

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 02/15/2017
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1577, HD1 RELATING TO COMPOSTING.

Purpose of Bill: Authorizes the Department of Agriculture to issue grants to establish a composting grant pilot project in DOE schools. Establishes a composting grant pilot project working group. Requires report to legislature. Appropriates funds. (HB1577 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1577 HD1 to create a composting pilot project in Hawaii public schools. Together with our farm-to-school and "green" efforts, this measure will foster student learning and positive social practices integral to sustainable living in our world today.

The Department looks forward to partnering with the Department of Agriculture on this pilot project.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB 1577 HD1.

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 EDUCATION

**FEBRUARY 15, 2017
2:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 309**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1557 HD1
RELATING TO COMPOSTING**

Chairperson Takumi and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1577, House Draft 1. The purpose of this bill is to establish on-site campus composting pilot projects in the Department of Education (DOE) schools, and the Department of Agriculture (HDOA) issuing grants pursuant to recommendation of the composting grant pilot project working group. HDOA supports the intent of this measure as it relates to increasing nutrient recycling for building healthy soils and using agriculture as a platform to educate students in science, technology, engineering, and math. However, the HDOA does not have the administrative capacity to manage such a grant program, and would not be logistically able to carry-out such a program without additional funding for staff.

Act 218 (SLH 2015) established a Farm to School Program within the HDOA, directing the Farm to School Coordinator to “address the issues of supply, demand, procurement, and consumption of Hawaii-grown foods in state facilities” (HRS §141-11(b)). One of the five goals of the program is to “[a]ccelerate garden and farm-based education for the State’s public school students” HRS §141-11(a)(4). Through our Farm to School Coordinator’s work with community members, school principals, DOE’s Facilities Branch, and Department of Health, the lack of regulatory clarity and policy guidance has been identified as a barrier to composting programs in public schools.



HDOA acknowledges the importance of increasing soil health with nutrient cycling as a low-cost alternative to imported soil amendments, which increases productivity while decreasing input costs to producers. Funding such a pilot project in DOE is an opportunity to invest in articulating legal requirements of campus composting activities while collaborating on effective policy to safely guide on-site composting projects. However, as HDOA does not possess composting subject matter expertise or administrative capacity to execute effective campus composting projects, HDOA respectfully defers the administration of this DOE Campus Composting measure to either DOE or University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH-CTAHR) to administer. The Department is willing to participate in its advisory role on the working group.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



O'ahu
Chapter

**House Bill 1577: Relating to Composting
In Strong Support**

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 15th , 2017

Hearing Time: 2:00 PM

Place: Conference Room 309

Committee: Education

Aloha Chair Takumi and members of the House Committee on Education,

I am writing on behalf of the Surfrider Foundation's Oahu Chapter in strong support of HB 1577 relating to composting pilot projects in the Department of Education (DOE).

One of Surfrider Oahu's most innovative and successful program is the Ocean Friendly Gardens (OFG) initiative and the Surfblitz program. Our members and volunteers have engaged in landscape revitalization by understanding the connection of health soils and at home food production to the future health of our nearshore ecosystems and oceans. In the past 3 years we have built more than 20 OFG's around Oahu following a program directive of CPR – Conservation, Permeability, and Retention. These concepts are the foundation of having healthy watersheds. In designing landscapes under this umbrella of sustainability we have come to realize the high value of composting to amend our soils. By transferring nutrients from our food waste to the soils we are creating a closed loop system in which natural processes are used to amend the soil that provides us food.

This program has engaged home owners, but because we are using the power of a volunteer network we are also engaging keiki in the program. At each of our garden builds we have workshops where the youth are engaged in the process of creating healthy soils, a living landscape, and a food sources at home. This early childhood education is a living laboratory with immense educational potential.

Already on Oahu, schools have shown a model of progress in diverting food waste into composting systems that are then in turn used to have mini-agriculture systems on campus. While traditional systems of classroom education still have a place, hands-on experience shows much higher learning retention and engagement possibilities. Farming and agricultural systems in particular have the potential to cross multiple disciplines of study in one living classroom. Students are connected to biology, botany, chemistry, mathematics, economics, engineering, resource management, cultural knowledge, and team work all in one space.

Our food waste problem is one that could be considered tragic considering the amount of people going without. Nearly 30% of all consumer food is wasted – going to landfills or incinerators which are not part of a closed loop that maximizes the potential for a regenerative economy.

This program would have the potential for the DOE to cut its disposal pickup frequency and tipping fees by 50%, resulting in an estimated 7-9 million fewer pounds of wet, organic waste and paper entering Hawaii's landfills and incinerator(s). Governor Ige, as well as the Aloha+ Challenge, have called for doubling local food production by 2020. For this to work, students have to be engaged early to learn about building soil through composting and utilizing organic resources. The Aloha+ Challenge calls for reducing the solid waste stream prior to disposal by 70 percent by 2030 through source reduction, recycling, bioconversion, and landfill diversion methods. This goal, signed by the Governor, four county Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, State Legislature, and Hawai'i Green Growth public-private partners across the state, has no hope of being achieved unless the largest sources of waste, like DOE, are addressed.

Surfrider is very excited about the possibilities of introducing these systems to schools. Healthy soils are great filters for stormwater runoff and a future generation versed in growing their own food will lead to a more stable economy with less reliance on imported materials.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rafael Bergstrom', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rafael Bergstrom
Oahu Chapter Coordinator, Surfrider Foundation



RESOURCE RECOVERY • KA'ŌHAO PROTOCOL

A partnership of Windward schools working cooperatively in the pursuit of waste reduction, soil restoration, and applied environmental education. All members participate annually in the U.S. EPA's Food Recovery Challenge and adhere to strict, safe, standardized operational procedures.

SUMMARY • JANUARY 2017

LANIKAI ELEMENTARY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Start: January 2014 • Number of students: 330 • Annual food waste: 8 tons • Food waste collection: 100% cafeteria lunch, campus-wide snacks • Other: 98% HI-5 cans and bottles, green waste, paper, cardboard, mylar • Technologies: thermal composting, vermicomposting, bokashi

Food waste recovered: 1,936 pounds. Organized by KUPU intern Jordan Nelson, Ag teachers and students from Castle High School spent two productive days at Lanikai and Kainalu helping with food catch and compost pile building. Castle Ag students will be conducting their own food waste audit in February.

Sixth grade science students designed an ingenious apparatus that captures the heat generated by compost piles to heat water to 130° to create a bucket-washing station right on site! When fully developed, this will be a very useful addition to operations at all ZWS campuses.

KA'ELEPULU ELEMENTARY

Start: August 2016 • Number of students: 185 • Annual food waste: 8 tons • Food waste collection: 100% cafeteria breakfast and lunch • Other: 100% HI-5 cans and bottles, green waste • Technologies: thermal composting

Food waste recovered: 1,548 pounds. Ka'elepulu's resource recovery program is under the leadership of parent volunteer Lindsey Whitcomb. With both KUPU interns Samantha Luhn and Tawni Kerr on hand in January, we were able to offer two-day-a-week support, bringing Ka'elepulu's all six active compost piles up to speed.

Jayne Grzebik, Director of the UH Master Gardener program in Waimanalo, met with principal Jaime Dela Cruz to discuss a formalized relationship with Ka'elepulu to assist with garden restoration and composting.

KAINALU ELEMENTARY

Start: January 2017 • Number of students: 460 • Annual food waste: 18 tons • Food waste collection: 100% cafeteria breakfast and lunch • Other: 100% HI-5 cans and bottles • Technologies: thermal composting, vermicomposting

Food waste recovered: 3,189 pounds. The newest – and biggest – school to join the Windward ZWS Hui, Kainalu's first month of resource recovery was a huge success. Their vermicomposting system, started a year ago, is now operating at full capacity of 30 pounds per week; four hot compost piles were built to accommodate over 1.5 tons of food waste. A program for sharing finished compost from the estimated annual 36 piles has been proposed.

Administration and custodial support was unequivocally enthusiastic and helpful. Children quickly picked up the sort-and-separate procedure. The cafeteria rubbish bag count decreased from 12 bags to 4 bags starting on Day One.

COMBINED JANUARY 2017 TOTALS

Period from January 9 through February 3. Includes 19 days at Lanikai, 18 days at Ka'e'epulu and Kainalu

Total students participating daily: **975**

Total food waste recovered in January: **6,673 pounds**

2017 total to date: 6,673 pounds

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 8:19 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

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

Comments: Support for composting within the HiDOE will make headway with this Bill. Every school should be composting on campus. Privately run pilot programs have all been successful, but costly for non-profits to run. It's time to institutionalize composting as a means of nutrient recycling for school gardens and school landscaping.

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 2:00 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: milholen.jennifer@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Kokua Hawaii Foundation	Support	Yes

Comments: I will be elaborating in person, but key reasons for our support of this bill are: 1) The potential for the DOE to cut its disposal pickup frequency and tipping fees by 50%, resulting in an estimated 7-9 million fewer pounds of wet, organic waste and paper entering Hawaii's landfills and incinerator(s). 2) Governor Ige, as well as the Aloha+ Challenge, have called for doubling local food production by 2020. For this to work, students have to be engaged early to learn about building soil through composting and utilizing organic resources. 3) The Aloha+ Challenge calls for reducing the solid waste stream prior to disposal by 70 percent by 2030 through source reduction, recycling, bioconversion, and landfill diversion methods. This goal, signed by the Governor, four county Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, State Legislature, and Hawai'i Green Growth public-private partners across the state, has no hope of being achieved unless the largest sources of waste, like DOE, are addressed. 4) On-site composting systems and programs provided a much-needed opportunity for students to practice diverting resources to their highest and best use and watching as they are transformed into "black gold" to support their school gardens. 5) The requirement for DOH to participate in the working group ensures that schools, and those responsible for public health, can together create an appropriately-sized set of regulations and safety measures that allow food grown on campus to be sold to benefit the school, because they have been confirmed as pathogen free. 6) The introduction of composting systems on campus provide science and math curriculum opportunities to meet national standards. In addition, I strongly encourage the addition of administrative funding to this bill to administer a grant program. The Dept. of Agriculture Farm to School program already has no budget to conduct their own program, and this would amount to an unfunded mandate for DOA in spite of its broad support across the constituents and the state agencies. Mahalo for your time. Jennifer Milholen Waste Reduction Coordinator Kokua Hawaii Foundation

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 3:11 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: natalie@kokuahawaiiifoundation.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Natalie McKinney	Kokua Hawaii Foundation	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

Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui

Coordinated through The Kohala Center



TESTIMONY
House Committee on Education
February 15, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

Island Networks & Organizations

Farm to Keiki (Preschool)

FoodCorps Hawai'i

Grow Some Good

Hawai'i Island School Garden
Network/The Kohala Center

'Iolani School

Ka Ohana O Na Pua

Kaua'i School Garden Network/
Malama Kaua'i

Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation
(ĀINA In Schools)

Maui School Garden Network

Moloka'i School Garden Network/
Sustainable Moloka'i

O'ahu Farm to School Network

State Agencies

Hawai'i Department of Agriculture:
Farm to School Program

Hawai'i Department of Education:
Hawai'i Child Nutrition Programs

Hawai'i Department of Education:
School Food Services Branch

Hawai'i Department of Health:
Healthy Hawai'i Initiative

UH CTAHR O'ahu Master Gardeners

HB1577, HD1: RELATING TO COMPOSTING.

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui **supports HB1577, HD1.**

Over one hundred active composting projects are taking place in schools across our state. The Hawai'i State Legislature is taking prudent action by hearing and passing this bill to develop a working group, composting guidelines, and a grant program for the healthy continuation and expansion of composting in schools.

Waikiki Worm Company has played a leading role in this arena and has developed duplicable methods of composting in schools through the Resource Recovery program at Lanikai Elementary Public Charter School on O'ahu. Their "Zero Waste Revolution" monthly report for December 2016 states that a total of 9,308 pounds, or 4.65 tons of food waste was recovered and composted during the Fall 2016 semester at Lanikai Elementary. A food waste audit conducted at Kainalu Elementary on O'ahu in November 2016 revealed that an average of 244 pounds of food waste is generated daily at the school during breakfast and lunch, presenting the opportunity for an annual food waste recovery of 22 tons.

Learning to reduce waste, recycle nutrients, and regenerate soils through composting are critical 21st century skills for Hawai'i's students to obtain. Composting in schools has the potential to play a major role in helping our state meet its goals for waste reduction and local food production. The Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui is available to assist with this effort through the expertise of our members and our direct access to school garden networks on all islands.

Formed in 2010, the Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui is a statewide network comprised of five island-level networks, active organizations, and representatives of the Hawai'i Departments of Agriculture, Education, and Health. Our mission is to strengthen Hawai'i's statewide farm to school and school garden movement.

Thank you very much for hearing this bill.

Aloha,

Lydi Morgan Bernal
Coordinator

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 11:27 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: kluuwai2@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaulu Lu?uwai	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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 8:43 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: jamesjtz@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/11/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Gauer	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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 1:20 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: csantoma@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/11/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Santomauro	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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 10:12 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: lydibernal@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lydi Morgan Bernal	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Composting is KEY to reducing waste and growing food security in Hawaii. Learning to recycle nutrients is an essential 21st century skill for Hawaii's students to obtain. The grant program will work well since the legwork for creating successful composting systems in schools has already been done thanks to people like Mindy Jaffe of Waikiki Worm; see Lanikai Elementary as a shining example! Thank you for hearing this bill!

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 7:04 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: leinaur001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roberts Leinau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this wise forward thinking Bill, HB 1577. Mahalo for your consideration, Bob Leinau

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 11:15 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: echapman@lanikaischool.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Espie Chapman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: On-site composting systems and programs provided a much-needed opportunity for students to practice diverting resources to their highest and best use and watching as they are transformed into "black gold" to support their school gardens.

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 1:46 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: hunakai5@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelly Perry	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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 12:53 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: klahaela@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Kimiko LaHaela Walter	Individual	Support	No

Comments: What a great way to engage our keiki in the food system! Please support! Aloha and mahalo

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

EDNtestimony

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 3:56 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: wrosenhi@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Rosen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill because composting helps reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill. It also teaches our keiki how our foodwaste and yard waste can be returned to the aina to help grow more food.

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 6:01 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: fe.m.bailey@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/15/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

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

Comments: 1) The potential for the DOE to cut its disposal pickup frequency and tipping fees by 50%, resulting in an estimated 7-9 million fewer pounds of wet, organic waste and paper entering Hawaii's landfills and incinerator(s). 2) Governor Ige, as well as the Aloha+ Challenge, have called for doubling local food production by 2020. For this to work, students have to be engaged early to learn about building soil through composting and utilizing organic resources. 3) The Aloha+ Challenge calls for reducing the solid waste stream prior to disposal by 70 percent by 2030 through source reduction, recycling, bioconversion, and landfill diversion methods. This goal, signed by the Governor, four county Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, State Legislature, and Hawai'i Green Growth public-private partners across the state, has no hope of being achieved unless the largest sources of waste, like DOE, are addressed. 4) On-site composting systems and programs provided a much-needed opportunity for students to practice diverting resources to their highest and best use and watching as they are transformed into "black gold" to support their school gardens. 6) The introduction of composting systems on campus provide science and math curriculum opportunities to meet national standards.

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 12:37 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: bellodgiabellodgia@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM

LATE

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/15/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bellodgia Yamamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing to express my strong support of measure HB1577 an important composting pilot that is an essential part of teaching students about sustainable and economically viable agricultural practices. Composting or nutrient recycling is not only a valuable tool to teach children how to build healthier soils but it is the also the most cost effective choice for the D.O.E. when compared to the related costs to import soil amendment products. This pilot is an important part of educating sustainable agricultural practices to the children who will hopefully become the future farmers our state desperately needs to secure our food soveignty!

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 11:12 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: nataliejeanf@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM



HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
natalie forster	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a farmer I support this this bill. Let's take our waste and turn it in to a local sustainable source for the building blocks for healthy soil which in turn can create nutritious food for our keiki!

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 10:37 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: tulsigreenlee@icloud.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM*

LATE

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tulsi Greenlee	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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 9:49 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: ashley.decoligny@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM*

LATE

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley de Coligny	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

EDNtestimony

From: Lindsey Whitcomb <alohawhitcombs@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:48 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: testimony from kids for HB 1577

HB1577
FEB 15, 2017
2:00 EDN COMMITTEE

Aloha,

My name is Lindsey Whitcomb and I run the school composting program at Ka'elepulu Elementary for the Windward Zero Waste Hui. I will be bringing a few kids that help run the daily lunch separation station to give testimony in support of HB1577 tomorrow, below are their prepared comments:

Hello everyone thank you for your time! My name is Ayden. I'm in 5th grade and go to Kaelepulu Elementary. I'm sure you know why I'm here but if you don't it is because I would like to persuade you to pass hb1577. Hb1577 is about getting together resources so people can work and help our compost pile at school!

There are many pros to having a compost pile at school! One of the best pros in my opinion is helping the Earth by reducing waste. In fact when Kaelepulu didn't do composting I would see so much wasted food in the garbage. But now that we have the composting we only use 1 or 2 trash can bags for the non compostable materials!

The kids work on trash duty. This is where they collect the compost, help younger children sort it out and bring the compost buckets to the composting piles! An adult has to take the temperature of the compost pile, dump the food into the pile, add mulch and many other jobs! But only one person does it all! Mrs.Lindsay is the only person who does it. Sometimes other people come in to help, but that's it.

Hi, my name is Coltin Conger. I am from Kaelepulu Elementary School, and I support this bill. The composting program is a fun way to slowly help the earth. It helps the earth by reducing food waste, and by growing plants which clean the air we breathe. The student's jobs are to separate and weigh the food, then mark the data on a white board. The adult's jobs are to make sure every thing runs smoothly and to put all of the bins on the compost pile. I like this job and it is not hard at all...except for on spaghetti day! It is an important job that is not hard to learn. Thank you for considering this bill to help make our world better, one compost pile at a time. Thank you.

Hi, I am Alivia. Thank you for taking time for me to share my thoughts about composting. I think schools should have composting. My reasoning for this is because it shows how much kids and adults waste their food. Also because it helps our environment. This program is taking the food that we don't eat, turns it into fertilizer, and sells it to farms. The money we get goes to our school so we can get more tools to help us learn. The kid's job is to separate the food, weigh it, and mark the data. the adults do the rest, such as taking the food to the piles, putting the mulch on top for it to settle. I do in fact like this job because it shows me that we need to help our environment. This job is not hard at all. Thank you so much for your time.

I apologize for this late submission.
Mahalo,

Lindsey Whitcomb

EDNtestimony

From: Lindsey Whitcomb <alohawhitcombs@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:25 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Fwd: HB1577

HB1577, hearing 2/15/17@2pm
testimony in support of bill

LATE

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jordan Nelson <jordan.nelson@kupuhawaii.org>
Subject: Re: Fwd: HB1577
Date: February 14, 2017 at 7:02:26 AM HST
To: Lindsey Whitcomb <alohawhitcombs@me.com>

Aloha,

My name is Jordan Nelson, a member of Kupu's Environmental Education Leadership Development Program. One of my core projects is working in the Windward Schools Zero Waste Hui. I knew nothing about the technologies required for a Zero Waste initiative back in October. But then I met Mindy Jaffe of Waikiki Worm Company. Ever since then, my world has changed. I am now practically forearm deep in mulch and food 3 times a week and absolutely loving it. I feel a real sense of purpose I was missing working in a regular 9-5 job. I'm making a difference in this world no matter how big or small. Food waste is a huge issue globally, but really hits home here in our islands. The reality is, we are running out of space. Technologies such as hot composting and vermicomposting are simple, easy, cost effective solutions to a growing food waste problem. We must start somewhere.

Within our Hui, we have an education program set in place through the Aina in schools program. Students are learning hands-on about hot composting and vermicomposting, along with the real science that is in each technology. I believe this lessons in elementary school are vital. The earlier is taught, the better our future on this planet. It also helps that the lessons are fun, engaging, and grades K-6, even high school, have something new to learn. At Lanikai PCS, each grade has their own lessons and responsibilities. By the end of their time at the school, these kids are hot composting and vermicomposting masters. Education is key to our program and protocol. Without it, who would be there to pass it on?

Mahalo, Mahalo, mahalo nui for your time and consideration. It means so much to us in our Hui.

On Feb 8, 2017 8:44 PM, "Jordan Nelson" <jordan.nelson@kupuhawaii.org> wrote:

Aloha,

My name is Jordan Nelson, a member of Kupu's Environmental Education Leadership Development Program. One of my core projects is working in the Windward Schools Zero Waste Hui. I knew nothing about the technologies required for a Zero Waste initiative back in October. But then I met Mindy Jaffe of Waikiki Worm Company. Ever since then, my world has changed. I am now practically forearm deep in mulch and food 3 times a week and absolutely loving it. I feel a real sense of purpose I was missing working in a regular 9-5 job. I'm making a difference in this world no matter how big or small. Food waste is a huge issue globally, but really hits home here in our islands. The reality is, we are running out of space.

Technologies such as hot composting and vermicomposting are simple, easy, cost effective solutions to a growing food waste problem. We must start somewhere.

Within our Hui, we have developed effective protocol, adequate knowledge, and a passion within our core group of volunteers. We are ready to hit the ground running and expand our efforts immediately. This proposed working group would set all of our hard work backwards unnecessarily. We are ready to tackle this issue now, head on with your support.

Mahalo, Mahalo, mahalo nui for your time and consideration. It means so much to us in our Hui.

On Feb 8, 2017 7:52 PM, "Lindsey Whitcomb" <alohawhitcombs@me.com> wrote:

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lindsey Whitcomb <alohawhitcombs@me.com>

Subject: HB1577

Date: February 7, 2017 at 10:10:36 PM HST

To: EEPtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

My name is Lindsey Whitcomb and I am writing in support of HB1577. My experience with this topic is via my work at a Kailua area elementary school, where all food waste for breakfast and lunch is composted daily. Currently, we at Ka'elepulu Elementary have diverted nearly 9,000 lbs of food waste since the beginning of the 2016-17 school year. Kainalu Elementary recently started 100% diversion of their food waste via composting and worm bins, and they process food waste at a quantity that approaches quadruple Ka'elepulu's numbers.

While I support the intent of the bill, i feel that it is likely a poor utilization of taxpayer funds to form a working group to explore the details of campus composting, since it is already being done with great success at multiple Kailua area schools. I feel that an expansion of our current program could easily be undertaken if funding was to be allocated for Resource Recovery Specialists to build & expand this proven, award-winning program. The procedures & protocols that drive the success of this program have been established through extensive subject matter knowledge, as well as field-driven trial-and-error; this is true for the equipment developed & used in our schools as well. Data supporting these points is available for your review if requested; additionally, I am attaching the most recent monthly report of our Zero Waste Schools hui.

I appreciate your time in hearing my comments.

Lindsey Whitcomb,
PharmD & composting volunteer extraordinaire

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 5:51 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: freundtheresa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM

LATE

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017
Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Theresa Freund	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair and Members of the Committee, My name is Theresa Freund and I am from Nuuanu. I am in strong support of HB1577. Hawaii's 265 schools produce a large amount of trash which currently ends up as methane-producing waste in landfills. Therefore we need to find a sustainable method of waste diversion. On-site campus composting programs would not only do that but also foster learning about scientific principles and social practices while allowing students to take responsibility for the amount of waste generated. This is an opportunity for students to learn and understand the relationships between food waste, composting, nutrient cycling, healthy soils, and local food production. This will bring us one step closer to reach the Aloha+ challenge waste reduction goals, increase local food production, and promote natural resource management. Please pass HB1577. Mahalo Nui Loa.

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

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 6:12 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: kalikoamona@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM



HB1577

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 15, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaliko Amona	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