

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:24 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** jflowers7733@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB453 on Mar 15, 2017 13:15PM\*

**HB453**

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for AEN on Mar 15, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jerry Wayne FlowersJr	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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



## We Grow 93% of Hawaii Island Agriculture Crops

~ 625,000 acres of land in production ~ \$194 Million in Revenue ~

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### Founding Association Members

Hawaii Papaya Industry  
Association (HPIA)

Hawaii Cattlemen's Council

Big Island Banana Growers

Hamakua, Hilo & Kohala Farm  
Bureau Counties

Hawaii Floriculture & Nursery  
Association

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

### HB 453, HD1 - Relating to AGRICULTURE

February 7, 2017, 8:30 a.m. - Conference Room 325

March 14, 2017

**LATE**

### RE: HB 453, HD1, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE (SUPPORT)

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of the AEN  
Committee:

On behalf of Hawaii Farmers & Ranchers United we collectively represent 97% of all agricultural revenue on Hawaii Island; \$194 Million out of a total of \$202 total agricultural revenue, and almost 3,000 farmers and ranchers working on 630,000 acres of land.

HFRU supports HB 453, HD1, which requires DOA to provide grants to farmers to assist them in paying for the costs of compliance with the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act and state food safety laws.

The extraneous costs to become FSMA compliant are causing farmers to re-evaluate their futures. Many are choosing to retire from farming other than comply with food safety regulations. We must provide incentives for our third and fourth generations farmers; rather than forcing them out of business by adding additional costs and burdens on them. If we're going to increase food production, we need every farmer we have now + new farmers.

We ask that you Support HB 453, HD1 and help grow and sustain Hawaii agriculture. We appreciate your consideration of our comments.

Mahalo,

Lorie Farrell

**From:** [Mark Takemoto](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:31:15 AM

---



**From:** marktakemoto.hi@gmail.com <Mark Takemoto>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment;

RE: HB 728, HD1 – Relating to Agriculture (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairman Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of AEN:

I support HB 453, HD1, which requires DOA to provide grants to farmers to assist them in paying for the costs of compliance with the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act and state food safety laws.

Hawaii cannot afford to further lose farmers as we strive to increase local food production. We want to incentivize our farmers' ability to continue their operations and provide Hawaii with

abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Mark Takemoto

**From:** [Shiloh Swanson](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:39:26 PM

---

**From:** shiloh\_mks@hotmail.com <Shiloh Swanson>

**LATE**

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

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The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment;

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Shiloh Swanson



**From:** [Sarah Thompson](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:50:53 PM

---

**From:** sarahentm@gmail.com <Sarah Thompson>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Sarah Thompson

Lawai

HI



**From:** [Douglas Vincent](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 11:15:55 PM



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**From:** douglasvincent@gmail.com <Douglas Vincent>

**Message:**

Help farmers, help keep our food safe. This bill would reduce the costs of compliance with FSMA for our farmers.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

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Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Douglas Vincent

**From:** [Rhonda Stoltzfus](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 11:16:32 PM

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**LATE**

**From:** stoltzfus34@yahoo.com <Rhonda Stoltzfus>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Rhonda Stoltzfus

Kihei

HI

**From:** [Lorie Farrell](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 11:19:40 PM



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**From:** lorie.farrell@gmail.com <Lorie Farrell>

**Message:**

Farmers are quitting rather than invest in FSMA compliance!

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

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Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Lorie Farrell

Honokaa

Hawaii

**From:** [Steve Stefanko](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 12:02:56 AM

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**From:** steveakakafallsfarm@gmail.com <Steve Stefanko>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

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Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Steve Stefanko



**From:** [Andrew Arcxe](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:10:49 AM

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**From:** mahiai13@yahoo.com <Andrew Arcxe>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Andrew Arcxe

Hoolehua

HI

**From:** [Scott Hanief](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:26:06 AM

**LATE**

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**From:** shanief@beihawaii.com <Scott Hanief>

**Message:**

Help the farmers!

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

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Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Scott Hanief

Lihue

HI

**From:** [Robert Gandia](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:30:33 AM

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**From:** robert.gandia@outlook.com <Robert Gandia>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Robert Gandia

**From:** [Alika Napier](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:43:06 AM

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**LATE**

**From:** aliks1011@gmail.com <Alika Napier>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Alika Napier



**From:** [Ka'ohi Mokuhali'i](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:56:59 AM



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**From:** kaohi@kmfarmandranch.com <Ka'ohi Mokuhali'i>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Ka'ohi Mokuhali'i

**From:** [Silvia Barber](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 6:15:55 AM

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**LATE**

**From:** gianetti.barber@gmail.com <Silvia Barber>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Silvia Barber

WAIALUA

HI

**From:** [Glenn Toyama](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 6:18:39 AM

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**From:** hawnflowgrdn@hotmail.com <Glenn Toyama>

**Message:**

I support

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

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Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Glenn Toyama

**From:** [Thomas Kafsack](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 6:56:32 AM

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**From:** info@surfinggoatdairy.com <Thomas Kafsack >

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Thomas Kafsack



**From:** [John Gordines](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:15:22 AM

**LATE**

**From:** gordines@kauaiflowers.com <John Gordines>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

John Gordines

Kapaa

HI

**From:** [Aileen Yeh](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:21:40 AM

---



**From:** aye@hawaii.rr.com <Aileen Yeh>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Aileen Yeh

**From:** [Harold Keyser](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:21:51 AM

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**From:** harold.keyser@gmail.com <Harold Keyser>

**LATE**

**Message:**

This is the type of support needed to help increase local food production.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

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Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Harold Keyser

**From:** [Mario Gaggero](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:03:51 AM

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**From:** tanegg@gmail.com <Mario Gaggero>

**LATE**

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

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abundant safe food.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Mario Gaggero

Kihei

HI



**From:** [Judith Rivera](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:24:30 AM

---



**From:** judith.rivera.rivera@gmail.com <Judith Rivera>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

Relating to Agriculture

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Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Judith Rivera

**From:** [Raymond Foster](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:42:43 AM

---

**LATE**

**From:** rfoster252@gmail.com <Raymond Foster>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Conference Room 224 @ 1:15 PM

SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

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Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Raymond Foster

**From:** [Sarah Styan](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 453, HD1 - Provide grants to local Farmers for FSMA Compliance  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:22:28 AM



---

**From:** sarah.styan@hawaiiantel.net <Sarah Styan>

**Message:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

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SUPPORT for HB 453, HD1

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Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Sarah Styan

Hanapepe

HI



**LATE**

March 15, 2017

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair and Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Agriculture  
Hawaii State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania St.  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association (HAAA) **strongly supports HB 453 HD1**, "Relating to Agriculture." Aquaponics is considered to be one of the most sustainable agricultural systems, and is ideal for food production in Hawaii because of its economical use of land area, water, and nutrients. At HAAA's annual conference that was held February 24 at Kapiolani Community College, we were informed that the FDA would likely consider each module of an aquaponic system to be a separate water system that would require extensive annual water sampling in order to comply with FSMA. This sampling requirement will create a significant financial burden on commercial aquaponic producers. The grants proposed by HB 453 HD1 could help offset this burden. We therefore respectfully urge you to pass HB 453 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frederick M. Mencher".

Frederick M. Mencher, for  
Ronald Weidenbach  
President, Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association