

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



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

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

February 5, 2015
8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 627
RELATING TO A FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Chairperson Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 627. This bill establishes a farm to school program within the Department of Agriculture and creates a coordinator position within the Department and within the Department of Education. The Department supports the intent of this measure provided it does not adversely affect the priorities in the Administration's budget.

The Department believes in the potential of the school food network to greatly increase the amount of locally-grown fruits and vegetables that are procured within the state and has participated in a number of task forces and working groups surrounding this topic that reported to the legislature including: a report to the 2012 Legislature resulting from House Concurrent Resolution 167 (2011) and a report to the 2010 Legislature per Senate Concurrent Resolution 121 (2009). The Department continues to be an advocate for increased consumption of local agricultural commodities and would point to a recommendation from the most recent report to the 2012 Legislature that advocated exempting local produce from the procurement code for state institutions as an action step that can be taken.

The Department would also defer to the Department of Education as to the creation of a position within their department.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 02/05/2015
Time: 08:30 AM
Location: 312
Committee: House Agriculture

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0627 RELATING TO A FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the Hawaii farm to school program and two farm to school coordinator positions. Appropriates funds.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education supports HB 0627, appropriating general funds to establish a full-time equivalent farm to school coordinator for fiscal years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, February 5, 2015 at 8:30am

By

Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor

And

Maria Gallo, Dean

And

J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 627 – RELATING TO A FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support, of HB 627, which establishes the Hawaii farm to school program and two farm to school coordinator positions within the Department of Agriculture and Department of Education.

Although we defer to the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Education on the fiscal and management implications of HB 627, we believe that this is an effective approach to further the goals of greater use of local farm products within the public school system, and a coordinated approach to agricultural, health and nutrition education within the schools.

The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, has been active in the discussions around these issues. Should this program be considered a viable approach by the legislature and the referenced departments, we will be glad to continue to work, as our resources permit, with all the parties concerned to promote greater use of local farm products and further development of a comprehensive and effective Farm to School Program.

COUNTY COUNCIL

Mel Rapozo, Chair
Ross Kagawa, Vice Chair
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Email cokcouncil@kauai.gov

Council Services Division
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209
Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii 96766

February 3, 2015

TESTIMONY OF MASON K. CHOCK
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON
HB 627, RELATING TO A FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM
House Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, February 5, 2015
8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 312

Dear Chair Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 627, Relating to a Farm to School Program. My testimony is submitted in my capacity as an individual Councilmember of the Kauai County Council.

HB 627 establishes the Hawaii farm to school program in the Department of Agriculture, and provides funding for two (2) farm to school coordinator positions to oversee the State's farm to school program. The purpose of the farm to school program is to improve the health of children through the support of school gardens, health and nutrition education, agriculture, and the procurement of locally grown foods for school meals and snacks. A successful farm to school program can increase students' physical activity, school meal participation, preference for fresh fruits and vegetables, and most importantly, improve academic achievement and student behavior.

For the reasons stated above, I strongly encourage the House Committee on Agriculture to support this measure. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

MASON K. CHOCK
Councilmember, Kauai County Council

AO:cy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:16 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: stacy.crivello@mauicounty.us
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Councilmember Stacy Helm Crivello	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:06 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: legechair@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Kakou, HFUU supports the creation of this important position that will help facilitate our keiki learning how to grow. Mahalo, e hana me ka ha'aha'a , Simon Russell Hawaii Farmers Union United Vice President and Legislative Committee Chairman

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P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 5, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 627
RELATING TO A FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Room 312
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFB). Organized since 1948, HFB is comprised of 1,932 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB supports HB 627, which seeks to establish the Hawaii Farm to School Program and two farm to school coordinator positions.

HFB strongly supports increased use of locally grown agricultural products, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy and poultry products in our schools and other public institutions. This will truly be a significant step towards increasing our levels of self-sufficiency. HFB also believes that learning where food comes from is an important part of our children's education. Agriculture education involves more than just learning the basics of food production, it provides the opportunity for our children to understand and appreciate the importance of agriculture.

Many formal and informal studies have been done addressing farm to school programs and we understand the Department of Agriculture (DOA) has also done some work in this area in the past. Our farmers and ranchers have tried to work with the procurement system and can speak to the shortcomings of the system. For example, supplying a school or schools within a geographic area is feasible, but providing to the entire school system is not. Focus should now be on working with the procurement system to make institutional markets accessible while considering the capacity of farmers and ranchers in Hawaii. Assistance to farmers on how to navigate the system should be a priority.

HFB recognizes the need and importance of agricultural education and school farm programs, and as a farm organization we would like to see increased emphasis of agriculture in schools. We believe that school farms serve multiple purposes. They serve not only to educate students on how to grow crops but also what it takes to turn a farm into a successful business enterprise that can be a career choice. Agronomy, economics, science, business planning, entomology, pathology and various technologies including programming, navigation and robotics are some of the courses that can evolve around the farm. Programs that teach the principles behind good agricultural practices - steps that must be taken that protect the environment, product, and worker are critical components of a school farm. The purpose of the farm should be to educate and expose students to a career choice.

Developing and maintaining an agricultural workforce should be a vital component of this program. A trained workforce with various skills is necessary to any agricultural operation. This need has to be addressed along with generating interest in our youth to pursue the various careers and to become our future leaders in Hawaii agriculture. HFB supports programs and initiatives such as the FFA, 4-H, and Farm to School programs because they help to educate and reconnect our children with agriculture. Through agricultural education programs, our children will gain an understanding and appreciation for agriculture which will result in healthier eating habits, stronger support for Hawaii's agriculture industry and will contribute to Hawaii's food security.

This should be viewed is an investment in Hawaii's future to develop well-informed consumers and supporters of our local agricultural industries.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 2:41 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: peter.sullenberger@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter Sullenberger	Three Roads Farm	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:23 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mealaaloha@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Bishop	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In Strong support

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 5:40 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kuau77@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
D Brothers	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:39 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kiloanui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leonard Hall	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a farmer and want to see more local produce from local farms and have our children eat healthy.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:23 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ihemphi@live.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Key	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:32 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sharedpleasures@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
vicki levin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:55 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: MSMatson@Hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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Support for HB627

Creating Two Farm to School Program Coordinator Positions

Aloha,

I am in favor of establishing the Hawaii farm to school program and two farm to school coordinator positions. I am currently a program coordinator for The Kohala Center's Hawaii Island School Garden Network. Before taking this position I was a Garden Coordinator for Pa'auilo School on the Hamakua Coast of Hawaii Island for seven years. I have seen the positive results of teaching students the value of garden based instruction. School gardens provide a valuable resource for schools as an outdoor classroom to study nutrition, agriculture, and environmental studies such as climate change, agroforestry and agriculture.

I am in support of creating and funding two farm to school coordinator positions for two main reasons:

1. **Healthy Keiki** - Hawaii has some of the highest rates of diabetes and other diet related issues. Teaching and promoting healthy lifestyles to students through garden based instruction is a sure way to reverse these numbers.
2. **Supporting Local Farmers** - Having two state level farm to school coordinators is the wisest way to ensure that healthier, locally grown produce can be sourced into our schools and other institutions. Supporting our local farmers promotes healthier economic growth for Hawaii. I am also a small scale farmer in Pa'auilo. Farm to School supports local farmers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Mitts
PO Box 344
Pa'auilo, HI 96776

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 11:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: autumnness@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
autumn ness	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:01 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: molivit@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isabelle Olivit	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:49 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mpahukoa@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:20 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ohialani@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katie Romanchuk	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill would be awesome for schools, farmers and KIDS. This would be a win, win, win and allow more sustenance to come from our own islands instead of the mainland. We are way behind in self-sustainability as far as providing our own food on our own islands which can support much nutritious, organic, LOCALLY grown food. I myself would love to be a part of this, as a small farmer in Haiku. Two coordinators could help get this program off (or into!) the ground.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 2:15 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mpshaw10@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Shaw	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this bill to enhance our ability to educate our children of the importance of Hawaii farmers and the food we need to grow here in Hawaii. We need future farmers and a public that understands where their food comes from. Mahalo Mark

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:43 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kauaihale@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louisa Wooton	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a former middle school and high school agriculture teacher on Kaua'i, I cannot tell you how important it is to teach our youth where there food comes from. Involving students in hands-on learning and providing nourishing food as a reward for their efforts is such a WIN-WIN!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:28 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauileab@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gaylene L Barron	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In passing this bill, Hawaii can only benefit financially, and further the sustainable efforts of having more locally grown food, and healthy programs for its keiki. With food production needs, educating the young will insure the future for highly skilled and educated farmers, as well as helping food production in this state. Please support this much needed bill to place those in the key positions needed to further these programs at our schools. Mahalo.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:01 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments: This is a very important bill to keep young people connected with the land and where their food comes from. Developers future farmers and supports Food Security on the islands. Educate sustainable farming practices and Organic farming practices. Please support this bill, Mahalo, Ms. Barbara Barry

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:26 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ealoi@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Aloii	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 3:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ambrosenterprises@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support HB627

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:56 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alikamaui@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alika Atay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:03 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nikita.coulombe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nikita Coulombe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a young person, I am alarmed by the number of my peers who are overweight and have poor eating habits. HB627 is a step in the right direction for many reasons, but especially for reversing those two trends. I do hope that a condition on the food served is that it will be organic or at least non-GMO.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:00 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauifaith@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Faith Ewbank	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HB 627. This is a small step for a big idea. Farm to School will eventually employ many people and many jobs will adjust to accommodate the essential needs of this inception. Thank you for your forward thinking vote of SUPPORT of HB 627, it is a very special 20 year interest and effort coming to reality for me to see. Mahalo, Faith EWbank

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:10 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: foodsovereignty@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 4:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lynhowe1946@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:42 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: wrokinslow@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
R. Kinslow	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support. Comment: A small price to pay for educating our children about local food. Coordinators should be have nutrition and food safety certifications with knowledge of local food producers.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:47 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hokuokekai50@msn.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:16 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: 2kalkout@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth A Likotu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 2:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jmccay@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James McCay	Individual	Support	No

Comments: FANTASTIC! Please support this needed initiative. A great and positive one for the State!

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:34 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: zenkekoa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zen Powers	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Give schools access to our islands abundance, feed the children real food!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:13 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sethraabe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Seth Raabe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Honorable Representatives, Farm to school programs, when done well, can provide so many complimentary benefits to communities throughout the state. They just make sense. Let's make farm to school a statewide priority. Please support this bill. Mahalo

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:53 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sunnysavage@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sunny Savage-Luskin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: makena42@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Courtney Turner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Personal Testimony Presented before the
House Committee on Agriculture
February 5, 2015 at 8:30 am
by
Douglas L. Vincent, Ph.D., P.A.S.

HB 870 – RELATING TO FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Personal Testimony in Favor of HB 627, with reservations

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi and members of the committee

My name is Douglas L. Vincent and I am a Professor and Animal Scientist in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources in the Department of Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences. I am also a former Department Chair. I am pleased to provide personal testimony on HB 627. This testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawaii or the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

As the Department Chair of the Department of Human Nutrition Food and Animal Science, in 2010 I was the lead author of the University of Hawaii report on the feasibility of a Hawaii Farm-to-School Program (SCR121 SD1 HD1 Session 2009). At that time, the report recommended that establishing a state-wide Farm-to-School program was not feasible. Much has changed since then and through the efforts of many non-profit organizations such as Kokua Hawaii Foundation, Kohala Center and others, school gardens and farm to school programs have developed at individual schools. These programs do provide food and nutrition education to our keiki and have been successful on a limited basis at individual schools. While I believe it is a good idea and should be encouraged, I remain concerned that the issues brought forth in the 2010 feasibility study produced for the 2010 Hawaii State Legislature still exist. Issues such as equity in the provision of foodstuffs to schools, assurance of food safety regulations and remaining in compliance with USDA national school lunch program standards be adhered to. While I support the concept enthusiastically, if the positions of farm to school coordinators are funded, they must tread carefully, tempering any unbridled enthusiasm, to ensure that the program does not increase the risk to our keiki. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of HB 627, with reservations.

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:21 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: brimohi@msn.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Emmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:51 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: afkauaigr1086@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann M. Fontes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with some concerns about adding 2 coordinator positions (one with Dept. of Ag. and one with DOE). I realize you actually need a specific individual in both of these state agencies to pursue this goal of establishing a successful farm to school program but feel that more needs to be done to incorporate more agriculture and nutrition education in schools. Coordinate with UH College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Cooperative Extension Service for educational programs. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

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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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:23 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kiele.aloha@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keiko Gonzalez	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill and ask you to do the same. Our keiki's lives would be enriched by a farm to school program. They would learn how to feed themselves by growing their own fruits and vegetables. They would be more interested in eating things that they grew themselves, and those things just happen to be good for them. This would be another great "support local" venture. Hawai'i has great weather and soil to achieve this, we should really be leading the pack here. Support this bill, please!

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 2:34 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: olindaorganicfarm@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:45 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: waioli2@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chris kobayashi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this sensible and necessary investment in the health and economic viability of our children and communities. mahalo nui.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:26 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: aa44ce7e@opayq.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Land	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 2:32 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: caveguy@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lars Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 2:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauimartha@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martha Lind	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Teaching farming in our schools is so important and teaches our children so many things. Please support this bill and create a HI farm to school program, as well as two school coordinator positions. Mahalo!

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:47 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tulsi@mauiishome.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:56 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Sylvia@Kolealea.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sylvia Cenzano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:20 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bcole47@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Betsy Cole	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:04 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lcoltin@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lillian Coltin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:20 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pfdevries108@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter deVries	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:12 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: leimomikekina@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Dierks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui



Coordinated through The Kohala Center

TESTIMONY
House Committee on Agriculture
February 5, 2015, 8:30 a.m.

Kaua'i

Tiana Kamen
Farm to Keiki Preschool Program

Keone Kealoha
*Mālama Kaua'i
Kaua'i School Garden Network*

O'ahu

Hunter Heavilin
O'ahu Farm to School Network

Natalie McKinney
Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation

Debbie Millikan
Iolani School

Elysa Ermatinger
Hoa 'Āina O Makaha

Mahealani Matsuzaki
*Kamehameha Schools
'Āina-Based Education*

Terri Langley
MA'O Organic Farms

Jayne Grzebik
*University of Hawai'i
Master Gardeners*

Moloka'i

Harmonee Williams
*Sustainable Moloka'i
Moloka'i School Garden Network*

Maui & Lana'i

Lehn Huff
Maui & Lana'i School Garden Network

Nio Kindla & Kirk Surry
Grow Some Good

Hawai'i Island

Nancy Redfeather & Donna Mitts
*The Kohala Center
Hawai'i Island School Garden Network*

Statewide

Jennifer Ryan & Leimomi Dierks
Hawai'i Department of Health

Dexter Kishida
Hawai'i Department of Education, SFSB

Jennifer Dang
Hawai'i Department of Education, HCNP

Lillian Coltin
Hawai'i Department of Education

Andrea Snow
FoodCorps

Pacific Region

Dr. Koh Ming Wei
Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

HB627: RELATING TO A FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee,

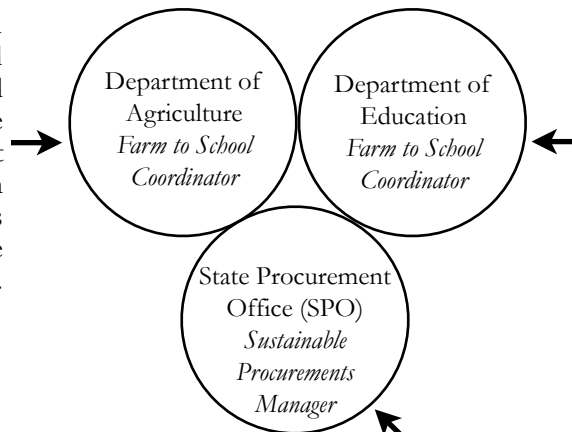
The Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui **strongly supports** HB627, which establishes a farm to school program and coordinator positions in the Hawai'i Departments of Agriculture and Education.

Formed in 2010, the Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui is a grassroots network of six island-level networks, along with representatives of the Hawai'i Departments of Education and Health, whose mission is to strengthen Hawai'i's statewide farm to school and school garden movement.

The Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui, along with the Farm to School Plus Working Group convened by Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, have identified the measure in question as an **essential next step** in realizing for our state the profound benefits of farm to school in the areas of **agriculture, education, health, and the economy**. Nineteen other states have already lead the way in this effort by establishing state-level farm to school coordinators in their departments of agriculture, education, and/or university systems.

The proposed coordinators would **plan and work strategically together to achieve a robust and successful farm to school program for Hawai'i:**

Critical liaison between vendors (farmers, food hubs, distributors) and schools to achieve increased procurement of locally grown foods. Supports increased agriculture education.



Supports schools to establish, expand, and sustain school garden and nutrition education programs in order to ensure the consumption of locally grown foods by students and support the development of future farmers.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lydi Morgan Bernal
Coordinator

Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui
schoolgardenhui@kohalacenter.org
www.hawaiischoolgardenhui.org

Established via HB1204/SB1258 as a key partner to create appropriate processes and facilitate increased procurement of locally grown foods by all state agencies.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:31 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	Support	No

Comments: A State Farm to School Program with Coordinators in DOA and DOE working together, will be able to create pathways that will increase institutional purchasing of locally produced foods and a coordinated framework and support for agricultural education/school gardens/school farms K-12, or K-20. This Bill supports Actions that will develop local food security, increase children's health and achievement, build an agricultural economy for Hawaii's farmers and food producers/distributors, create future farmers, and point Hawaii toward development of a true community food system. 1/2 of all states in the US have a Farm to School Program. The USDA will be our partner for funding, support, and professional assistance. There are currently 195 school gardens in public schools across the state that currently have low levels of support. Imagine what could occur with increased institutional support! Mahalo, Nancy Redfeather Director Hawai'i Island Shcool Garden Network Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui - Founding Member School Garden Task Force - Hawai'i Department of Health FoodCorps Hawai'i - State Supervisor

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kōkua hawai'i foundation



February 4, 2015

Aloha Representatives,

Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation STRONGLY supports HB627, establishing the Hawai'i Farm to School program and two farm to school coordinator positions in the Departments of Education and Agriculture.

The Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2003 by Jack and Kim Johnson. We support environmental education in the schools and communities of Hawai'i. Our programs include 'ĀINA In Schools, 3R's School Recycling, Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation Field Trip Grants, Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation Mini-Grants, and Plastic Free Hawai'i.

'ĀINA In Schools is a farm to school initiative launched in 2006 that connects children to their local land, waters, and food to grow a healthier Hawai'i. In addition to encouraging the use of locally grown fruits and vegetables in school meals and snacks, the program includes a standards-based nutrition, garden, and compost curriculum that empowers children to grow their own food, make informed food decisions, and reduce waste. 'ĀINA In Schools also promotes field trips to local farms, chef cooking demonstrations in classrooms, as well as waste reduction, garden, and cooking educational opportunities for families and community members. We work directly with 16 O'ahu elementary schools that have implemented the program school-wide. We have also trained an additional 146 educators from nearly 100 schools from across the state in the use of our 'ĀINA garden, composting, and nutrition curricula.

Over the last eight years, we have made great strides in the realm of school gardens and nutrition education. However, procurement of locally grown produce for school meals has been especially challenging. Establishing a state-level Farm to School program will bring a level of expertise and commitment that will bring local food sourcing and food and agriculture education into schools statewide. The Farm to School program will further bolster the reach and impact of the garden and nutrition educational programs that have been implemented by non-profit organizations across the state.

We support Hawai'i in becoming the 20th state that has state-level Farm to School Programs. These 19 states with state-level Farm to School Programs have seen great increases in the amount of locally grown food served in schools and positive health, behavioral, and economic impacts of their programs. Please see the attached document from the National Farm to School Network, "The Benefits of Farm to School" for specific examples and statistics on how a farm to school programs benefit students, schools, and local economies.

We strongly urge you to vote in support of HB627!

Mahalo for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "N. McKinney".

Natalie McKinney,
Director of Program Development

www.kokuahawaiiifoundation.org

P.O. Box 866, Hale'iwa, HI 96712 • Tel: (808) 638-5145 • Fax: (808) 638-0757 • info@kokuahawaiiifoundation.org

The Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports environmental education in the schools and communities of Hawai'i.



onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:32 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: klasell1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katharine Lasell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The future of healthy diets and communities depends on forging connections between children and local foods. This bill is about restoring and valuing those connections and I strongly support it.

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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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:24 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dm1aloha@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Maltz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly Support!

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:24 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: permaculturejourney@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Menchetti	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:49 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: wrmeyers@bright.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
WILLIAM R MEYERS	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:37 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kohmw@prel.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ming Wei Koh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is crucial for sustainability. Geographic proximity to food sources is a sustainability value. Farm to school provides an opportunity to practice sustainability. The coordinators are crucial for the scaling up of the future we want.

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Aloha,

My name is Seri Niimi-Burch and I am a resident and garden educator in Kamuela, HI.

I strongly **support HB627** and highly encourage establishing Farm-to-School positions within the DOE and DOA. Procurement of local food in DOE schools is essential for the health of our keiki and will contribute to the prosperity of our local agriculture and economy. Agriculture and nutrition education programs should be supported at the department level and some serious changes need to be made in the DOE school lunch program- today the system is unsustainable and unhealthy with low quality, low nutrition untasty foods imported from the mainland. My students ask me often why we cannot have food that they grow in the garden for lunch in the cafeteria. Why not, indeed? Is this not the dream? This Bill would be the a great step toward improving the health of Hawaii families, agricultural economy and decreasing our impact on the planet.

Please consider these thoughts as you consider HB627. Mahalo Nui Loa.

Seri Niimi-Burch
Kamuela, HI

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: susie@kuaokala.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susie Osborne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this important bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 6:32 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: paul.massey@ribg.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB627

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Massey	Regenerations International Botanical Garden	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 3:59 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: viajenryan@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Ryan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please consider farm to school as an important step towards food self-sufficiency and agricultural development in our state.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kellensmith@placeshawaii.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kellen Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: School gardens and agricultural education are absolutely essential to our survival; especially living on an island. It allows for a holistic, authentic education. Please pass this bill for our keiki.

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4 Ag Hawai'i

Hawai'i Aquaculture &
Aquaponics Association

Hawai'i Association of
Independent Schools

Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council

Hawai'i Farm Bureau
Federation

Hawai'i Farmers' Union
United

Hawai'i Food Industry
Association

Hawai'i Food
Manufacturers Association

Kohala Center

Malama Kaua'i

Maui School Garden
Network

Ulupono Initiative

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Thursday, February 5, 2015 – 8:30 a.m. – Room 312

RE: HB 627 - Relating to a Farm to School Program – In Support

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi and Members of the Committee:

The Local Food Coalition strongly supports HB 627, which establishes the Hawai'i farm to school program and two farm to school coordinator positions.

This measure will provide the necessary means for the foundation of a farm to school program in Hawai'i. This valuable program will allow students to gain access to healthy, local foods while stimulating the local economy. By dedicating coordinators from the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Education, this will ensure a coordinated effort that will ultimately benefit our students, farmers, and our community.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprising of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawai'i's food supply.

The Local Food Coalition is pleased to support proposals designed to help grow more local food. Our group's members came together last year with one common goal: to promote the local production of food in a sustainable and economically sound manner to benefit Hawai'i's people through the revitalization and expansion of our state's agricultural sector. This year the Coalition is continuing to pursue this comprehensive approach because it is the most effective way for Hawai'i to develop its resources for diversified food production, as well as lessen its dependence on importing that which can be grown, raised and processed locally.

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify, and we respectfully ask for your support of HB 627.

Lori Lum
808-544-8343
llum@wik.com

The Local Food Coalition Supports All Forms of Agriculture.

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:16 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tasia@maoorganicfarms.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB627 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB627

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tasia yamamura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Institutionalizing a farm to school coordinator position is so important for the future of farm to school education. I especially like that there is a position within the department of ed and ag. We need a more comprehensive k-20 farm to school program to teach science, culture, etc and to help students grow up healthier by having access to fresh, local produce. I'm an avid supporter of `aina-based, place-based education and believe that this bill will help to create more robust educational and agricultural systems.

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