

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

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

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

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

**FEBRUARY 9, 2017
8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 325**

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

Chairperson Lee and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1577. The purpose of this bill is to establish a two-year on-site campus composting pilot project in the department of education schools. The Department of Agriculture supports 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.

Act 218 (SLH 2015) established a Farm to School Program within the Department of Agriculture, 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, Department of Education’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.



The Department of Agriculture acknowledges the importance of increasing soil health with nutrient cycling as a low-cost alternative to imported soil amendments, which decreases input costs to producers. Funding such a pilot project in the Department of Education 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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

Date: 02/09/2017

Time: 08:30 AM

Location: 325

Committee: House Energy & Environmental
Protection

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1577 RELATING TO COMPOSTING.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a composting pilot project in DOE schools. Establishes a pilot project working group. Appropriates funds.

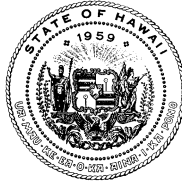
Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1577 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.

Further, the Department requests that the passage of this measure does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Board of Education-approved budget.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1577
RELATING TO COMPOSTING**

REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS LEE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Hearing Date: February 9, 2017 Room Number: 325
Time: 8:30 A.M.

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** This bill has no significant fiscal implications.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The department supports this bill. The Sanitation Branch is willing to
- 3 become a member of the composting pilot project working group with the Department of
- 4 Education.
- 5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:14 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: milholen.jennifer@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Please consider the justifications for passing this bill, which I can more fully articulate in person. 1) Creates a hands-on learning experience about food sovereignty and soil building for students. 2) Schools that have implemented this show high engagement by students. 3) Keiki need to understand science, resource management, and the economies involved through learning laboratories that engage them in the process outside of the books. 4) There is potential for the DOE to cut its disposal pickup frequency and tipping fees by 50%, resulting in an estimated 7-10 million fewer pounds of wet, organic waste and paper entering Hawaii's landfills and incinerator(s). 5) 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. 6) 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. 7) 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. 8) 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



O'ahu
Chapter

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

Hearing Date: Thursday February 9th, 2017

Hearing Time: 8:30 AM

Place: Conference Room 325

Committee: Energy & Environmental Protection

Aloha Chair Lee and members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection,

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 in 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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:27 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: yusuf.misdaq@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Yosuf Misdaq	Nefisa UK	Support	No

Comments: Composting is what every Hawai'ian should be doing. I presently live in Makiki and witness daily what is thrown away which could otherwise be composted. And I wonder where it is heading, day after day, week after week. This is a wonderfully thought-out measure and I urge you to support it. We cannot take all that this island gives to us of happiness, healing and goodness without at least doing the very minimum required of us in return. I thank you for your time, as will the land itself, should you support this measure. Yusuf Misdaq.

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 3:11 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: dana@danaland.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dana Land	Plastic Free Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:07 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: adrianaquijano@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adriana Quijano	ANO SWIMWEAR	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:25 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: zach.mermel@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zachary Mermel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this measure, for the benefit of future generations of Hawaii's residents, and the health of the 'aina in general.

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:59 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: jhtakaya@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Swart	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Many DOE schools participate in Agricultural programs, including Kea'au High School, where I teach. For Agricultural programs, composting would be beneficial For soil enrichment and waste reduction. For students, learning composting techniques would help to broaden their skill sets and allow them to see food growing as a self-fulfilling cyclical process, that they are proactive members of.

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 4:08 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: suzannakinsey@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suzanna Kinsey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 11:09 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: tika_bean@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erica Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, my name is Erica Scott and I am a Makiki resident and I strongly support 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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 10:06 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: klahaela@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Aloha, I am in strong support of the bill to implement a pilot project where our keiki have the opportunity to have a hands on experience in steps toward food sustainability and waste management. Anything that gets our keiki involved in the food production and waste recycling system is an incredible learning opportunity for them to truly understand how their food system works! It should be a fundamental criteria in schools that children learn how to be stewards of the Earth and, specifically, food sovereignty for our island keiki. I urge you to pass this bill as a starting point to reduce food waste in schools and bolster our keiki's knowledge about food systems. Mahalo for reading my testimony.

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 10:00 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: rachelrounds@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel Rounds	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:48 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: tylermcmurtry@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tyler McMurtry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:31 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: noheam23@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nohea Marlow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 8:48 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: nanueiki@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emma Yuen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 8:03 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: hiartrecycle@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marsha Hee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support the intent of HB1577 to establish a composting pilot project in DOE schools. This action directly supports state efforts to reduce our wastestream by increasing the practice of reusing and recycling through composting our organics, which is about 20% of our waste stream. I support funds to provide the necessary training, instruction, supplies, management and development of effective strategies and infrastructure to support the composting of organics generated in our public schools. Examples of successful school and community initiatives demonstrate the value of composting in our schools. The resulting compost made at schools is available for use in campus landscaping with potential cost savings and provide for garden education and projects that extend health, science and nutrition lessons. State funded composting for public schools is needed to support what teachers themselves have strived for. For an island state, let us invest in the long term benefits of teaching our children the knowledge and skills towards wise use of natural resources that contribute to sustainability and resilience for generations to come. I strongly urge you to pass HB1577.

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

HB 523 - Requires all State agencies to reasonably provide and maintain onsite collection methods at buildings and facilities under an agency's jurisdiction for the collection of recyclable materials. Appropriates funds.

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=523

This is an essential first step to Hawaii having a zero waste commitment. This is the only respectable thing to do, especially in that we must lead the way within State agencies and buildings to honor and respect the land and the future generations. No other organism on Earth generates waste. It's our time to wake up and let go of gross, wasteful, dangerous, and a rather archaic and disgusting way of making garbage, and in the public eye no less. You are the leaders...please lead in this most fundamental of practices.

HB1545 - Prohibits the use of polystyrene food and beverage containers in state-owned and state-run buildings and facilities beginning 1/1/2020. Requires that food and beverages be packed in compostable containers. Prohibits new contracts to purchase polystyrene food or beverage containers beginning 1/1/2018.

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=1545

POLYSTYRENE IS CARCINOGENIC. It was absurdly embarrassing to think that people such as former mayor Billy Kenoi, actually stated that the shift to compostable containers would wreak havoc on our food outlets. Many of us refuse to buy anything in Styrofoam. To do so is to open your cellular body to carcinogenic toxicity. Is that what Hawai'i stands for. This is a small first step to a FOAM FREE HAWAII... PLEASE PASS THIS WITH FLYING COLORS. Now, more than ever, we are looking for your courage and ecological literacy,=.

HB1577 - Establishes a composting pilot project in DOE schools. Establishes a pilot project working group. Appropriates funds.

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=1577&year=2017

YES, let's teach the children, there is no waste, just a cycling of nutrients from K through college. Please pass this unanimously. Who could be against this but someone unaware ecologically and uncaring for the future of our children's health.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 7:25 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: jrodwell@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Aloha Chairs and Representatives of the House Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Agriculture, My name is Jennifer Rodwell and I live in lovely Palolo valley. I work as a substitute teacher in both Hawaii Sate Schools and Public Charter Schools in this area for almost 7 yrs and I strongly support this bill. I have a background in Conservation Biology and Sustainability that I bring to the kids I work with and help educate them about their own personal health as well as health of the environment. For them to see their schools and government taking an active step in this direction by establishing a composting pilot project in DOE schools would send a strong message to these children and their parents. A message that will be the legacy of this legislative session and a message that would align what they learn in school with the actions that adults and their government take on their behalf. I encourage you to accept this measure and set the example. Below is some evidence to assist you in understanding the pros to begin composting in State Schools. This project would collect data on the estimated 10 million annual pounds of organics that could be kept out of the waste stream if schools were to establish on-campus composting. Creates a hands-on learning experience about food sovereignty and soil building for students. Schools that have implemented this show high engagement by students. Keiki need to understand science, resource management, and the economies involved through learning laboratories that engage them in the process outside of the books. 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. 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. 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. The introduction of composting systems on campus provide science and math curriculum opportunities to meet national standards. If passed this bill would align perfectly with HB1545 which proposes banning Styrofoam in all governmental institutions many of which would be schools. This would promote the use of biodegradable plates which are an essential component to composting food waste as this carbon source is necessary in the composting/breakdown process - close to zero waste and big financial, savings and/or production! Mahalo nui for your time, hard work and consideration!

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 4:54 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: rdacks@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel Dacks	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill has so many benefits! It provides an opportunity for our children to connect with the natural world. It reduces waste in our landfills. It creates organic fertilizers for growing more food. It's a win, win, win situation.

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 4:54 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: mollymamaril@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Molly Mamaril	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 3:59 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: haleyrandell9@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Haley Randell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 3:54 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: dawilkinson83@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 3:38 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: lydibernal@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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 skill for Hawaii's students to obtain. 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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 3:08 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: misscumings@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: My name is Laura Cummings and I am a resident of Haleiwa and work at Sunset Beach Elementary School. I am writing in full support of HB1577. *The potential for the DOE to cut its disposal pickup frequency and tipping fees by 50%, resulting in an fewer pounds of "trash" entering Hawaii's landfills. *Composting systems on campuses and programs to teach composting provide a needed opportunity for students to practice diverting waste and using resources wisely. *Composting systems on campus provide science learning opportunities appropriate for both the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards (what we currently use) as well as Next Generation Science Standards (which have been adopted by our schools to switch to in the next couple of years). Thank you for your time and consideration.

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 2:59 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: justpeachy242@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fawn Liebengood	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Composting is amazing! I'd love to see it in schools. Composting means less rubbish in our environment.

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 2:01 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: doorae@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
doorae shin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, My name is Doorae Shin, and I am a resident of Manoa Valley. I am writing in support of HB1577. A DOE Composting Pilot Project would save the DOE resources and money, and be an amazing component of education for Hawai'i's youth. Waste reduction and diversion are key to a sustainable future, and teaching and showcasing these skills and concepts to youth will be truly beneficial to the next generation of Hawai'i's leaders. Thank you, Doorae

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:55 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: aileenwilkie@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Please support composting in schools. Teaching our children the benefits of composting will help ensure Hawaii Islands verdant future and keep food waste out of the landfill. Thank you.

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 1:42 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: ladyvonblack@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cassandra Pace	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:36 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	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

EEPttestimony

From: Lindsey Whitcomb <alohawhitcombs@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 10:11 PM
To: EEPttestimony
Subject: HB1577
Attachments: Summary-JanZeroWaste.pdf; ATT00001.txt

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:49 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: karenrosen@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Please support this bill which establishes a composting pilot project in DOE schools and establishes a pilot project working group. Also, please appropriate funds. This is an important next step!

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

Aloha members of the committee,

I am writing in full support of HB1577 establishing a composting pilot project in DOE schools in Hawaii. As a part time educator, I have had the privilege of traveling to many different schools around the state and interacting with the students, teachers and administrative staff from many different schools and for all ages. One of the best I came across was Kaimuki middle school, where kids played an active role in composting of their cafeteria's food waste, managing their worm bins to create great soil and then utilizing that soil for plantings and watering of those plants. These students had a way to get out of the classroom and learn and life skills and felt that their work was making a difference. Teachers used all opportunities as a teaching moment, whether it was geology, entomology, or the carbon cycle. These students seemed to have a much stronger association of what their ecological footprint was and were more in tune with their food and what happens to the waste. What a great benefit for those kids, not to mention that this in-house treatment of waste also saves tax payer monies by having less weight to haul off to the incinerator/landfill.

In summary I ask that you please consider this comment to put your support behind HB1577 establishing composting pilot project in DOE schools here in Hawaii.

Thank you for your time,
Adrianna Ortiz, resident at 3303 Hooper Place, Honolulu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:34 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: kalanitm@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalani Matsumura	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: As a CTAHR extension agent in urban horticulture, I testify that diverting 100 percent of DOE school food waste from dumpsters to onsite composting or offsite animal feed operations is practical and will improve economic and environmental sustainability in Hawaii. There is a lot of support for this effort from CTAHR, Hawaii Farm to School and School Garden Hui members, government, and community members. The experience and technical knowledge to ensure proper implementation of an onsite composting program exists within CTAHR, faculty and administration at many schools, HFSSGH members, and volunteers. The top expert in the state that I have met is Mindy Jaffe, who currently manages a very successful zero-waste program at Lanikai Elementary. Hiring a full-time paid composting leader and allocating at least 3 hours per day of one staffmember's time at every school will ensure success of this program.

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:08 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: cpbiotech@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmen Paguirigan	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

HB1577 Submit Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO COMPOSTING.

Report Title: DOE; Composting; Pilot Project; Working Group; Established; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Establishes a composting pilot project in DOE schools. Establishes a pilot project working group. Appropriates funds.

Introducer(s): C. LEE, BROWER, CREAGAN, EVANS, JOHANSON, KEOHOKALOLE, LOWEN, QUINLAN, THIELEN

February 8, 2017

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen and members of the committee:

My name is Carolyn Unser from Oahu's North Shore and a graduate of Hawaii's Agricultural Leadership Program. I am writing in strong support of HB1577, which seeks to establish a statewide model for on-site campus composting with a pilot program and working group. I am encouraged by its purpose to address opportunities in waste diversion and more importantly to develop nutrient-rich soils. Hawaii's soils are deficient and contain very little organic matter offering far from ideal growing conditions. Amending soils with organic matter such as compost will enhance soils production capability.

Bill 1577 seeks to establish a working group that includes a variety of experts and influential representatives to ensure this program's success. I suggest also inviting members from the agricultural community to be part of the group who have experience with composting and which would further establishing networks and relationships with local farms and other entities that would be able to accept surplus food waste. Kahuku High and Intermediate School has had success with their composting program. Students became aware of where their waste goes, the chemical processes of composting, were encouraged to produce less food waste, and have benefited from the science curriculum and increased civic responsibility.

HB1577 is an important measure for the future of agriculture in Hawai'i. I urge you to support HB1577. Thank you kindly for considering my testimony in strong support of the measure.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Unser

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 4:06 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: dmitts@kohalacenter.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Mitts	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	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

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 2:38 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: john@sustainableislandproducts.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JOHN ELKJER	Individual	Support	No

Comments: What a fantastic way to educate our youth toward sustainability. This is a fantastic bill with long term positive effects. I urge you to vote yes!!!!

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

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 6:41 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: rebecca.a.pang@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM*

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Pang	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

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 6:37 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: fe.m.bailey@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: My name is Fe Bailey and I am a resident of Oahu. I am writing in full support of HB(1545/1577). I am a parent volunteer at Kainalu Elementary School, Chair for the Campus Improvement Committee. We are working hard since we came back from Winter Break to make our school a Zero Waste Campus. We have successfully processed all food waste from breakfast and lunch into hot compost piles, to the date approximately 2 tons of food waste, and we have reduced 13 bags of daily trash down to 4. However, something that really irritate all of us parents, docents, teachers is the use of styrofoam all the reasons are listed below, but in a nut shell, it has to change! HB1545 prohibits state agencies and facilities (including the DOE & Public schools) from purchasing or using polystyrene (foam) for food & beverages. It requires that compostable materials are used. EPS is designed to be used it once, and according to the US EPA less than 1% of foam is recycled nationally. 0% of EPS Foam is recycled locally. EPS Foam is composed of over 90% air, so even when properly disposed of, foam products easily fly out of trash bins and dumpsters, and they enter into the natural environment, eventually polluting our ocean and negatively impacting ocean health and threatening marine wildlife. EPS Foam also breaks apart more easily and quicker than other plastics, making it more difficult to clean up than other plastics and easier for animals to mistake as food and ingest Styrene is reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen and a confirmed animal carcinogen as reported by the National Institute of Health in their Report on Carcinogens (2011); this conclusion is also endorsed by the National Academy of Sciences (2014) If burned at HPower, one compostable clamshell burns 1.76 times greater energy compared to one EPS Foam clamshell of the same size. And burning compostable products come without the toxic ash or smoke that EPS foam creates in the burning process. Talking points For HB1577 (DOE Composting Pilot): HB1577 establishes a funded DOE composting pilot program, and creates a working group with stakeholders and the DOH. 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. 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. 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. 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

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:06 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: p.lahaela.walter@posteo.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017
Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Dear Chair, Vice Chair, Committee Members, Learning about the basic natural processes leading to sustainably produced, healthy, and nutritious food and to the recycling of food waste and its soil nutrients in a hands-on manner is probably one of the most important lessons a young human being can and should learn. I strongly urge you to support this bill. Thank you, Philipp LaHaela Walter

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

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:53 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: ryan@earthfriends.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ryan christopher	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need to teach our children about the proper way to dispose of trash and that includes keeping food waste out of the landfills and composting it. They are our future and we need to teach them the tools to survive the challenging world and climate we are leaving behind for them. Thanks

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

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 6:02 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: zsrparlee@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zachary Parlee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB1577. As a teacher at Konawaena Middle School, I see this bill as filling a need in regards to our waste disposal. We have no mandated recycle pick up at our school, which means that colleague of mine has led efforts in building partnerships with Atlas Recycling so that recycled materials are not thrown away with rubbish. This bill would make it much easier at our school and others to malama aina and do the right thing.

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

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:24 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: leinaur001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: I teach composting to third graders and there are so many lessons to be learned from this practice. We need a society that wastes less and this bill will help to instill that ethic.

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

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this testimony in support of a DOE composting pilot.

As a Sustainability Coordinator of an Oahu elementary school for the academic year of 2015-2016 (at Sunset Beach Elementary School) I worked with students to compost food waste produced during our lunch time. Each day at a school of 350 students, we were typically able to divert 20-60 pounds of food waste depending on the meal that day.

Some foods must be composted differently due to the type of organisms used in the composting process. Many microbial composting techniques can process foods that are cooked and have few foods that are not allowed, using worms to compost requires that the food is not cooked and there are a handful of restrictions, and composting in large piles over time exposed to the elements requires some restrictions as well. However, using a combination of these methods, nearly all food lunch waste is compostable and can be a valuable source of money for a school and a great learning opportunity for students.

My students learned how to compost food and were able to use that compost to grow food in our school gardens. Over time, the schools could also generate money from the valuable compost created if such a program were to exist for schools to legally take advantage of this opportunity.

I support the implementation of composting at schools because overall it is a great way to divert food waste from landfills, return food nutrients to the soil, educate children, and create funding where we are currently, and literally, throwing it away.

Mahalo,

Hannah Hubanks

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 10:12 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: kim@kokuahawaiifoundation.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1577 on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM

HB1577

Submitted on: 2/9/2017
Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Johnson	Kokua Hawaii Foundation	Support	No

Comments: To Whom It May Concern, I support HB1577 to create a Department of Education Composting Pilot program for the following reasons: 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. Mahalo, Kim Johnson Founder & President 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

LATE



RESOURCE RECOVERY
KA'OHAO PROTOCOL

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
February 9, 2017, 8:30 am
State Capitol Rm. 325

In consideration of HB 1577, relating to composting

IN SUPPORT with reservations

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I am Mindy Jaffe, owner of Waikiki Worm Company and currently the Coordinator for the Windward Zero Waste School Hui. I have been providing waste reduction programs in the public schools since 2005.

While I support the intent of this bill, it seems an inappropriate expenditure of time and taxpayer money to form a working group and pilot program when procedures for safe and effective campus composting have been long established, tested, and approved.

In the 2013-2014 School Year, Pearl City High School successfully diverted 40 tons of organic waste on site with vermicomposting, thermal composting, Black Soldier Fly Larvae bioconversion and bokashi fermentation. This project earned PCHS a national award from the U.S. EPA and a request from DOE Facilities Administrator Gilbert Chun to expand the program to the entire Pearl City Complex.

In 2014-2015, Lanikai Elementary Public Charter School paired community service, science education, and an extensive gardening program with a Zero Waste initiative that diverted 100% of organic waste generated on campus. Lanikai was named #1 in the Nation (category Schools K-12) in the EPA's Food Recovery Challenge and received a Regional EPA award for project narrative. The school produced a video, "Welcome to Lanikai School's Zero Waste Revolution" which received over 215,000 views, from as far away as Dubai.

Members of the Committee are encouraged to Google "Lanikai Zero Waste video" to see for themselves what a successful program – currently in place and the model for projects nationally and worldwide – looks like. Two other schools in the area, Ka'elepulu Elementary and Kainalu Elementary, practice the same protocol and daily achieve 100% food waste recovery with campus composting. We are far, far beyond a pilot.

Our challenge today is building a vigorous workforce of professional Resource Recovery Specialists to meet the growing demand for these proven alternative waste management practices.

Please, let's move forward – rather than backward – in this effort.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Mindy Jaffe
Coordinator,
Windward Zero Waste School Hui

LATE

Aloha,

My name is Jordan Nelson, I am a Kailua resident and a member of Kupu's Environmental Education Leadership Development Program. I am writing today in support of HB 1577. One of my core projects in Kupu 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.