



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

Date: 02/01/2017
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 255 RELATING TO LOCALLY GROWN FOOD.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the farm to school grant program to provide grants to farmers participating in the Hawaii farm to school program. Creates the farm to school grant program special fund. Makes an appropriation.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (DOE) supports H.B. No. 255, which establishes the farm to school grant program special fund, provided that it does not replace or adversely impact other Department priorities.

The DOE requests an amendment to grant authority and funding to establish a farm to school coordinator and a farm to school grant special fund manager. These positions will work in collaboration and support of the stakeholders such as the coordinator of the Department of Agriculture and the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. This will enable the DOE to fulfill the many goals and requests of the farm to school grant special fund bill.

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 1, 2017
2:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 309**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 255
RELATING TO LOCALLY GROWN FOOD**

Chairperson Takumi and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 255. The purpose of this bill is to establish the farm to school grant program to provide grants to farmers participating in the Hawaii farm to school program by creating the farm to school grant program special fund with appropriations. The Department of Agriculture (DOA) supports this measure provided it does not impact the department's priorities submitted in the Executive Budget.

Act 218 (SLH 2015) established a Farm to School Program within DOA, 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 "[e]nrich the local food system through the support and increase of local food procurement for the State's public schools and other institutions" HRS §141-11(a)(3). Through the Farm to School Coordinator, the Department has collaborated with stakeholders in the Lieutenant Governor's Advisory Group, as well as working directly with the State Procurement Office, Department of Education (DOE), Hawaii Child Nutrition Program, Department of Health, farmers, distributors, and nonprofit entities, and it is apparent that Hawaii farmers interested in



producing food for our schools need assistance to comply with the prerequisite purchasing demands of state contracting.

The DOE demands Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Certification in order to purchase directly from farmers. DOA supports DOE's risk assessment to mandate a certification in compliance with the directives of the Food and Drug Administration's Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). However, DOA has noted through outreach that few farms have GAP certification necessary to bid for a State contract, identifying GAP Certification as a hurdle that farmers interested in selling Hawaii-grown products to the State need assistance on. Farmers need assistance through State resources to meet certain requirements in providing local food to Hawaii's keiki and this program seeks to do just that.

We note that a similar bill, SB807, also establishes a Farm to School Grant Program, though lists administration with HDOA with a 0.5 FTE Grant Administrator, instead of this measure's administration listed with DOE.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR

LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 255

February 1, 2017
2:00 p.m.
Room 309

RELATING TO LOCALLY GROWN FOOD

House Bill No. 255 establishes a farm to school grant program within the Department of Education (DOE) and the Farm to School Grant Program Special Fund to be administered by the DOE. The bill provides that the DOE is to coordinate with the Department of Agriculture to ensure that the grant program assists farmers participating in the Hawaii Farm to School Program under Section 141-11, HRS, by providing grants for purposes that include complying with requirements of the Food and Drug Administration Food Safety Modernization Act and harmonizing the price at which farmers must sell their products with the price at which the DOE can afford to buy the products.

The bill authorizes the deposit of appropriations made by the Legislature into the special fund. Moneys in the special fund are to be used for the purposes of the farm to school grant program. In addition, the bill makes an appropriation of \$2 million in FY 18 and FY 19 to be deposited into the special fund to be expended by DOE for the purposes of the bill.

The Department of Budget and Finance, as a matter of general policy, does not support the creation of any special fund which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3 of the HRS. Special funds should: 1) serve a need that cannot be implemented under the general fund appropriation process; 2) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program; 3) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 4) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. In regards to House Bill No. 255, it is uncertain if there is a clear link between the program and the sources of revenue and if the special fund will be self-sustaining.



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

February 1, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

TESTIMONY ON HB 255
RELATING TO LOCALLY GROWN FOOD

Room 309
2:00 PM

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

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau supports HB 255, establishes the farm to school grant program to provide grants to farmers participating in the Hawaii farm to school program and creates the farm to school grant program special fund.

HFB strongly supports increased use of locally grown agricultural products, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy and poultry products in our schools and other public institutions. This will truly be a significant step towards increasing our levels of self-sufficiency

Many formal and informal studies have been done addressing farm to school programs. Our farmers and ranchers have tried to work with the procurement system and can speak to the shortcomings of the system. For example, supplying a school or schools within a geographic area is feasible, but providing to the entire school system is not. We need to focus on working with the procurement system to make institutional markets accessible while considering the capacity of farmers and ranchers in Hawaii. Assistance to farmers on how to navigate the system should be a priority.

HFB appreciates the support by the legislature in our past efforts to help Hawaii's farmers achieve compliance with the FDA Food Safety and Modernization Act. As the actual rule has been rolled out by FDA the immensity of the task is becoming evident. The final details are still not clear as the agency themselves have finished articulating the details of the measure but training sessions have been delayed. However, basic requirements about water treatment and refrigeration are clear. This will mean changes on many of our farms. Cooperative efforts will be important to ensure affordability. The Department

will play a key role in not only facilitating training with the University and other partners but also identifying implementation measures needed.

HFB respectfully requests your support in moving this measure forward to ensure that our farmers that are participating in the farm to school program are able to comply with FSMA.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 12:03 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: ablukens@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB255 on Feb 1, 2017 14:00PM*

HB255

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 1, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Lukens	Hawaii Center for Food Safety	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: Sunday, January 29, 2017 9:04 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: cchaudron08@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB255 on Feb 1, 2017 14:00PM

HB255

Submitted on: 1/29/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 1, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Camila Chaudron	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear representatives, my name is Camila Chaudron and I am from the Manoa/Makiki area. I support this measure because I believe that the farm-to-table initiative is an important part of a child's education. The more children learn about where their food comes from, the more they can make healthy, informed decisions about which foods to eat. This will make them more discerning citizens and informed consumers, and might even lead to a resurgence in local farming in the future. This program has tremendous potential to help the children and future of our State. Thank you for supporting this measure. 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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 9:41 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: jamesjtz@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB255 on Feb 1, 2017 14:00PM

HB255

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 1, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

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

Comments: In contrast to all the connectivity through technology and mobile phones, I believe this generation needs a reawakening to connect to their environment, their sense of place that is physical and real, not just a farmville game application on their smart phones, but a sense of responsibility where consequences for their well-beings are real.

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

I support HB 255. Hawaii is an unsustainable state due to imports of over 85% of our food and 95% of our textiles. The Farm to School pathway engages local farmers to provide local food to our children, thus decreasing our dependence on imported food. When children can personally connect to their food, they are more likely to engage in the promotion and growing of the food, making our state more sustainable.

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 11:15 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: megan.pittsley@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB255 on Feb 1, 2017 14:00PM*

HB255

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 1, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Fox	Malama Kauai	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: Wednesday, February 1, 2017 7:08 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: lydibernal@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB255 on Feb 1, 2017 14:00PM

HB255

Submitted on: 2/1/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 1, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

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

Comments: Mahalo for supporting Hawaii's farmers and farm to school 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