

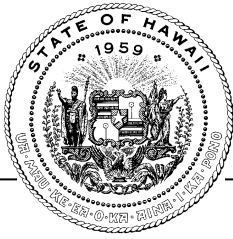
HB-1969

Submitted on: 1/23/2018 7:59:41 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/26/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William K. Chang	Citizen	Support	No

Comments:



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

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Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Director, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS
Friday, January 26, 2018
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

in consideration of
HB 1969
RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the House Committee on Economic Development and Business.

The Office of Planning (OP) provides the following comments for HB 1969. HB 1969 requires the Office of Planning, in coordination with the appropriate departmental agency, to prepare and periodically update a functional plan for seafood sustainability that expands the State's priority on food by including wild seafood as a viable food source.

While understanding Hawaii's seafood sustainability is an important aspect to the planning of Hawaii's overall food sustainability, the Office of Planning recommends that the Department of Agriculture is the most appropriate departmental agency to prepare and update the State Agricultural Functional Plan. Hawaii's Agricultural Functional Plan was last updated in 1991 and would benefit from an update sought by this legislation.

The State Legislature recently revised the functional planning process through Act 82 (2017). Which streamlined the State's functional planning process to be conducted by the "lead

state agency” to be able to update their own respective functional plan. The Office of Planning will continue to assist the lead state agency in the planning process.

Finally, subsection (c) of the measure may conflict with Hawaii Revised Statutes §226-56 (c), which requires the Governor to transmit the approved state functional plans to the legislature for its information.

The Office of Planning offers the following amendments:

“SECTION 1. (a) Pursuant to section 226-55, Hawaii Revised Statutes, department of agriculture, in coordination with the office of planning, shall prepare and periodically update a functional plan for seafood sustainability that expands the State's priority on food by including wild seafood as a viable food source.”

“(b) As part of the functional plan for seafood sustainability, the department of agriculture shall consider the following:”

“(c) The governor shall submit the functional plan pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes §226-56, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2019.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

HB-1969

Submitted on: 1/24/2018 9:15:18 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/26/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randall Nishimura		Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Chair Evans and members of the House Committee on Economic Development and Business.

For the record, my name is Randall Nishimura, testifying in favor of proposed House Bill 1969, relating to food sustainability.

It has been a long time since the State has come to realize the importance of the local seafood industry and its contributions as an important food source. The Bill will encourage further development of the seafood industry which contributes to our economy and our tax base not only through its direct sales of seafood, but the multiple layers of support industries associated with the fleets, facilities, their maintenance and supplies.

While I am not a fisherman nor directly connected to the seafood industry, I am supportive of the industry for its potential to expand career opportunities for our youth. Fishing and aquaculture is hard work and recognizing its value to the State is long overdue. This bill will hopefully re-energize an industry that has competition from foreign fleets, the myriad of environmental regulations and the general attitude that this industry remains healthy on its own. Support from the State to ensure its viability is critical to ensure sustained seafood at reasonable prices.

I urge you to support this legislation and ensure the viability of this industry.

Mahalo,

Randall Nishimura

3520A Kahumoku Road

Lihue, HI, 96766

HB-1969

Submitted on: 1/24/2018 1:12:04 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/26/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl M Jellings Sr	Fishermen	Support	Yes

Comments:

In Support

Carl P Jellings Sr

HB-1969

Submitted on: 1/24/2018 10:58:24 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/26/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joni Kamiya		Support	No

Comments:

We need to consider all food sources and focus on a self sustaining plan.

HB-1969

Submitted on: 1/25/2018 12:14:20 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/26/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII
TO THE COMMITTEE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018
Friday, January 26, 2018
10:00 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 309**

RE: Testimony in Support of HB 1969, RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY

To the Honorable Cindy Evans, Chair; the Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Economic Development and Business:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill No. 1961, relating to food sustainability. The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of House Bill No. 1969 and support its passage.

House Bill No. 1969 is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it "encourages the responsible development of ocean resources in order to achieve sustainability of our marine resources, and ensure and

improve the health of our reef and marine life. . . . It recognizes the importance of the ocean as a life-sustaining resource. We must protect its ecological balance while promoting the cultivation of ocean resources as a step toward greater self-sufficiency. . . . We support democratic participation of citizens and residents to protect (i) valuable coastal ecosystems and reefs from misuse and (ii) beaches for public use and recreation. The Hawai'i Coastal Zone Management (CZM) law, HRS Chapter 205A, currently provides for public participation in management of coastal resources." (DPH Platform, Lines 78-80, 90-91, 427-430 (2016)).

Given that House Bill No. 1969 requires the office of planning, in coordination with the appropriate departmental agency, to prepare and periodically update a functional plan for seafood sustainability that expands the State's priority on food by including wild seafood as a viable food source, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Committee to support this measure as it facilitates seafood sustainability.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ **Melodie Aduja**

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889

HB-1969

Submitted on: 1/25/2018 9:38:16 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/26/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Kaneko	Hawaii Seafood Council	Support	No

Comments:

Hawaii Seafood Council

1130 N Nimitz Hwy, Suite A263

Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

info@hawaii-seafood.org

www.hawaii-seafood.org

January 25, 2018

Re: Comments in SUPPORT of HB 1969.

The Hawaii Seafood Council (HSC), a Hawaii-based non-profit organization, offers the following information that supports HB 1969 (Seafood Sustainability Plan)

As an island state, we depend on ocean resources. Ocean fish are essential to our food self-sufficiency. Wild-caught seafood contributes to food self-sufficiency through sustainably managed commercial and non-commercial fisheries within State, Federal and International waters by Hawaii based-fishers.

Seafood landings in Hawaii by Hawaii-based fishers have positive impacts for the State in terms of jobs, commerce, local food production and import substitution. The Hawaii based pelagic longline fishery produces world-class ocean fish and is the single highest value (dockside or farmgate) food producing system in Hawaii with an annual value of over \$100 million.

Creating a seafood sustainability plan for wild seafood in the State as proposed by HB 1969 is therefore essential for realistic and long-range tracking of State efforts to achieve food self-sufficiency and sustainability goals.

HSC offers to provide additional information on local wild seafood and fisheries in the on-going effort to include and recognize the significance of wild seafood production to Hawaii's people.

Sincerely,

John Kaneko MS, DVM

Program Manager

Hawaii Seafood Council



January 25, 2018

Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair
Rep. Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Hearing Date: Friday, January 26, 2018
Hearing Time: 10:00AM
Regarding: HB 1969 RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY

STRONGLY SUPPORT HB 1969 Relating to Food Sustainability

HFACT is a not-for-profit, IRS 501c(5) organization, that advocates for small boat commercial, non-commercial, and recreational fishermen throughout Hawaii. HFACT board members sit on a number of international, regional and federal fisheries management and endangered species advisory committees as well as state marine and coastal zone advisory committees; and, HFACT is thoroughly familiar with and participates in ocean and marine resource management in Hawaii and the western and central Pacific.

HFACT **SUPPORTS** HB 1969 Relating to Food Sustainability. In 2012, the state published a report entitled "INCREASED FOOD SECURITY AND FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY STRATEGY, A STATE STRATEGIC/FUNCTIONAL PLAN". While HFACT applauds the intent of the plan, the 2012 plan did not address fish and seafood. Nowhere in the plan was there recognition that fish and seafood are a critical and integral part of food security or food self-sufficiency, especially for an island State.

HFACT asks that the committee support HB 1969 so that a plan could be developed to set forth objectives, policies and actions to increase the amount of locally caught fish that is high quality food consumed by Hawaii's residents.

It is already recognized by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture that the economic impact of food import replacement is significant. The 2012 report cites that "replacing just 10% of the food Hawaii currently imports would amount to approximately \$313 million dollars which would remain in the State". The 2012 report further recommends actions to market "Buy Local/It Matters" and to brand and label local food products. HFACT agrees on all counts.

Also identified in the 2012 report is that "a critical factor towards successful implementation will be building partnerships with the increasing number of organizations involved in food self sufficiency/food security." HFACT stands ready to assist the state in this regard.

Hawai'i Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc.
75-796 Hiona Street, Holualoa HI 96725

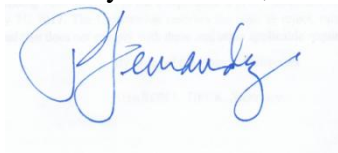
In 2017, sustainability and self-sufficiency discussions focused on agriculture and omitted the **state's largest food producing entity**, ... *which is fishing*. Hawaii's commercial fishing vessels land about \$110 million of seafood. Eighty to 90 percent of the locally caught fish stay in our islands as food for our people and visitors. By comparison, according to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, cattle production is valued at about \$65 million with only 24 percent kept in the state. Sugarcane is valued at about \$54 million with less than 5 percent kept for local consumption. Algae production is worth \$33 million with 0 percent retained locally. Papayas are worth \$11 million with half of the production staying in the state. All of the banana, milk, lettuce and taro produced in Hawaii are consumed locally, but together these local products are valued at about \$31 million, which is less than a third of the value of local commercial seafood landings.

The alternative to a viable local fishery is increased dependence on much less regulated foreign imports with negative impacts on ocean ecosystem health. Up to a third of these imports are considered to be from illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries and less than 2 percent of the imports are inspected.

HFACT believes that the argument to create and publish a functional plan for seafood sustainability is very compelling, therefore, we ask the committee for your support.

HFACT thanks the chair, vice-chair, and committee members for this opportunity to provide comment and to assist in providing food to the people of Hawaii and to assist in the conservation of Hawaii's natural resources.

Sincerely and Aloha,



Phil Fernandez
President

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 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

**JANUARY 26, 2018
10:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 309**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1969
RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY**

Chairperson Evans and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1969 that requires the Office of Planning, in coordination with an appropriated departmental agency, to prepare and periodically update a functional plan for seafood sustainability that expands the State's priority on food by including wild seafood as a viable food source. The Department of Agriculture supports the intent of this measure to the extent that it aligns with the State's initiatives to increase food self-sufficiency, otherwise, we defer to the Office of Planning.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our testimony.





January 25, 2018

Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair
Rep. Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Hearing Date: Friday, January 26, 2018
Hearing Time: 10:00AM
Regarding: HB 1969 RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY

STRONGLY SUPPORT HB 1969 Relating to Food Sustainability

HFACT is a not-for-profit, IRS 501c(5) organization, that advocates for small boat commercial, non-commercial, and recreational fishermen throughout Hawaii. HFACT board members sit on a number of international, regional and federal fisheries management and endangered species advisory committees as well as state marine and coastal zone advisory committees; and, HFACT is thoroughly familiar with and participates in ocean and marine resource management in Hawaii and the western and central Pacific.

HFACT **SUPPORTS** HB 1969 Relating to Food Sustainability. In 2012, the state published a report entitled "INCREASED FOOD SECURITY AND FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY STRATEGY, A STATE STRATEGIC/FUNCTIONAL PLAN". While HFACT applauds the intent of the plan, the 2012 plan did not address fish and seafood. Nowhere in the plan was there recognition that fish and seafood are a critical and integral part of food security or food self-sufficiency, especially for an island State.

HFACT asks that the committee support HB 1969 so that a plan could be developed to set forth objectives, policies and actions to increase the amount of locally caught fish that is high quality food consumed by Hawaii's residents.

It is already recognized by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture that the economic impact of food import replacement is significant. The 2012 report cites that "replacing just 10% of the food Hawaii currently imports would amount to approximately \$313 million dollars which would remain in the State". The 2012 report further recommends actions to market "Buy Local/It Matters" and to brand and label local food products. HFACT agrees on all counts.

Also identified in the 2012 report is that "a critical factor towards successful implementation will be building partnerships with the increasing number of organizations involved in food self sufficiency/food security." HFACT stands ready to assist the state in this regard.

***Hawai'i Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc.
75-796 Hiona Street, Holualoa HI 96725***

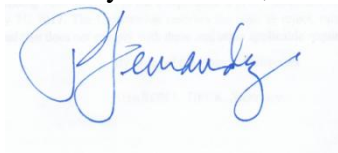
In 2017, sustainability and self-sufficiency discussions focused on agriculture and omitted the **state's largest food producing entity**, ... *which is fishing*. Hawaii's commercial fishing vessels land about \$110 million of seafood. Eighty to 90 percent of the locally caught fish stay in our islands as food for our people and visitors. By comparison, according to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, cattle production is valued at about \$65 million with only 24 percent kept in the state. Sugarcane is valued at about \$54 million with less than 5 percent kept for local consumption. Algae production is worth \$33 million with 0 percent retained locally. Papayas are worth \$11 million with half of the production staying in the state. All of the banana, milk, lettuce and taro produced in Hawaii are consumed locally, but together these local products are valued at about \$31 million, which is less than a third of the value of local commercial seafood landings.

The alternative to a viable local fishery is increased dependence on much less regulated foreign imports with negative impacts on ocean ecosystem health. Up to a third of these imports are considered to be from illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries and less than 2 percent of the imports are inspected.

HFACT believes that the argument to create and publish a functional plan for seafood sustainability is very compelling, therefore, we ask the committee for your support.

HFACT thanks the chair, vice-chair, and committee members for this opportunity to provide comment and to assist in providing food to the people of Hawaii and to assist in the conservation of Hawaii's natural resources.

Sincerely and Aloha,



Phil Fernandez
President

HB-1969

Submitted on: 1/25/2018 3:34:56 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/26/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Derek Warren	UH Manoa Student Union	Support	Yes

Comments:

Testimony for the Bill for an Act HB1969

Testifier: Derek Warren, UH Manoa Student Union

Committee for which the comments are directed: Committee on Economic Dev. and Business

Date: January 26th 2018

Time: 10:00am

Measure number: HB 1969

Statement of Support:

I Derek Warren, submit a statement of SUPPORT backing the measure HB 1969 to establish a functional plan for seafood sustainability, to increase food security and food self sufficiency.

I futhermore support the protection of the habitats that originally were used for harvesting wild seafood also known as Loko IÊ»a systems.

I request that the legislature convene support to restore original Loko IÊ»a system and protect Loko IÊ»a currently in production of fish for the community.

The benefits of restoration of Loko IÉ»a Long Term:

- Achieve Hawaiian land management
- Ensure the health of the nation
- Reach communities that strive to be self-sufficient

The benefits of restoration of Loko IÉ»a Short Term:

- Repair damage due to the fishing industry
- Maintain control of competitive markets
- Ensure fishing rights to Native Hawaiians commercial, recreational, sustenance
- Protect native fish from being endangered

HB-1969

Submitted on: 1/25/2018 3:49:47 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/26/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shyla Moon		Support	No

Comments:

Yes I support the initiative to be sustainable in Hawaii.

HB-1969

Submitted on: 1/25/2018 4:02:29 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/26/2018 10:00:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaac Moon		Support	No

Comments:

Strongly support HB1969.