

HB 1997. The purpose of this bill is to implement the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board (the "Board") that the State establish an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative (the "Initiative") to conduct training in agricultural self-sufficiency on all islands for teachers and school administrators.

LURF's Position. LURF believes that the proposed establishment of the Initiative by the Board in HB 1997 is consistent with the underlying intent and objectives of the IAL laws (Hawaii Revised Statutes [HRS], Sections 205-41 to 52), which were enacted to fulfill the mandate in Article XI, Section 3 of the Hawaii State Constitution, "to conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands." As noted in HRS Section 205-41, the intent of Act 183 (2005) was to develop agricultural incentive programs to promote agricultural viability, sustained growth of the agricultural industry, and the long-term use and protection of important agricultural lands for agricultural use.

Passage of the long-awaited IAL legislation would be pointless without implementation of these programs, incentives and inducements which require the cooperation and support of agricultural, business, and educational organizations, as well as government agencies, which this bill is intended to cultivate and promote.

LURF members include private property owners, farmers and ranchers who own, maintain, and engage in agricultural enterprises, and who consider programs such as this Initiative significant to the continued conduct of their operations and to help sustain and preserve their businesses into the future. Regrettably, interest in agriculture continues to decline due to misguided assumptions of the trade as entailing hard work for low pay, and requiring little, if any appreciable skills.

LURF believes efforts like the Initiative and the appropriation of funds for its implementation would greatly assist in the perpetuation of the agricultural industry in this State by identifying workforce needs; assisting the industry with training to help farmers and ranchers comply with onerous regulatory requirements; providing knowledge and inspiring interest in agriculture; as well as educating youth about the importance of increasing Hawaii's long-term resilience and sustainability.

As the establishment of the Initiative significantly helps to promote economically viable agriculture and food self-sufficiency in Hawaii, LURF is in **support of HB 1997**.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of this measure.

From: [HI PAPAYA INDUSTRY ASSN](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:06:19 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

HI PAPAYA INDUSTRY ASSN

Hilo, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: warrenmcfb@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1997 on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM*
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 10:40:17 PM

HB1997

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WLA/EDU on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	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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From: [Alan Gottlieb](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:30:16 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Alan Gottlieb

Kamuela, HI

From: [Ayja Welch](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:48:46 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

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Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Ayja Welch

Kapolei, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1997 on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM
Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 3:48:09 PM

HB1997

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for WLA/EDU on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I support this measure as long as Monsanto and ge crops are not a part of the conversation and education. Our youth should only be taught regenerative farming practices that protects our precious resources instead of poisoning them. We have so much to protect and conventional and ge farming relies on heavy pesticide use as well as petroleum based fertilizers. We can and must do better than the chemical farming that is pushed in many Agricultural education programs across this country. Mahalo, Ms. Barbara Barry

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From: [Blake Rabe](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:51:40 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Blake Rabe

Kaunakakai, HI

From: [Bonnie Self](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:50:17 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Bonnie Self

Hilo, HI

From: [Bruce Heckman](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:44:29 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Bruce Heckman

Waimea, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1997 on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 2:46:42 AM

HB1997

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WLA/EDU on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl M Jellings Sr	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Honorable Senate Good Bill we should all learn what it takes to be self sustainable, Its not easy it means hard work on top of everything else You are doing, even if it's just growing a few Papaya trees or tomato plants every food product grown here in Hawaii Harvested and consumed here makes us that much more Self Sustainable.. Mahalo Carl P Jellings Sr ,

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From: [Dan Clegg](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:11:11 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Dan Clegg

Kihei, HI

From: [David Stoltzfus](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:14:27 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

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David Stoltzfus

Kihei, HI

From: [Dawn Bicoy](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:34:34 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

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Dawn Bicoy

Maunaloa, HI

From: [Dee Brock](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:20:52 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Dee Brock

Mililani, HI

From: [Deo Rhoden](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 1:11:36 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Deo Rhoden

Wahiawa, HI

From: [Derrick Thielk](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:49:48 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Derrick Thielk

Kaunakakai, HI

From: [Diana McClure](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 8:20:10 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Diana McClure

Kahului, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1997 on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM*
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 3:08:06 PM

HB1997

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WLA/EDU on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [GLENN TOYAMA](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 1:38:55 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

GLENN TOYAMA

MOUNTAIN VIEW, HI

From: [Helena Orris](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 1:41:58 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Helena Orris

Mililani, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: ashman.janet@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1997 on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM*
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 7:49:23 PM

HB1997

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WLA/EDU on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Jerry Nishek](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 6:28:20 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Jerry Nishek

Lihue, HI

From: [Jessica Murison](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:40:04 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Jessica Murison

Honolulu, HI

From: [Joan Lasua](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:31:04 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Joan Lasua

Kaunakakai, HI

From: [Joanna DeRego](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 5:35:54 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Joanna DeRego

Laupahoehoe, HI

From: [Joni Kamiya](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:54:22 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Joni Kamiya

Kaneohe, HI

From: [Joseph Silva](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:09:49 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Joseph Silva

Lihue, HI

From: [Josh Hunziker](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:30:29 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Josh Hunziker

Kaunakakai, HI

From: [Kenneth Kaneshiro](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 2:00:13 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Kenneth Kaneshiro

Honokaa, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: kevinjmulkern@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1997 on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM*
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:17:30 AM

HB1997

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WLA/EDU on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Mulhern	Individual	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Kylie Matsuda-Lum](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:34:31 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Kylie Matsuda-Lum

Kahuku, HI

From: [Lawrence Lasua](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:00:16 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Lawrence Lasua

Kaunakakai, HI

From: [Lesley Hill](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:16:54 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Lesley Hill

Honolulu, HI

From: [Lorie Farrell](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 6:01:34 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Lorie Farrell

Honokaa, HI

From: [Paul Kaneshiro](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:31:04 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Paul Kaneshiro

Waimanalo, HI

From: [Raymond Foster](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:11:48 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I represent the Molokai Farm Bureau membership and we support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Raymond Foster

Kualapuu, HI

From: [Renee Kester](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 7:53:42 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Renee Kester

Kaunakakai, HI

From: [Rhonda Stoltzfus](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 8:03:06 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Rhonda Stoltzfus

Kihei, HI

From: [Richard Hartmann](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 3:16:00 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Richard Hartmann

Portland, OR

From: [Robert Gandia](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 8:06:42 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
TESTIMONY ON HB 1997 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Aloha Senator Gabbard and Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair(s)
Vice Chairs Senator Clarence Nishihara and Senator Breene Harimoto and Committee Members.

I support HB 1997, which implements the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board to create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for teachers and school administrators in agricultural self-sufficiency.

Hawaii's commercial farmers' average age is over 60 years. To maintain and expand production levels, it's clear that we need a new generation of farmers and ranchers equipped to assume the task of growing crops and livestock. This is critical to achieving Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Additionally, farmers and ranchers endure numerous regulatory requirements. Among them, labor laws are among the most problematic; with significant differences between Federal and State requirements. Training to meet these and other requirements is vital.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Robert Gandia

Kekaha, HI

From: [Robert Paull](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:46:41 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
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Robert Paull

Honolulu, HI

From: [Robyn Kato](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 1:37:59 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
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Robyn Kato

Ewa Beach, HI

From: [Ryan Oyama](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:20:55 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
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Ryan Oyama

Kalaheo, HI

From: [Sarah Nakasone](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:52:59 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
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Sarah Nakasone

Kapolei, HI

From: [Sarah Styan](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 7:59:38 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
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Sarah Styan

Hanapepe, HI

From: [Stacie Sasagawa](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 2:27:42 PM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
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Stacie Sasagawa

Ewa Beach, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: susan.mulkern@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1997 on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM*
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:13:58 AM

HB1997

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for WLA/EDU on Mar 18, 2016 14:55PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Shaheen Mulkern	Individual	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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From: [Tom Shigemoto](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:14:59 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
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Tom Shigemoto

Lihue, ID

From: [Walter Parada](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support HB 1997 - Relating to Ag Workforce
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:03:59 AM

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE and COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION and
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Walter Parada

Kaunakakai, HI