



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Director, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Friday, February 24, 2017
9:35 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
SB 1313
RELATING TO HAWAII FOOD RESILIENCY.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports SB 1313, provided the appropriation does not replace and Administration's priorities requested in the Executive Budget.

SB 1313 makes various appropriations to implement the recommendations of the 2012 *Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy* (Strategy) by requiring the Department of Agriculture to establish a strategy and goals for increase food security and self-sufficiency, in line with the recommendations of the Strategy. The funding would assist the Department of Agriculture to produce project promotional materials along with other endeavors; expand and improve branding and labeling program for locally grown food; promote farmers markets; a farm to school pilot program in charter schools of the state; develop good agricultural practices for school gardens; establishment of specialists to certify farm food safety; develop regional agriculture infrastructure master plans; restore positions in food inspection, pest control, and biosecurity; restore positions in market research and agricultural statistics. Funding would also assist the University of Hawaii to provide funding for research, training, and education on agricultural food development and food security.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

**FEBRUARY 24, 2017
9:35 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211**

**SENATE BILL NO. 1313
RELATING TO HAWAII FOOD RESILIENCY**

Chairperson Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 1313. This bill develops the Hawaii Food Resiliency Initiative and establishes the Hawaii Food Resiliency Task Force. The Department supports the intent of this measure provided it does not impact the Department's priorities listed in the Executive Budget.

The Department, through its existing branches and divisions, currently carries out the functions outlined in this piece of legislation. The Department appreciates the appropriation section within the bill and believes that given increased resources, the Department would be able to coordinate and report back to the legislature regarding the various ongoing efforts that are outlined by the bill. Increased resources would greatly support the goal of food resiliency.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, February 24, 2017 at 9:35 a.m.

By

Rachel Novotny, Interim Dean

And

J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 1313 – RELATING TO HAWAII FOOD RESILIENCY

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1313, which makes various appropriations to implement the recommendations of the increased food security and food self-sufficiency strategy; and requires the Department of Agriculture to establish a strategy and goals for increased food security and self-sufficiency in Hawai'i.

The University of Hawai'i fully supports the goal of doubling local food production. In October 2012, the Office of Planning issued the "Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy," part of a three-volume report by a multi-agency steering committee for food security and self-sufficiency. The strategy included specific recommendations to move Hawai'i forward in food security, and away from providing only 11% of our own food. SB 1313 would provide funding to act on recommendations that were made in this report, which is both the logical outcome of a legislatively-requested task force effort, and a strong step forwards to actually achieving this important agricultural goal for the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1313.



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February 24, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS

TESTIMONY ON SB 1313
RELATING TO HAWAII FOOD RESILIENCY

Room 211
9:35 AM

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, 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.

HFB supports the intent of SB 1313, which makes various appropriations to implement the recommendations of the *"Increased Food Security and Food Self-sufficiency Strategy"* by establishing a strategy and goals for increased food security and self-sufficiency in Hawaii.

Food security, food self-sufficiency and growing agriculture are popular concepts seen in many of the measures before the legislature this year. This Legislative Session, there have been many bills introduced that support of Hawaii's Agricultural Industry. This year, HFB has introduced a package of measures addressing the real needs of our farmers and ranchers all associated with increasing farm and ranch viability.

While we do see food resiliency as a priority, we support all forms of agriculture. This measure clearly would place emphasis on food and may leave non-food enterprises neglected. Are biofuels, flowers, nursery crops, fiber (including hemp) and forestry less of a priority? These enterprises contribute beauty, energy sustainability, soil remediation, tourism, watershed protection-all high priorities to the state. We would like to see Hawaii Food Resiliency Initiative focus on all agriculture rather than just food.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
Friday, February 24, 2017 — 9:35 a.m. — Room 211

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports SB 1313, Relating to Hawaii Food Resiliency

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and reduce waste. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono strongly supports SB 1313, which makes appropriations to implement the increased food security and food self-sufficiency strategy, because it aligns with our goal of creating more locally produced food.

Increased local food production is an important, but challenging, goal for the state to accomplish. For success to occur, additional resources, especially at the State government level will need to be provided. This bill would help to fund action on many of our local farmers and ranchers most difficult challenges, including:

- Funding local branding and labeling programs
- Encouraging public institutions to purchase locally grown foods
- Assisting with food safety regulations
- Improving agricultural infrastructure
- Increasing land availability
- Supporting food hubs
- Developing an agricultural workforce

This bill would further support the Department of Agriculture to measure its goals with metrics. Ulupono is a consistent supporter of government to gathering and using more data and metrics when possible.

As Hawai'i's local food issues become more complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate this

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



committee's efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that by collaborating, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta
General Partner