



LATE

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

January 31, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

TESTIMONY ON HB 2156
RELATING TO THE HAWAII FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Room 309
2:05 PM

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kong, 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 2156, which authorizes the Department of Education to establish a farm to school program, requires the farm to school coordinator in the department of agriculture to work in collaboration with the department of education on any farm to school program, and establishes two FTE farm to school staff positions within the department of education

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. HFB also believes that learning where food comes from is an important part of our children's education. Agriculture education involves more than just learning the basics of food production, it provides the opportunity for our children to understand and appreciate the importance of agriculture.

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 about the challenges 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. Focus should now be 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.

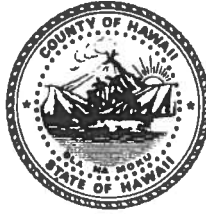
HFB recognizes the need and importance of agricultural education and school farm programs, and as a farm organization we would like to see increased emphasis of agriculture in schools. We believe that school farms serve multiple purposes. They serve not only to educate students on how to grow crops but also what it takes to turn a farm into a successful business enterprise that can be a career choice. Agronomy, economics, science, business planning, entomology, pathology and various technologies including programming, navigation and robotics are some of the courses that can evolve around the farm. Programs that teach the principles behind good agricultural practices - steps that must be taken that protect the environment, product, and worker are critical components of a school farm. The purpose of the farm should be to educate and expose students to a career choice.

Developing and maintaining an agricultural workforce should be a vital component of this program. A trained workforce with various skills is necessary to any agricultural operation. This need must be addressed along with generating interest in our youth to pursue the various careers and to become our future leaders in Hawaii agriculture. HFB supports programs and initiatives such as the FFA, 4-H, and Farm to School programs because they help to educate and reconnect our children with agriculture. Through agricultural education programs, our children will gain an understanding and appreciation for agriculture which will result in healthier eating habits, stronger support for Hawaii's agriculture industry and will contribute to Hawaii's food security.

This should be viewed as an investment in Hawaii's future to develop well-informed consumers and supporters of our local agricultural industries.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Maile Medeiros David
Council District 6
Portion N. S. Kona/Ka'ū/Volcano



Phone: (808) 323-4277
Fax: (808) 329-4786
Email: maile.david@hawaiiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

LATE

January 30, 2018

Honorable Justin H. Woodson, Chair
Honorable Sam Soturo Kong, Vice Chair
Committee Education
Hawai'i State Capitol, House Conference Room 309
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: H.B. No. 2156 – Relating to the Hawai'i Farm School Program.

Honorable Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Kong:

Aloha and mahalo a nui loa for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of H.B. No. 2156. My name is Maile David, Councilmember representing Council District 6 (rural districts of South Kona, Ka'ū and Volcano Village). I am a strong supporter of our farm to school program and the intent of H.B. 2165 relating to the Hawai'i Farm School Program.

The growing communities of the Big Island are faced with circumstances with respect to transportation and access to farmers' markets and grocery stores for many of the rural community families. The farm to school programs support and encourage students to make healthier choices. I fully support the intent of H.B. 2156 and the positive benefits for the department of agriculture and the department of education living on the Island of Hawai'i and therefore request that H.B. 2156 be favorably acted upon.

Mahalo a nui loa for your positive consideration.

Very truly yours,

Maile David

Maile David, Council Member
Council District 6, S. Kona, Ka'ū, and Volcano Village

cc:



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

Testimony of **Ford Fuchigami**
Administrative Director, Office of the Governor

Before the
House Committee on Education
January 31, 2018
2:05 p.m., Conference Room 309

In consideration of
House Bill No. 2156
RELATING TO THE HAWAII FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kong, and committee members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in **Strong Support for House Bill 2156**.

The Office of the Governor supports the expansion of the Farm to School Program by providing an additional two (2) positions within the Department of Education as allocated in the Governor's budget. The Farm to School Program supports local farmers and provides healthier meals for students. The Farm to School Program also supports our administrative initiative of doubling local food production by 2020.

We appreciate your attention and will be available to answer your questions, should you have any at this time.

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 EDUCATION

JANUARY 31, 2018
2:05 P.M.
ROOM 309

HOUSE BILL NO. 2156
RELATING TO THE HAWAII FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Chairperson Woodson and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2156. The purpose of this bill is to establish a farm to school program in the Department of Education with dedicated farm to school staff positions to work with the Farm to School Coordinator in the Department of Agriculture, to grow and sustain the Hawaii Farm to School Program. The Department of Agriculture supports this measure.

When the legislature established the Hawaii Farm to School Program in the Department of Agriculture with Act 218 (SLH 2015), the Farm to School Coordinator began working with Department of Education to "address the issues of supply, demand, procurement, and consumption of Hawaii-grown foods in state facilities" (HRS §141-11(b)), as well as accelerate school garden and farm based education, and expand the relationships between public schools and agricultural communities (HRS §141-11(a)). This measure supports the necessary coordination between the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture for farm to school success.

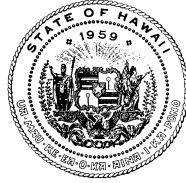
Through the leadership of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, the Department of Education's School Food Services Branch (HIDOE-SFSB) has implemented the 'Aina Pono farm to school initiative, to develop more scratch cooked meals for students and source more locally grown foods for new recipes. In support of these efforts, the



Department of Agriculture has developed the “Hawaiian Harvest of the Month” with stakeholders, as a farm to school promotion and outreach program to connect in-season Hawaii –grown food to school cafeterias, student education activities, recipe development, and farmer outreach. We have seen some success with December’s local beef month and are eager to continue working through seasonal items with HIDOE-SFSB.

The Department of Agriculture is encouraged by the increased purchases of locally grown food the Department of Education has been procuring from local vendors, and supports their continued efforts to work with our local producers. Establishing a Farm to School Program with dedicated coordinators within the Department of Education will provide the critical support to build on the momentum of the current initiative and institutionalize a program with protocols that should work for the Department of Education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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



**Testimony in SUPPORT of H.B. 2156
RELATING TO THE HAWAII FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM**

REPRESENTATIVE JUSTIN H. WOODSON, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Hearing Date: January 31, 2018

Room Number: 309

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (DOH) defers to the Department of Education
2 (DOE) regarding the fiscal impacts of this bill.

3 **Department Testimony:** The DOH supports this bill. Farm to School programs provide a
4 variety of benefits to students, parents, schools, communities, and farmers. The DOH supports
5 the establishment of a Farm to School program in the DOE to strengthen collaboration between
6 our state agencies, provide opportunities for students to receive nutrition education, improve
7 access to healthy food options in schools, and increase consumption of fruits and vegetables
8 among youth. These activities align with the Department's prevention strategy to reinforce
9 healthy food systems and support youth consumption of fruits and vegetables in order to
10 establish life-long practices that will reduce the risk for chronic diseases such as; obesity, heart
11 disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, and some cancers.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

13 **Offered Amendments:** None.



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

Date: 01/31/2018
Time: 02:05 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 2156 RELATING TO THE HAWAII FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.

Purpose of Bill: Authorizes the Department of Education to establish a farm to school program. Requires the farm to school coordinator in the department of agriculture to work in collaboration with the department of education on any farm to school program. Establishes two FTE farm to school staff positions within the department of education. Appropriates funds.

Department's Position:

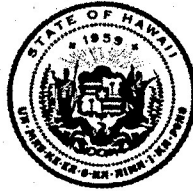
The Department of Education (DOE) supports the bill to establish two FTE farm to school staff positions within the DOE. Since this is a priority for the DOE, the Board approved budget included four farm to school positions and \$228,672 and the Governor's budget request in front of the legislature for consideration includes two farm to school positions and \$114,336.

Currently, the School Food Services Branch (SFSB) has made some good progress in implementing the Farm to School Program. However, the ability to grow the program, which includes increasing the consumption of local fruits and vegetables, procurement, developing school gardens, meal planning and providing curriculum and training is beyond SFSB current capacity and capabilities. These additional positions will assist SFSB's ability to move in a more efficient manner in increasing the Farm to School Program.

Furthermore, the result of having these two positions will not just impact the health of children; it will also impact the health of senior citizens that SFSB serves through its vended meal program. It will result in helping the economy through local agriculture growth as well as the local communities in which the schools and senior centers reside.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

LATE

FOR: HB 2156 Relating to Hawaii Farm to School Program
DATE: January 31, 2017
TIME: 2:05 P.M.
COMMITTEE: House Committee on Education
ROOM: Room 309
FROM: Sione Thompson, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kong, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 2156**, which authorizes the Department of Education (DOE) to establish a farm to school program.

The Farm to School program is intended to improve student health, develop an educated agricultural workforce, and expand the relationship between public schools and the agricultural community. The goals and outcomes for this program are especially beneficial to many charter schools who have already established ties to their local agriculture community.

The Commission supports this legislation and requests the committee clarify this measure to ensure that this program allows for the participation of public charter schools. The Commission looks forward to collaborating with this committee, the DOE, and public charter schools in moving this legislation forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

LATE

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 10:29:07 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jayme Grzebik | University of Hawaii Master Gardener Program, CES | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 1:44:21 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| michele matsuo | | Support | Yes |

Comments:

Good afternoon, Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kong, and members of the Committee

Thank you for this opportunity to testify!

I am Michele Matsuo, Chair of the Democratic Party's Education Caucus. The Ed Caucus strongly supports Farm to School initiatives, and teaching our Keiki to organically garden as well.

As you well know, it is important to our economy to keep our dollars here and the Farm to School initiative helps us do that. I personally request that you consider organic gardening and farming for our students' Farm to School experiences to keep their exposure to chemicals low. Organic agriculture is booming and it could prove important for Hawai'i in the event of shipping disruptions, like those caused by war, natural disasters, etc.

For the last nearly 3 years, Allegra Matsuo Mossman and I have been organic gardening, using dried leaves and limu for soil amendments with satisfying success. We are members of a community garden and have seen weeds turned into rich "black gold" compost. Our garden went from monthly green waste runs to the dump to zero green waste runs. The City delivers clean mulch from its tree trimming operations, to the community garden, and this not only helps in weed control but also helps break down into rich soil.

Through learning how to organically garden from resources available in the community, which might otherwise be thrown away, students can reduce waste and also teach their families and the community generally how to do the same. Some gardeners also like to use kitchen waste rather than running scraps in the kitchen sink disposal.

Thank you for your support and consideration!

Aloha

Michele Matsuo

Chair, Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus



Date: January 30, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

LATE

From: Jessica Yamauchi, Executive Director, Hawai'i Public Health Institute

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB 2156, Relating to the Hawai'i Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of HB 2156, which authorizes the Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE) to establish a Farm to School Program and establishes two HIDOE Farm to School staff positions.

The Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) works to advance policy and systems change to reduce disparities and improve the health of Hawai'i residents. HIPHI is home to the Obesity Prevention Task Force and the Hawai'i Farm to School Huiⁱ.

State-level support is critical to the success of Farm to School in Hawai'i

HB 2156 helps to support the progress made by HIDOE toward improving the quality of meals served in Hawaii's public schools. Locally sourced and scratch-cooked recipes and menus were tested in the Kohala Complex on Hawai'i Island during the 2016-2017 school year; the inaugural year of the HIDOE 'Aina Pono Farm to School Program. With lessons learned from Phase I, the HIDOE School Food Services Branch (SFSB) has recently expanded the program to Mililani High School, which is HIDOE's second largest food production site in the state, serving over 3,000 meals per day. State-level funding will continue to build upon these successes and expand Farm to School to HIDOE schools.

Strong public support for Farm to School

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for Hawaii's keiki both in school and at home through education, school gardens, and school food improvements. Public support for Farm to School is strong. In a recent public opinion pollⁱⁱ conducted for HIPHI, 93% of registered Hawai'i voters support increasing government funding to provide more locally grown food served in school meals, while 90% support increasing government funding to provide healthier foods in our schools and communities. In addition, stakeholders from the Obesity Prevention Task Force and the Hawai'i Farm to School Hui have identified this bill as a top legislative priority.

Dedicated Farm to School staff are required for statewide expansion

Ensuring that these school food improvements are made available every day to all 180,000 of Hawaii's public school students requires the full-time dedication of two Farm to School staff within HIDOE. These positions are essential to:

- Expanding school food improvements statewide
- Providing critical support for school garden programs from within HIDOE
- Establishing a protocol for serving school garden-grown produce in school cafeterias

Farm to School activities help to promote healthy habits among our keiki

In Hawai'i, a growing public health concern is that approximately 1 in 4 children entering kindergarten are overweight or obese. Among high school students, only 1 in 5 (21.2%) consume fruit daily and 1 in 10 or (11.8%) consume vegetables dailyⁱⁱⁱ. Successful Farm to School programs can increase students' physical activity, school meal participation, preference for fresh fruits and vegetables, and improve academic achievement and behavior.

HB 2156 provides essential state-level support for expanding Farm to School in Hawai'i and improving our local school food systems. We respectfully ask you to pass this measure out of committee.

Mahalo,



Jessica Yamauchi, MA
Executive Director, HIPHI

ⁱ Created by the legislature in 2012, the **Obesity Prevention Task Force** is comprised of over 40 statewide organizations, and works to make recommendations to reshape Hawaii's school, work, community, and health care environments, making healthier lifestyles obtainable for all Hawai'i residents.

The **Hawai'i Farm to School Hui** is a statewide network whose mission is to strengthen Hawaii's Farm to School movement by supporting our island networks in the areas of capacity building, resource development and sharing, professional development, and policy development and advocacy. The Hui is comprised of five island-level school garden and Farm to School networks, community organizations and schools, and representatives from the Hawai'i Departments of Agriculture, Education, and Health and the University of Hawai'i. The Hui formed in 2010 and became a program of HIPHI in 2017.

ⁱⁱ This study by Ward Research, Inc. summarizes findings from a phone survey among n=804 Hawaii registered voters (maximum sampling error +/-3.3%), conducted between November 13 and December 2, 2017.

ⁱⁱⁱ Hawai'i State Department of Health. *Hawai'i School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2017)*



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

LATE

January 31, 2018

The Honorable Justin H. Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair
House Committee on Education

Re: HB 2156 – Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kong, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2156, which authorizes the Department of Education to establish a farm to school program and requires the farm to school coordinator in the department of agriculture to work in collaboration with the department of education on any farm to school program.

HMSA continues to be a strong supporter of the State's farm to school efforts. We see this program as an effective tool in creating healthy habits and connecting with our food sources and community. We have been a strong supporter of the Farm to Hui program which helped facilitate piloting of healthy locally sourced food in our DOE cafeterias.

Thank you for allowing us to testify in support of HB 2156.

Sincerely,

Pono Chong
Vice President, Government Relations



**Testimony to the House Committee on Education
Wednesday, January 31, 2018; 2:05 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309**

RE: SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL NO. 2156, RELATING TO HAWAII FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kong, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** House Bill No. 2156, RELATING TO HAWAII FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.

The bill, as received by your Committee, would:

- (1) Authorize the Department of Education (DOE) to expand student opportunities for farm-based and school garden education, increase the procurement of locally-grown foods for the school meal program, and support coordination between the DOE and the Department of Agriculture (DOA) on farm to school activities and initiatives;
- (2) Requires the DOE to designate a farm to school coordinator who shall work in collaboration with the head of the Hawaii farm to school program and the DOA; and
- (3) Appropriates \$114,336 in general funds for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the establishment of two full-time equivalent farm to school staff positions in the DOE.

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines in rural communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of health.

As a member of the Obesity Prevention Task Force, the HPCA joins the Hawaii Public Health Institute and other advocates in support of efforts to promote healthy diets and the increased consumption of locally-grown vegetables and fruits in our schools and communities.

Accordingly, we **SUPPORT** this measure and urge your favorable consideration.

In advance, thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



Papa Ola Lokahi
Nana I Ka Pono Na Ma

Papa Ola Lokahi

894 Queen Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: 808.597.6550 ~ Facsimile: 808.597.6551

Papa Ola Lokahi

is a non-profit Native Hawaiian organization founded in 1988 for the purpose of improving the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians and other native peoples of the Pacific and continental United States.

Board of Directors *Member Organizations*

Hoola Lahui Hawaii

Hui No Ke Ola Pono

Hui Malama Ola Na Oiwi

ALU LIKE

Ke Ola Mamo

E Ola Mau

University of Hawaii

Hawaii State Department of Health

Na Puuwai

Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Kupuna

Aunty Betty Jenkins

Executive Director

Sheri-Ann Daniels

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair, and Rep. Sam Satoru Kong, Vice-Chair

HB 2156 RELATING TO THE HAWAII FARM-TO-SCHOOL PROGRAM

IN SUPPORT

Wednesday, January 31, 2018, 2:05 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

Sheri-Ann Daniels, Executive Director

Papa Ola Lōkahi, the Native Hawaiian Health Board and member of the State's Obesity Prevention Task Force, is in full support establishing a farm-to-school program within the Department of Education.

Illness and death due to chronic disease is higher among Native Hawaiians in Hawai'i than any other ethnic group. Hawaiians have higher rates of obesity and live 6 years less than the general population.

Papa Ola Lōkahi and our partners in Hawaiian health work to address these disparities through policy, research, developing and implementing programs and direct services, improving access to care, workforce development, data and information dissemination, traditional healing and more. Dr. Kekuni Blaisdell articulated how cultural conflict—through disconnection from land, language and culture—has contributed to the disparities.

We believe that prioritizing farm-to-school programming will impact all of Hawai'i's public school students, familiarizing them with real foods, connecting them with the 'āina will lead to healthier choices at home and throughout their lives.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide testimony. E ola mau.

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 6:28:28 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Nancy Redfeather | Ka Ohana O Na Pua | Support | No |

Comments:

This encouraging bill is essential to growing the Farm to School Program. Staff positions are essential to maintaining the momentum and expanding the program to connect the 2 pieces of any Farm to School Program. School Garden Education and Increasing local purchasing in school meals.

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 7:17:55 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Carol R. Ignacio | Blue Zones Project | Support | No |

Comments:

Honorable Chair Justin Woods and members of the Committee,

The Farm to School Program is quickly changing the face of healthy food for our keiki. I have been priviledged to see first hand the success of this program at the Kohala Elementary school...much less waste and happy keiki leaving the cafeteria ready to continue their studies. The research continues to prove that healthy keiki do better in school.

It is critical that the DOE have a dedicated position for Farm to School. Please support HB2156.

With gratitude,

Carol R. Ignacio



January 31, 2018

RE: SUPPORT HB2156 RELATING THE HAWAII FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Dear Chair Woodson, & Members of the Committee on Education:

At Blue Zones Project we are working to make Hawaii a happier, healthier place to live, work and play. We support HB2156, which will help to create healthier eating opportunities, providing access to fresh, locally sourced foods.

The Hawaii Farm to School program was established through Act 218 (2015). Since then many partners have been involved in an effort to successfully sustain and expand the program throughout the state. One of the missing pieces is the dedicated staff positions within the Department of Education to facilitate the collaboration with the existing Farm to School positions within the Department of Agriculture.

Farm to School programs benefit our keiki in a variety of ways. They offer place based learning, lessons in nutrition, exposure new, healthier foods. In school gardens, the program helps to provide a place where our children learn what it means to nurture, grow and share hard work and love. They not only learn to appreciate locally sourced food but their interest in healthier foods is nurtured. This helps them to make healthier choices at home with a hope to influence their families toward healthier choices as well.

These positions will help to ensure the success and expansion of the Hawaii Farm to School Program. Please support this measure to support the well-being of our keiki.

Sincerely,

Peggy Mierzwa

Peggy Mierzwa
Statewide Policy Lead
Blue Zones Project—Hawaii

Brought to
Hawaii by



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 8:43:17 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joan Gannon | West Hawaii CHC | Support | No |

Comments:

I, Joan Gannon SUPPORT HB2156. It is good for our community schools students and farmers.

Please pass this bill through.

January 30, 2018 9:12 am

Support for HB 2156
Maui School Garden Network

Aloha Hawai'i State Representatives:

I wish to offer my support for HB 2156 both as the Director of the Maui School Garden Network and as a member of the Local Food Coalition.

By passing this bill Hawai'i will enhance the ability to serve locally grown food in our school cafeterias which will, in turn improve student health and increase our students' ability to achieve in school.

An additional enhancement will be to help grow future farmers in our state as well as provide more of a demand at home for locally grown fruits and vegetables. We are already seeing an increase in certain areas of fruit and vegetable production as well as meat that can accommodate this local outreach to our schools on all islands. Let's keep our food purchases at home where the travel time from market to consumer assures a healthier product and provides our farmers with a living that will sustain their families.

By supporting this bill you will improve the infrastructure that we are helping to establish from our end by teaching our children how to grow their own food and try new kinds of fruits and vegetables that previously were not part of their diets.

We are beginning to see an effective collaboration among all our cohorts and the passing of this bill will acknowledge the good work that has begun and should continue.

Mahalo,

Lehn Huff, Director
Maui School Garden Network
Member, Local Food Coalition
PO Box 458
Haiku, Hawaii 96708
(808) 250-8323 Cell
msgn@hawaii.rr.com

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 10:30:31 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| David S. De Luz, Jr. | David S. De Luz, Sr. Enterprises, Inc. | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 10:55:43 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tommy Noyes | Kauai Path, Inc. | Support | No |

Comments:

Strong Support for HB2156

Dear Chair Rep. Justin H. Woodson and Vice Chair Rep. Sam Satoru Kong,

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Our children need good nutrition to develop into strong and healthy citizens. This is a sensible move that will augment our state's agricultural self sufficiency.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tommy A. Noyes

kōkua hawai'i foundation



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2156

House Committee on Education

Representative Justin Woodson, Chair

Representative Sam Kong, Vice Chair

January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

Aloha Representatives,

Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation **STRONGLY supports HB2156**, which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

The Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2003 to support environmental education in the schools and communities of Hawai'i. Our programs include 'ĀINA In Schools, 3R's School Recycling, Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation Field Trip Grants, Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation Mini-Grants, and Plastic Free Hawai'i.

'ĀINA In Schools is a farm to school initiative launched in 2006 that connects children to their local land, waters, and food to grow a healthier Hawai'i. In addition to encouraging the use of locally grown fruits and vegetables in school meals and snacks, the program includes a standards-based nutrition, garden, and compost curriculum that empowers children to grow their own food, make informed food decisions, and reduce waste. 'ĀINA In Schools also promotes field trips to local farms, chef cooking demonstrations in classrooms, as well as waste reduction, garden, and cooking educational opportunities for families and community members. We work directly with 23 O'ahu elementary schools that have implemented the program school-wide. We have also trained an additional 472 educators from over 239 schools and organizations from across the state in the use of our 'ĀINA garden, composting, and nutrition curricula.

HB2156 is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of Hawai'i youth attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer, and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors. Please see the attached document from the National Farm to School Network, "The Benefits of Farm to School" for specific examples and statistics of how farm to school programs benefit students, schools, and local economies.

Having spent the last 12 years working to advance Farm to School in Hawai'i and serving as Core Partner (state-level representative) to the National Farm to School Network, Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is highly invested in this movement. We offer our strong support for this measure and look forward to continued and expanded partnerships with the DOE to implement Farm to School in Hawai'i. We strongly urge you to vote in support of HB2156.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Handwritten signature of Jack Johnson in black ink.

Jack Johnson,
Co-Founder, Vice-President

Handwritten signature of Kim Johnson in black ink.

Kim Johnson,
Co-Founder, President

Handwritten signature of Natalie McKinney in black ink.

Natalie McKinney,
Executive Director

www.kokuahawaiiifoundation.org

P.O. Box 866, Hale'iwa, HI 96712 • Tel: (808) 638-5145 • Fax: (808) 638-0757 • info@kokuahawaiiifoundation.org

The Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports environmental education in the schools and communities of Hawai'i.





THE BENEFITS OF FARM TO SCHOOL

Stay Informed

Join our network:
FarmtoSchool.org

Twitter
@FarmtoSchool

Facebook
National Farm to School Network

Instagram
@FarmtoSchool



NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

GROWING STRONGER TOGETHER

The National Farm to School Network is as an information, advocacy and networking hub for communities working to bring local food sourcing, school gardens and food and agriculture education into school and early care and education settings.

Updated April 2017

What is Farm to School?

Farm to school enriches the connection communities have with fresh, healthy food and local food producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools and early care and education sites. Farm to school empowers children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy and contributing to vibrant communities. Farm to school implementation differs by location but always includes one or more of the following three core elements:

Procurement: Local foods are purchased, promoted and served in the cafeteria, as a snack or in classroom taste-tests.

Education: Students participate in education activities related to agriculture, food, health and nutrition.

School gardens: Students engage in hands-on, experiential learning through gardening.

Why Farm to School?



KIDS WIN

Farm to school provides all kids access to nutritious, high-quality, local food so they are ready to learn and grow. Farm to school activities enhance classroom education through hands-on learning related to food, health, agriculture and nutrition.



FARMERS WIN

Farm to school can serve as a significant financial opportunity for farmers, fishers, ranchers, food processors and food manufacturers by opening doors to an institutional market worth billions of dollars.



COMMUNITIES WIN

Farm to school benefits everyone from students, teachers and administrators to parents and farmers, providing opportunities to build family and community engagement. Buying from local producers and processors creates new jobs and strengthens the local economy.

Benefits of Farm to School



Economic Development



Public Health



Education



Environment



Community Engagement

Economic Development

Job Creation and Economic Activity

- Creation and maintenance of jobs in the community and in the state; for every job created by school districts purchasing local foods, additional economic activity creates another 1.67 jobs.^{40,55}
- Increase in economic activity in the community and in the state.^{40,49,50,55}
- Each dollar invested in farm to school stimulates an additional \$0.60-\$2.16 of local economic activity, in one case resulting in \$1.4 million overall contribution to the state.⁴⁰
- Strengthen connections within the state's food economy.⁴⁰
- Increase in student meal participation from 3 percent to 16 percent (average +9 percent), generating increased revenue for schools through meal programs.^{8-9,20-21,23-25,36,41,49,58}
- Decrease in school meal program costs.^{41,48}

Farmer and Producer Income

- Increase in local procurement as farm to school programming matures, with documented local sourcing reaching up to 50 percent of all produce purchases in season.^{7-9,20,22-23,36-37,39}
- Average 5 percent increase in income from farm to school sales and establishment of a long-term revenue stream for individual farmers.^{7,9,20,22-23,36,39,55}
- Increase in market diversification and economic growth opportunities for farmers; positive relationships for farmers with school districts, parents and community members; farmers contracted to plant crops for schools; opportunities to explore processing and preservation methods for institutional markets; establishment of grower collaboratives or cooperatives to supply institutional markets.^{36-37, 68}

Public Health

Farm to school is a community-based strategy that includes a focus on creating a healthy school food environment.¹ Farm to school activities support development of healthy eating habits for children while improving family food security by boosting the quality of school meal programs.²⁻⁵

Student Nutrition Behaviors

- Improvement in early childhood and K-12 student health behaviors, including choosing healthier options at school meals, consuming more fruits and vegetables through farm to school meals and at home (+0.99 to +1.3 servings/day), consuming less unhealthy foods and sodas, reducing screen time and increasing physical activity.^{6-31,43-46,49,51,53,57,61-64,67,68}
- Increase in fruit and vegetable consumption among those with the lowest previous intake.⁵¹
- When schools offer school gardens, 44.2 percent of students eat more fruits and vegetables; when schools serve local food, 33.1 percent of students eat more fruits and vegetables.⁴⁶
- Demonstrated willingness to try new foods and healthier options (in early childhood and K-12 settings).^{7,20-22,30-33,45,47}



- Tripled amount of fruit and vegetable consumption when students participate in hands-on, food-based activities.⁴⁷
- Minimized diet-related diseases in childhood such as obesity and diabetes through the promotion of eating fresh fruits and vegetables, specifically for high-risk, low-income students.^{50,59,61}

Knowledge, Attitudes and Access

- Improvement in nutrition habits, environmental awareness and health-related knowledge.^{57,61}
- Increase in willingness to try and consumption of fruits and vegetables at an older age due to gardening at a young age.⁶⁰
- Increase in access to fruits and vegetables; increase in planning and preparing meals at home.^{57,61-64}
- Increase in ability and interest in incorporating healthier foods into family diets and guiding children in early childhood and K-12 to make healthier choices; positive changes in shopping patterns reflecting healthy and local foods.^{7,20,22,27,33,68}
- Increase among young children in asking their families to make healthier purchases.³³
- Improvement in household food security.⁴⁰
- Improvement in food service operations to support healthy outcomes, such as increased cafeteria offerings of fruits and vegetables; development of new seasonal recipes; changes in cafeteria waste management policies.^{8-9,21,23-25,36,37}

Education

Student Engagement and Academic Achievement

- Increase in knowledge and awareness about gardening, agriculture, healthy eating, local foods, nutrition, growing cycles, seasonality and other STEM concepts (in early childhood and K-12 settings).^{7,20-22,26,31-33,42,44,48,49,61,68}
- Enhanced overall academic achievement in K-12 settings, including grades and test scores; increase in opportunities for physical activity and social and emotional growth; increase in school engagement.^{53,61,63,57}
- Provides children with an understanding of agriculture and the environment; provides children with opportunities for social and emotional growth; improves life skills, self-esteem, social skills and behavior.^{34-35,48,50,53,57,63}
- Increased opportunity for innovative teaching platforms for core subjects, such as science, math and language arts in early childhood and K-12 settings.⁶⁸
- Greater opportunity for necessary experiential and hands-on learning.^{50,69}
- Encourages low-income students and students of color to engage in food and environmental issues in their communities.⁵³

Educator and Parent Engagement

- Positive changes in teachers' diets and lifestyles; positive attitudes about integrating farm to school related information in curriculum; intention to implement farm to school activities in the classroom.^{7,20-22,30,52,66}
- Increase in knowledge among parents of young children about farmers' markets.³³
- Increase in parent acceptance of farm to school programs as their children demonstrate healthier behaviors such as increased fruit and vegetable consumption.⁵⁴
- Increased parent engagement in early childhood educational opportunities.⁶⁸
- Improvements in food service staff motivation and morale; increase in knowledge and interest in local food preparation and seasonal recipes; increase in interactions with teachers to strengthen classroom and cafeteria connections.^{7,22,38}



Environment

Food Waste

- Reduced food waste of local food, both on the production side as well as plate waste; decrease in overall food waste due to farm to school activities.^{41,56,58}




































Sustainability

- Reduced transportation-related environmental impacts, such as emissions of air pollutants.^{50,71}
- Support of environmentally sound, sustainable and socially just approaches to food production, processing, packaging, transportation and marketing.⁶⁸

Community Engagement

- Increase in community awareness about and interest in purchasing local foods and foods served in school cafeterias.^{7,22}
- Improved acceptance of healthier school meals among the community.⁵⁸
- Increase in opportunities to combat racial and economic inequities in the school food system.⁷⁰
- Increase in support from parents and community for healthier school meals.^{41,58}

Summary of Farm to School Benefits

| Population | Reach | Benefits | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Students | | | |
| Fruit and vegetable consumption | Increased +0.99 to +1.3 servings per day | Public Health |  |
| Physical activity | Reduced screen time and increased physical activity | Public Health |  |
| Health | Minimized diet-related diseases such as childhood obesity and diabetes | Public Health |  |
| Food system awareness | Increased knowledge about gardening, agriculture, healthy food, local food, seasonality | Public Health Education |   |
| Food choices | Willingness to try new and healthy food; choosing healthier options in the cafeteria and at home | Public Health Education Community Engagement |    |
| Academic achievement | Overall improvement in both grades and test scores (K-12) | Education |  |
| Behavior | Improved life skills, self-esteem, social skills and other types personal growth | Education |  |
| Schools | | | |
| Meal participation | Average increase of 9% (range 3% to 16%) | Economic Development Public Health |   |
| Meal cost | Lowers school meal program costs | Economic Development |  |
| Local food sourcing | Reaching up to 50% of all produce purchases in season | Economic Development Environment |   |
| Cafeteria options | Increased offerings of fruits and vegetables; new seasonal recipes; new waste management policies | Public Health Environment |   |
| Food service staff | Improved morale; increased knowledge of local food | Education Community Engagement |   |
| Educators | Positive diet and lifestyle changes; greater intent to integrate farm to school activities in the classroom | Public Health Education Community Engagement |    |
| Learning opportunities | Greater opportunity for hands-on, active and experiential learning opportunities | Public Health Education |   |
| Farmers and Producers | | | |
| Income | Average increase of 5% | Economic Development |  |
| Markets | Increased diversification and new opportunities | Economic Development Community Engagement |   |
| Families and Community Members | | | |
| Local economy | \$0.60-\$2.16 economic activity generated for every \$1 spent | Economic Development |  |
| Job creation | Each new farm to school job contributes to the creation of additional 1.67 jobs | Economic Development Community Engagement |   |
| Low-income students and students of color | Decreases health risks; encourages community engagement in environmental issues | Public Health Community Engagement |   |
| Parents and families | Increased food security and positive diet changes; increased student participation in meals at home | Public Health Community Engagement |   |
| Food waste and transportation | Decreased food waste; decreased air pollution | Environment |  |

Resources

- Green LW, Sim L, Breiner H. Evaluating Obesity Prevention Efforts: A Plan for Measuring Progress. The National Academies Press, Washington D.C.: Committee on Evaluating Progress of Obesity Prevention Efforts; Food and Nutrition Board; Institute of Medicine. 2013.
- White House Task Force on Childhood Obesity Report to the President. Solving the Problem of Childhood Obesity within a Generation. 2010.
- United States Department of Agriculture. Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food Initiative. 2010. Available at <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/knowyourfarmer?navid=KNOWYOURFARMER>
- Turner L, Chaloupka FJ. School Policies and Practices to Improve Health and Prevent Obesity: National Elementary School Survey Results Executive Summary. Bridging the Gap, Chicago: University of Illinois. 2010.
- Keener D, Goodman K, Lowry A, Kettle Khan L. Recommended community strategies and measurements to prevent obesity in the United States: Implementation and measurement guide. 2009.
- Joshi A, Azuma AM, Feenstra G. Do Farm-to-School Programs Make a Difference? Findings and Future Research Needs. *J Hunger Environ Nutr.* 2008;3(2/3):229-46.
- Schmidt MC, Kolodinsky J, Symans C. The Burlington School Food Project, Final Evaluation Report. Center for Rural Studies, Vermont University. 2006.
- Feenstra G, Ohmart J. Yolo County Farm to School Evaluation Report. Davis, CA: A Report of UC Sustainable Agriculture research and Education Program. 2005.
- Feenstra G, Ohmart J. Yolo County Farm to School Evaluation Report for the California Farm to School Program. Davis, CA: A Report by UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. 2004.
- Evans A, Ranjit N, Rutledge R, Medina J, Jennings R, Smiley A, et al. Exposure to multiple components of a garden-based intervention for middle school students increases fruit and vegetable consumption. *Health Promot Pract.* 2012;13(5):608-16.
- Howerton MW, Sue Bell B, Dodd KW, Berrigan D, Stolzenberg-Solomon R, Nebeling L. School-based Nutrition Programs Produced a Moderate Increase in Fruit and Vegetable Consumption: Meta and Pooling Analyses from 7 Studies. *J Nutr Educ Behav.* 2007;39(4):186-96.
- Ratcliffe MM, Merrigan KA, Rogers BL, Goldberg JP. The effects of school garden experiences on middle school-aged students' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors associated with vegetable consumption. 2011;12(1):36-43.
- LaRowe TL, Bontrager Yoder AB, Knitter A, Meinen A, Liebhart JL, Schoeller D. Wisconsin Farm to School: One year evaluation Report. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin-Madison: Wisconsin Prevention of Obesity and Diabetes; Department of Family and Nutritional Sciences; Wisconsin Department of Health Services. 2011.
- Joshi A, Azuma A. Bearing Fruit: Farm to School Program Evaluation Resources and Recommendation. Center for Food and Justice, UEPI, Occidental College. 2009.
- Knai C, Pomerleau J, Lock K, McKee M. Getting children to eat more fruit and vegetables: A systematic review. *Prev Med.* 2006;42(2):85-95.
- Blair D. The Child in the Garden: An Evaluative review of the Benefits of School Gardens. *J Environ Educ.* 2009;40(2):15-38.
- Robinson-O'Brien R, Story M, Heim S. Impact of garden-based youth nutrition intervention programs: a review. *J Am Dietetic Assoc.* 2009 Feb;109(2):273-80.
- Hermann JR, Parker SP, Brown BJ, Siewe YJ, Denney BA, Walker SJ. After-School Gardening Improves Children's Reported Vegetable Intake and Physical Activity. *J Nutr Educ Behav.* 2006;38:201-2.
- Twiss J, Dickinson J, Duma S, Keinman T, Paulsen H, Rilveria L. Community gardens: Lessons learned from California Healthy Cities and Communities. *Am J Public Health.* 2003;93(9):1435-8.
- Joshi A, Kalb M, Beery M. Going Local: Paths to success for farm to school programs. Center for Food and Justice, UEPI, Occidental College. 2006.
- Abernethy Elementary, Portland Public Schools Nutrition Services, Injury Free Coalition for Kids, Ecotrust. New on the Menu: District wide changes to school food start in the kitchen at Portland's Abernethy Elementary. 2006. Available at http://www.ecotrust.org/farmtoschool/downloads/Abernethy_report.pdf
- Croom E, et. al. Growing Farms, Growing Minds: The Burlington School Food Project, Year One Evaluation 2003-04, Center for Rural Studies, Vermont University. 2006.
- Center for Food and Justice, UEPI, Occidental College. Riverside Farm to School Demonstration Project: Final grant report to the California Endowment. December 2006 and 2004.
- Flock P, Petra C, Ruddy V, Peterangelo J. A Salad Bar Featuring Organic Choices: Revitalizing the School Lunch Program. 2003.
- Christensen H. Juanamaria Healthy Schools Project Final Evaluation Report. Ventura County Superintendent's Office. 2003.
- The Food Trust. Kindergarten Initiative Evaluation Report. 2007 Available at http://www.farmtoschool.org/les/publications_114.pdf
- Morris JL, Zidenberg-Cherr S. Garden-enhanced nutrition curriculum improves fourth-grade school children's knowledge of nutrition and preferences for some vegetables. *J Am Diet Assoc.* 2002;102(1):91-93.
- McAleese JD, Rankin LL. Garden-based nutrition education affects fruit and vegetable consumption in sixth-grade adolescents. *J Am Diet Assoc.* 2007;107(4):662-665.
- Graham H, Zidenberg-Cherr S. California teachers perceive school gardens as an effective nutritional tool to promote healthful eating habits. *J Am Diet Assoc.* 2005;105(11):1797-1800.
- Murphy JM. Education for Sustainability. Findings from the Evaluation Study of the Edible Schoolyard. 2003. Available at <http://74-220-222-140.host-monster.com/publications/pdf/ESYFindings-DrMurphy.pdf>
- Hughes LJ. Creating a Farm and Food Learning Box Curriculum for preschool-aged children and their families. *J Nutr Educ Behav.* 2007;39:171-172.
- Triant SL, Ryan A. City of Wyoming Parks and Recreation Summer 2005 Programming Evaluation. Wyoming, MI: A Report of Mixed Greens. 2005.
- Phillips Z, Romero R, Smith K, Reddy R. Farm to Preschool, Strategies for growing healthy children and communities. Presentation. CACFP Roundtable conference. 2011.
- Dirks AE, Orvis K. An evaluation of the Junior Master Gardener Program in third grade classrooms. *HortTechnology.* 2005;15(3):443-447.
- Waliczek TM. The effect of school gardens on children's interpersonal relationships and attitudes toward school. *HortTechnology.* 2001;11(3):466-468.
- Gottlieb R. Evaluation of the Santa Monica Farmers' Market Salad Bar Program. Center for Food and Justice, UEPI, Occidental College. 2001.
- School Food Plus. School Food Plus Evaluation, Interim Evaluation, Phase 2 Report. 2005.
- Izumi BT, Alaimo K, Hamm MW. Farm-to-School Programs: Perspectives of School Food Service Professionals. *J Nutr Educ Behav.* 2010;42(2):83-91.
- Market Ventures, Inc., Karp Resources, Center for Health and Public Service Research, New York University. School Food Plus Evaluation Interim Report Phase 3 School Year 2005-2006. Market Ventures, Inc. 2007.
- Upstream-Oregon HIA 2011 - Upstream Public Health. Health impact assessment HB 2800: Oregon farm to school and school garden policy. 2011. Available at http://www.upstreampublichealth.org/sites/default/les/F2SHIA_FINALlow-res_0.pdf

41. United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services. The Farm to School Census. 2016. Available at <https://farmtoschoolcensus.fns.usda.gov/schools-serving-kids-eating-healthier-school-meals>
42. Mercier S. Food and Agriculture Education in the United States. AGree. 2015.
43. W.K Kellogg Foundation. 2015 School Food Poll. 2015. Available at <http://ww2.wkkf.org/2015schoolfoodpoll/>
44. Moss A, et al. Farm to School and Nutrition Education: Positively Affecting Elementary School-Aged Children's Nutrition Knowledge and Consumption Behavior. *Childhood Obesity*. 2013;9(1):51–56.
45. County Health Rankings. Farm to school programs. 2015. Available at <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/policies/farm-school-programs>
46. Pew Charitable Trusts and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. School Meal Programs Innovate to Improve Student Nutrition. 2016.
47. Koch P, Wolf R, Graziose M, Gray HL, Trent R, Uno C. FoodCorps: Creating Healthy School Environments. Laurie M. Tisch Center for Food, Education & Policy, Program in Nutrition, Teachers College, Columbia University. 2017.
48. Wein K. Lettuce Improve School Nutrition: Best Practices and Key Impacts of the USDA Farm to School Grant Program. Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy. 2016.
49. Roche E, et al. Economic Contribution and Potential Impact of Local Food Purchases Made by Vermont Schools. Center for Rural Studies, University of Vermont. 2016.
50. Office of the New York State Comptroller. Locally Grown: Farm-to-School Programs in New York State. 2016.
51. Bontrager Yoder AB, et al. Farm to Elementary School Programming Increases Access to Fruits and Vegetables and Increases Their Consumption Among Those With Low Intake. *J Nutr Educ Behav*. 2014;46(5):341–49.
52. Stephens L, Shanks CB, Roth A, Bark K. Montana Cook Fresh Workshop Pilot: A K-12 School Nutrition Professional Training to Incorporate Whole Foods in School Meals. *J Child Nutr Manag*. 2016;40(1).
53. Ray R, Fisher DR, Fisher-Maltese C. School Gardens in the City: Does Environmental Equity Help Close the Achievement Gap? *Hutchins Center for African and African American Research. DuBois Review*. 2016;3(2):379–95.
54. Holland JH, Green JJ, Alexander L, Phillips M. School Health Policies: Evidenced-based Programs for Policy Implementation. *Journal of Policy Practice*. 2016;15(4):314–332.
55. Kane D, Kruse S, Ratcliffe MM, Sobell SA, Tessman N. The Impact of Seven Cents. EcoTrust. 2010.
56. Bontrager Yoder AB, Foecke LL, Schoeller DA. Factors affecting fruit and vegetable school lunch waste in Wisconsin elementary schools participating in Farm to School programmes. *Public Health Nutrition*. 2015;18(15):2855–2863.
57. Boxmeyer C. 2013-2014 Program Impact. Druid City Garden Project. 2014.
58. USDA Office of Communications. New USDA Data Show Growing Farm to School Efforts Help to Reduce Plate Waste, Increase Student Participation in Healthier School Meals Program. 2015. Available at <http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAOOC/bulletins/12074ef>
59. Capogrossi K, You W. The Influence of School Nutrition Programs on the Weight of Low-Income Children: A Treatment Effect Analysis. *Health Economics*. 2016;1099–1050.
60. Loso J, et al. Childhood and Current Gardening Is Associated with Increased Fruit and Vegetable Intake among College-Aged Students Participating in the Get Fruved Study. *J Am Diet Assoc*. 2016;116(9):A13.
61. County Health Rankings. School fruit & vegetable gardens. 2015. Available at <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/policies/school-fruit-vegetable-gardens>
62. Savoie-Roskos MR, et al. Increasing Fruit and Vegetable Intake among Children and Youth through Gardening-Based Interventions: A Systematic Review. *J Am Diet Assoc*. 2017;117(2):240–250.
63. Berezowitz CK, Bontrager Yoder AB, Schoeller DA. School Gardens Enhance Academic Performance and Dietary Outcomes in Children. *J Sch Health*. 2015;85(8):508–18.
64. Heim S, Stang J, Ireland M. A Garden Pilot Project Enhances Fruit and Vegetable Consumption among Children. *J Am Diet Assoc*. 2009;09(7):1220–6.
65. Parmer SM, Salisbury-Glennon J, Hannon D, Struempler B. School Gardens: An Experiential Learning Approach for a Nutrition Education Program to Increase Fruit and Vegetable Knowledge, Preference, and Consumption among Second-grade Students. *J Nutr Educ Behav*. 2009;41(3):212–217.
66. Cohen NL. Food Safety from Farm and Garden to Preschool. National Institute of Food and Agriculture and University of Massachusetts. Sept 2011-Aug 2015.
67. Izumi BT, et al. Harvest for Healthy Kids Pilot Study: Associations between Exposure to a Farm-to-Preschool Intervention and Willingness to Try and Liking of Target Fruits and Vegetables among Low-Income Children in Head Start. *J Acad Nutr Diet*. 2015;115(12):2003–2013.
68. Hoffman JA, et al. Farm to Preschool: The State of the Research Literature and a Snapshot of National Practice. *J Hunger Environ Nutr*. 2016;1–23.
69. Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Early Care and Education State Indicator Report. 2016.
70. Giancattarino A, Noor S. Building the Case for Racial Equity in the Food System. Center for Social Inclusion. 2014.
71. National Resource Defense Council. Food miles: How far your food travels has serious consequences for your health and the climate. 2017.

Photo Credits

Page 1: Emily Hart Roth

Page 2: Urban and Environmental Policy Institute, Occidental College

Page 3: (L) Emily Hart Roth; (R) National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition



**American Heart Association in SUPPORT of HB 2156,
“Relating to the Hawaii Farm To School Program”**

The American Heart Association supports HB 2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program.

The Farm to School Program helps students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for fresh fruits and vegetables, making it easier to continue practicing healthy eating habits at home.

Obesity is an epidemic in Hawaii, with adult rates more than doubling since the mid-1990s. Additionally, about one in every three children entering kindergarten in our state is already overweight or obese. The danger is that obesity can lead to chronic diseases later in life, such as diabetes, heart disease and some cancers. It is also costly to our society; each year, Hawaii spends roughly \$427 million obesity-related health care costs.

Staying active and eating healthy food are the two main ways to prevent obesity and reduce the risk of chronic disease. Establishing healthy behaviors at an early age can help to prevent the onset of many of the common chronic diseases. The American Heart Association estimates that 80 percent of heart disease and stroke is preventable through improved lifestyle habits.

Eating a variety of fruits and vegetables may help control both weight and blood pressure, and they contribute a number of important nutrients that most people don't get enough of, including folate, magnesium, potassium and dietary fiber, as well as vitamins A, C, and K. And they are naturally low in saturated fat and calories. The American Heart Association recommends eating eight or more fruit and vegetable servings every day. An average adult consuming 2,000 calories daily should aim for 4.5 cups of fruits and vegetables a day. Also, variety matters, so it's important to eat a wide range of fruits and veggies.

Teaching our keiki from a young age the value of healthy, fresh, and local foods can establish in them healthier eating habits that will continue through their lifespan. The American Heart Association encourages legislators to support HB 2156.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald B. Weisman".

Donald B. Weisman
Hawaii Government Relations/Communications Director

*“Building healthier lives,
free of cardiovascular
diseases and stroke.”*

life is why™ es por **la vida™** 全为**生命™**

Please remember the American Heart Association in your will.



Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm
Conference Room 309

House Committee on Education

To: Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair
Representative Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Committee

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President – Government Relations

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2156, Relating to the HI Farm to School Program

My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President, Government Relations and Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system with over 70 locations statewide including medical centers, clinics, physicians and other caregivers serving Hawai'i and the Pacific Region with high quality, compassionate care. Its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox – specialize in innovative programs in women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, cancer care, bone and joint services and more. Hawai'i Pacific Health is recognized nationally for its excellence in patient care and the use of electronic health records to improve quality and patient safety

I write in support of HB 2156 which provides critical support for Hawai'i's Farm To School Program by providing funding for two staff positions in the Department of Education.

The Farm to School Programs promote healthy eating habits for Hawai'i keiki both in school and at home through education, school gardens, and school food improvements. The resources available in people's communities, homes, schools, and neighborhoods significantly determine the health outcomes they will experience over their lifetime. At Hawai'i Pacific Health, we recognize the importance of nutrition, health and well being particularly for the next generation.

In addition to supporting healthy food habits amongst Hawai'i students, the Farm to School Program also contributes to improved attendance, academic achievement and behavior by providing more opportunities for place-based experiential learning, physical activity, and active participation in the school meal program. HB 2156 provides funding to continue and expand this programming in our public schools. The more than eighty-five per cent of students in Hawai'i who attend public schools would benefit greatly from the growth of this program.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of HB 2156.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 — 2:05 p.m. — Room 309

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 2156, Relating to Hawaii Farm to School Program

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kong, 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 HB 2156, which establishes a farm to school program and two critical positions within the Department of Education, because it aligns with our goal of creating more locally produced food.

This program incorporates more locally-grown scratch-cooked meals into our public school cafeterias and is a win for all parties involved. This effort started decades ago with passionate advocates, was test trialed in the last year at the Kohala school complex via funding by private sector and non-profit foundation grants, and resulted in adoption by the Department of Education after demonstrating initial success thru data. The results were encouraging, greater meal participation, less food waste, far higher local food and fresh food content, and, better profitability.

We applaud the Department of Education's leadership to expand this pilot to more schools with the longer-term intention of statewide rollout.

For farm to school to grow successfully to all public schools statewide, there needs to be additional staff within the Department of Education to manage this program. Based upon the trial results, we believe this program will:

- Allow our public school children can eat healthier, more delicious school meals,
- Further educate students about the foods they eat and farming as a career,
- Grow our local agricultural industries,

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



- Reduce food waste, and
- Increase profitability for State government

We urge this committee to pass funding for this program and the staffing positions.

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 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

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 11:14:37 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joan Pan | | Support | No |

Comments:

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/29/2018 2:50:05 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| cheryl | | Support | No |

Comments:

This is the kind of bill we should all be supporting. This is Hawai'i and there is no better place for farm to school solutions! As each of us knows, we are only one container ship away from all those goods not arriving. It is important that we, our keiki learn to be sustainable. Supporting this also a part of place-based learning and Na Hopena Ao. I remember when I first came to Hawai'i to teach in 1994, our schools and communities were involved in these kinds of efforts. Great to see them. Please don't over regulate them Time to look to the ancestral knowledge which we have here like growing ulu and kalo and uala to start. We can do this!

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 10:08:43 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| C. Azelski | | Support | No |

Comments:

Please support this measure.

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 10:20:51 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mahina Duarte | | Support | No |

Comments:

This program is key to catalyzing a vibrant local food system that is integrated into the mainsteam education system. Please support this bill.

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 12:24:15 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kaliko Amona | | Support | No |

Comments:

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,

Kaliko Amona

Hale'iwa

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 12:36:53 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dan Domizio | Self | Support | No |

Comments:

I am in strong support of this measure [HB2156]. Farm-to-school initiatives are a win-win for all concerned; the keiki who will be eating healthier food; the farmer who is making a great contribution to life in the community; and the community itself where parents will be exposed to the improved diets of their children.

Please pass HB2156!

kong1 - Blayne

From: candee.rillon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Candee Rillon
<candee.rillon@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:02 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Candee Rillon
16 -179 Melekauiwa St Keaau, HI 96749-8026 candee.rillon@bisac.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: barbrick@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Barbara Nosaka
<barbrick@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:12 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Barbara Nosaka
2216 Hoonanea St Honolulu, HI 96822-2427 barbrick@hawaiiantel.net

kong1 - Blayne

From: cricketlachica@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Christopher La Chica
<cricketlachica@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:10 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Christopher La Chica
94 -1410 Lanikuhana Ave Mililani, HI 96789-2452 cricketlachica@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: debz96789@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Debbie Apolo <debz96789@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:05 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Debbie Apolo
95 -045 Waikalani Dr Apt G104 Mililani, HI 96789-3342 debz96789@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: duquesa.padamada@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Duquesa Padamada
<duquesa.padamada@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:03 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Duquesa Padamada
1970 Hanalima St Apt G201 Lihue, HI 96766-8905 duquesa.padamada@doh.hawaii.gov

kong1 - Blayne

From: leilventar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Leila Ventar
<leilventar@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:06 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions. Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Leila Ventar
4305 Kailewa St Lihue, HI 96766-9412
leilventar@hotmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: mkyono@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mae Kyono
<mkyono@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:10 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment.

Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Mae Kyono
1319 Punahou St Honolulu, HI 96826-1001 mkyono@hawaii.edu

kong1 - Blayne

From: tenaya.jackman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tenaya Jackman
<tenaya.jackman@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:04 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment.

Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Tenaya Jackman
2370 Nuuanu Ave Honolulu, HI 96817-1778 tenaya.jackman@cancer.org

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 1:43:18 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Maria Teresa Belardo | | Support | No |

Comments:

I strongly support this Farm to School Program. Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home through education, school gardens, and school food improvements. Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

kong1 - Blayne

From: skye.madigan@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Skye Madigan
<skye.madigan@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:17 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Skye Madigan
4777 Menehune Rd Waimea, HI 96796
skye.madigan@doh.hawaii.gov

kong1 - Blayne

From: mandi_kauai25@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mandi Panui <mandi_kauai25@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:18 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

It is important for our Keiki to have healthy options to eat. They are our future. We live on an island that can provide what our Keiki need.

Sincerely,

Mandi Panui

5631 Kula Mauu St Kapaa, HI 96746-2508

mandi_kauai25@hotmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: mmg2b@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michelle Gray
<mmg2b@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:20 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Michelle Gray
430 Lanipua St Honolulu, HI 96825-2302 mmg2b@msn.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: kelsie.cajka@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kelsie Cajka
<kelsie.cajka@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:23 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

My name is Kelsie Cajka, resident of Makiki, and I strongly support HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program. Having healthy food choices and knowledge to grow and cook locally grown food is crucial for children to make life long healthy eating choices. This not only impacts what food decisions are being made at school but also has the ability to impact children's families as well. Thank you for consideration of this testimony!

Sincerely,

Kelsie Cajka

625 Iolani Ave Apt 601 Honolulu, HI 96813-1811 kelsie.cajka@sharecare.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: keawe9@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Keawe Kaholokula <keawe9@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:25 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment.

Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Keawe Kaholokula
555 South St Apt 1205 Honolulu, HI 96813-5045 keawe9@hotmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: surfnshred@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dennis Barger
<surfnshred@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:32 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment.

Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Dennis Barger
283 Palanehe St Kihei, HI 96753-7024
surfnshred@hotmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: cassi.yamashita@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cassiopia Yamashita
<cassi.yamashita@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:42 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Hawaii has so much resources that are not being utilized. Our keiki should play a part in their own health. Farm to school programs play such a positive role in all aspects of our keiki's lives. The actual act of farming and working the land, literally seeing the fruits of their labor, connecting with the environment, eating food that is not only nutritious but delicious as well, learning about the stages of gardening and food prep, all while engaging in positive relationships with those around them and all the positive protective factors that contribute to the success of our keiki in the future.

Sincerely,
Cassiopia Yamashita
PO Box 790534 Wailuku, HI 96793
cassi.yamashita@meoinc.org

kong1 - Blayne

From: hunakai5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kelly Perry <hunakai5@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:10 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment.

Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Kelly Perry
68 -056 Laau Paina Pl Waialua, HI 96791-9321 hunakai5@aol.com

TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT** OF
H.B. 2139 – RELATING TO DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION

House Committee on Education and House Committee on Higher Education

January 31, 2018, 2:00 p.m.,
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Conference Room 309
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairs Woodson and McKelvey, Vice-Chair Kong and Hashem, and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned students of the William S. Richardson School of Law, would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS** of H.B. 2139, which would enact a state version of Title IX by prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities that receive state financial assistance.

H.B. 2139 is urgently needed in light of the current federal administration's overt and concerted effort to dismantle federal anti-discrimination laws. The Trump administration has reversed the federal government's previous interpretation of the prohibition against discrimination based on "sex" that included discrimination based on sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression. The administration also prohibited the right to appeal findings, forces complainants to work out the problem directly with the alleged perpetrator without a mediator, and eliminates the 60-day time frame, allowing the cases and emotional distress of parties to drag on for months. The administration also rescinded protections for transgendered students that had been put into effect by President Obama. This bill reflects the ever-growing state interest in stepping in and filling the enforcement gap with procedures that are fair and so that survivors feel safe coming forward since the Trump Administration has decided to walk away from its responsibility in enforcing civil rights.

In addition, United States' Department of Education (DOE) rescinded its guidance on the investigation of campus sex assaults. As a result, those who have suffered sex-based harm must now contend with weaker protections from sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual assault, targeting women,¹ girls, indigenous² and LGBT individuals,³ some of our most

¹ See *Statistics About Sexual Violence*, NATIONAL SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESOURCE CENTER, https://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/publications_nsvrc_factsheet_media-packet_statistics-about-sexual-violence_0.pdf (last visited Jan. 29, 2018).

² ANDRE B. ROSAY, VIOLENCE AGAINST AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN AND MEN 2010 FINDINGS FROM THE NATIONAL INTIMATE PARTNER AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE SURVEY

underrepresented groups.

Title IX helps hold perpetrators of gender-based violence accountable without involving the police or incarceration and highlights how gender-based violence intersects with racism, xenophobia, transphobia and other forms of oppression. The appeal of Title IX to many students, especially during President Trump's pro-policing reign, is the burden of proof — preponderance of the evidence — is attainable and the punishment for committing acts of violence centered on safety (no-contact directives, removal from campus grounds, counseling). Title IX also mandates schools provide accommodations for survivors of violence, such as psychological and academic support often inaccessible to students from a lower socio-economic status. The system Title IX aims to create — focused on violence prevention and healing — has the potential to address the needs of marginalized survivors and promote justice.

The recent wave of sexual harassment and sexual assault revelations uplifted through the #metoo movement have made clear that gender-based violence and harassment persists throughout the United States, including Hawai'i. The recent University of Hawai'i Climate Survey Report, which polled 44,671 adult students across ten UH campuses, further reveals the necessity for a state-level solution. For example, 1 in 8 students felt that it was **likely** that they would experience sexual assault or sexual harassment while on campus, while 1 in 4 felt that an off-campus, university-sponsored event incident was likely.⁴ In addition, 1 in 16 UH survey

43-44 (2016). Over 2,000 women surveyed, 84 percent of Native American and Alaskan Native women have experienced violence, 56 percent have experienced sexual violence, and over 90 percent have experienced violence at the hands of a non-tribal member. Most women reported they were concerned for their safety, and around half said they had experienced physical violence like pushing, shoving, or being beaten. Over 60 percent had experienced psychological aggression or coercive control. Experts say these record numbers still underestimate the number of women affected by violence, and the infrastructure for women to report and handle incidents is underfunded.

³ LGBTQIA+ individuals face higher rates of poverty, stigma, and marginalization, which put them at greater risk for sexual assault. They also face higher rates of hate-motivated violence, which can often take the form of sexual assault. Moreover, the ways in which society both hypersexualizes LGBTQ people and stigmatizes their relationships can lead to intimate partner violence that stems from internalized homophobia and shame. For LGBTQIA+ survivors of sexual assault, their identities – and the discrimination they face surrounding those identities – often make them hesitant to seek help from police, hospitals, shelters or rape crisis centers, the very resources that are supposed to help them. 44 percent of lesbians and 61 percent of bisexual women experience rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner, compared to 35 percent of heterosexual women. 26 percent of gay men and 37 percent of bisexual men experience rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner, compared to 29 percent of heterosexual men. The 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey found that 47% of transgender people are sexually assaulted at some point in their lifetime.

⁴ LOUI, P. UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I STUDENT CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SEPT. 11, 2017.

participants system-wide reported non-consensual sexual contact at any time while enrolled at UH.⁵

The bill's provision that allows for the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission to exercise its rulemaking authority allows for survivors of sexual violence to explore more enforcement procedures and remedies aside from the Title IX investigation done at schools and criminal investigations. These civil law remedies may be preferable in some circumstances. Some advantages of civil litigation include empowering victims (whereas in criminal cases, the victim is only a witness in the recovery); recovery of monetary damages for the harm inflicted on victims, validating both the victim's experiences and holding perpetrators accountable for their actions; enhancing safety and security practices to promote corporate responsibility; and heightening awareness behind sexual violence. The expansion of alternatives also provides the opportunity to lessen the burden on our courts and allows for reparations for those who suffered from sexual violence to begin to heal.

Recommended Amendments

It is now apparent that the Trump administration's rollbacks on the enforcement of federal regulations prohibiting sex discrimination extend beyond education. To ensure that no state agency be allowed to discriminate on the basis of sex, we request that you extend this bill to cover all state funded programs and services.

In supporting H.B. 2139, the State takes important steps forward in the conversation around sexual violence from one of compliance to one of overhauling and changing the culture to work toward the elimination of sexual violence on school campus. If we are going to have a holistic program to address this imminent issue, compliance and guidance has to be a part of it, but it cannot be the sole centerpiece of this movement.

Accordingly, we **SUPPORT** H.B. 2139, and respectfully urge your Committees to **PASS** this important bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Chad Au, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Taylor Brack, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Tara Buckley, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Norman Capinpin, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Andres Y. Gonzalez, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Kaitlyn Marie Harumi Iwashita, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Jenifer Jenkins, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Katya Katano, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Alyssa-Marie Yukiko Hulali Kau, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Kaitlyn Kawehilani Mark, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Natalie Moreland, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Miranda Carol Steed, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law

⁵ Id.

Jill Uehara, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law
Sarah Williams, J.D. Candidate, William S. Richardson School of Law

Lawyers Against Sexual Violence, William S. Richardson School of Law

kong1 - Blayne

From: aly.hite@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Aly Hite
<aly.hite@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:14 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Aly Hite
1040 Lunaai Pl Kailua, HI 96734-4630
aly.hite@heart.org

kong1 - Blayne

From: emmeyer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Erica Meyer-Agonoy
<emmeyer@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:22 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment.

Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Erica Meyer-Agonoy
1082 Makaala Dr Wailuku, HI 96793-9453
emmeyer@hawaii.edu

kong1 - Blayne

From: novotny.rachel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rachel Novotny
<novotny.rachel@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:26 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

I am Professor of Nutrition at the University of Hawaii, though I submit this testimony as an individual citizen.

Farm to School programs expose children to the wonder and opportunity of growing food, and the opportunity to eat foods important to our islands and our island's cultures. Farm to School programs promote healthy eating in school and at home, with children encouraging their families to join them. In order to curb child obesity and related health problems, Farm to School promotes both healthy eating and active living.

Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for food and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This bill is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, by providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, to incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and to work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and, critically, to allow for the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program to bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen production and consumption of local food in our state. Importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home.

Passage of this bill will improve our keiki's health, prevent obesity, and strengthen local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Rachel Novotny
1336 Nanawale Pl Kailua, HI 96734-4071
novotny.rachel@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: joann.yang@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joann Yang
<joann.yang@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:33 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions. Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Joann Yang
677 Ala Moana Blvd Honolulu, HI 96813-5419 joann.yang@heart.org

kong1 - Blayne

From: kbraun2000@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kathryn Braun <kbraun2000@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:33 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions. Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Braun
625 Iolani Ave Apt 504 Honolulu, HI 96813-1811 kbraun2000@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: nicole.pikini64@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nicole Pikini <nicole.pikini64@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:44 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Nicole Pikini
423 Kaa Cir Kahului, HI 96732-1442
nicole.pikini64@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: Kathy Kato on behalf of HEDtestimony
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:49 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: FW: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2139 – RELATING TO DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION

From: Rochelle Sugawa [mailto:sugawa@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:25 AM
To: HEDtestimony <hedtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2139 – RELATING TO DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF

HB 2139 – RELATING TO DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION

I would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of HB 2139, which would enact a state version of Title IX by prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities that receive state financial assistance.

HB 2139 is urgently needed in light of the current federal administration's overt and concerted effort to dismantle federal anti-discrimination laws. The Trump administration has reversed the federal government's previous interpretation of the prohibition against discrimination based on "sex" that included discrimination based on sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression. The administration also rescinded protections for transgendered students that had been put into effect by President Obama. In addition, USDOE rescinded its guidance on the investigation of campus sex assaults. As a result, those who have suffered sex-based harm must now contend with weaker protections from sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual assault. This war on women, girls, and LGBT individuals calls upon all of us to take action.

The recent University of Hawai'i Climate Survey Report, which polled 44,671 adult students across ten UH campuses, further reveals the necessity for a state-level solution. For example, 1 in 8 students felt that it was likely that they would experience sexual assault or sexual harassment while on campus, while 1 in 4 felt that an off-campus, university-sponsored event incident was likely. In addition, 1 in 16 UH survey participants system-wide reported non-consensual sexual contact at any time while enrolled at UH.

It is now apparent that the Trump administration's rollbacks on the enforcement of federal regulations prohibiting sex discrimination extend beyond education. To ensure that no state agency be allowed to discriminate on the basis of sex, we request that you extend this bill to cover all state funded programs and services.

Accordingly, I SUPPORT HB 2139. I respectfully urge your Committee to PASS this important bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Rochelle Sugawa

kong1 - Blayne

From: costacrystal@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Crystal Costa
<costacrystal@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:49 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Crystal Costa
1253 S Beretania St # 2919 Honolulu, HI 96814-1822 costacrystal@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: severine.busquet@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Severine Busquet
<severine.busquet@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:56 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions. Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Severine Busquet
7005 Kalaniana'ole Hwy Honolulu, HI 96825-2007 severine.busquet@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: vyontz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Valerie Yontz
<vyontz@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:01 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,

Valerie Yontz, PhD

Sincerely,
Valerie Yontz
677 Auwina St Kailua, HI 96734-3430
vyontz@hawaii.edu

kong1 - Blayne

From: hawaii96766@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Carolyn Lum <hawaii96766@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:01 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Let's think of our future generations!

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee. Mahalo, Carolyn Lum

Sincerely,
Carolyn Lum
2746 Apapane St Lihue, HI 96766-9601
hawaii96766@yahoo.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: mrahmer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mealani Rahmer
<mrahmer@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:28 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Mealani Rahmer
PO Box 1251 Pahoehoa, HI 96778-1251
mrahmer@bayclinic.org

kong1 - Blayne

From: patriciablair@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Patricia Blair
<patriciablair@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:30 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Patricia Blair
25 Aulike St Kailua, HI 96734-2746
patriciablair@msn.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: honora83@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Honora Kalama <honora83@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:34 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions. Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Honora Kalama
300 Kaiwi St Kaunakakai, HI 96748
honora83@hotmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: kazuma.nakagawa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kazuma Nakagawa
<kazuma.nakagawa@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:44 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Kazuma Nakagawa
5158 Poola St Honolulu, HI 96821-1535
kazuma.nakagawa@hawaii.edu

kong1 - Blayne

From: vannood@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Justin Stanton
<vannood@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:46 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment.

Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Justin Stanton
PO Box 880042 Pukalani, HI 96788-0042
vannood@hawaii.edu

kong1 - Blayne

From: dneubert18@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Diane Neubert <dneubert18@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:04 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment.

Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,

Diane Neubert

78 -7030 Alii Dr Apt 201 Kailua Kona, HI 96740-2502 dneubert18@yahoo.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: eeno-orikasa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Emi Orikasa <eeno-orikasa@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:09 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Emi Orikasa
95 Mahalani St Rm 21 Wailuku, HI 96793-2521 eeno-orikasa@hnpkop.org

kong1 - Blayne

From: john.s.ishoda@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of John Ishoda
<john.s.ishoda@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:12 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
John Ishoda
1700 Lanakila Ave Rm 104 Honolulu, HI 96817-2115 john.s.ishoda@doh.hawaii.gov

kong1 - Blayne

From: info@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ashley Watts
<info@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:15 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions. Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Ashley Watts
1712 Apaki St Honolulu, HI 96817-1921
info@localiahawaii.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: suzannakinsey@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Suzanna Kinsey
<suzannakinsey@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:23 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Suzanna Kinsey
2505 Lai Rd Honolulu, HI 96816-3545
suzannakinsey@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: jcbanna@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jinan Banna
<jcbanna@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:26 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Jinan Banna
3029 Lowrey Ave Apt J-3017 Honolulu, HI 96822-1800 jcbanna@hawaii.edu

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 1:56:08 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM



| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Tiana Kamen | | Support | No |

Comments:

Mahalo nui loa Senators and Representatives for your time, My name is Tiana Kamen and I have been working for the last 8 years helping to bring farm fresh foods, nutrition education and garden-based education to our schools, preschool to college. The journey has been fulfilling. With a team of other non-profit leaders and community members, I have helped to make this vision a reality for many children and communities in Hawai'i.

At the same time, I have hit so many roadblocks to making this happen. There are so many things that need to be changed to make farm to school and possibility for Hawaii's keiki. Legislation, culture, food preferences, skills, procurement processes... and the list goes on.

We need the Department of Education to step up and help in this important endeavor. By passing this bill, you will help to break down these barriers. Community efforts are the voice of the people. We can't keep on progressing without having these two farm to school staff positions in HIDOE.

These positions will help to make healthier foods to all keiki statewide, sourced from local ingredients and real cooking (not just heat and serve). They will help to provide the support schools really need to have school garden programs. It will also help to create protocols to get garden-grown produce in school cafeterias, currently a very difficult feat.

All of Hawaii's people will benefit by this bill. It will improve the health of our people by increasing the consumption of fruits and vegetables. This is crucial with diabetes, heart disease, obesity and other chronic diseases on the rise. Farm to school is proven through research to improve academic achievement, essential to growing an intelligent workforce. This bill will also help to strengthen our local food system by growing future farmers. As keiki are educated about and eat locally grown foods, we will also grow our demand for locally grown foods (in their homes and the cafeterias).

This bill is a win, win, win. Just because people are afraid of complex change, it doesn't mean that our keiki should suffer from it. Please help us make these important changes for our keiki. You are our representatives and we trust that you will help to make these needs a reality.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Tiana Kamen, MS Nutrition

Farm to Keiki Preschool Program, Founder and Director

Date: January 30, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: **SUPPORT for HB2156**, Relating to Health
Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

Aloha House Committee on Education,

I am writing in strong **SUPPORT of HB2156** which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthful eating habits for our keiki in school that carry over at home. Farm to School helps students develop both an understanding and appreciation for good nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

HB2156 is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food quality and environments. This measure will incorporate school garden programs into school curricula, and allow DOE to work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85% of Hawai'i youth attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program to bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to both improve health and strengthen the economy. Students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthful behaviors to prevent overweight, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, all of which are associated with less healthful diets.

Passage of this measure will improve the health of our keiki and local food systems.

I strongly **support HB2156** and respectfully ask you to pass this bill out of committee.

Mahalo nui for your consideration,

Forrest Batz, PharmD
Keaau, HI

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 2:41:44 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

LATE

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Nancy Sakamoto | Nancy Sakamoto | Support | No |

Comments:

Crystal Kionia

From: t.harris926@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tracy Harris <t.harris926@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:31 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Tracy Harris
58 -158 Wehiwa Pl Haleiwa, HI 96712-9754 t.harris926@gmail.com

Crystal Kionia

From: rodperoff@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rod Peroff
<rodperoff@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:36 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment.

Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Rod Peroff
2452 Puunoa Pl Honolulu, HI 96816-3419
rodperoff@gmail.com

Crystal Kionia

From: beccy.hailstones@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rebecca Hailstones
<beccy.hailstones@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:15 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

I have personally seen the growth and interest of the children after being surrounded by and introduced to fruits and vegetables as a am and 'Aina in the Schools volunteer through the Kokua Foundation. The children who tried vegetables they were uncertain of or would never try with their parents ended up loving the fruits and vegetables they tried. The children actually look forward to them! Kids need vegetables at a young age to get their pallet used to having healthy wholesome foods. Being a Health Coach, Fitness Coach and Health Practitioner I fully support this program.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Hailstones
53 -904 Kamehameha Hwy Hauula, HI 96717-9600 beccy.hailstones@gmail.com

Crystal Kionia

From: soccercam3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Corey Peacock <soccercam3@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:45 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Corey Peacock
59 -520 Hoalike Rd Haleiwa, HI 96712-9525 soccercam3@yahoo.com

Crystal Kionia

From: bdyanuaria@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bianca Yanuaria
<bdyanuaria@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:39 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Bianca Yanuaria
5180 Likini St Apt 204 Honolulu, HI 96818-3031 bdyanuaria@gmail.com

Crystal Kionia

From: mhalzel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Melody Halzel
<mhalzel@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:33 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Aloha,

My name is Melody and I a community volunteer for Aina in schools. I see first hand how amazing the farm to school program is at the Wailae Public Charter School where I volunteered with first grade students. They love being outside and learning about the garden. They love to practice being scientists while collecting data and watching the plants/ tracking its growth. It is an amazing program and really connects the children to the land, to our environment, to where food comes from and to nutrition. I believe the farm to school initiatives are not only beneficial for our children, and community but also for the local economy. Supporting local farms is key for a sustainable future.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee

Thank you for listening to the community and the keiki.

Mahalo,

Sincerely,

Melody Halzel

2347 Beckwith St Honolulu, HI 96822-1935 mhalzel@hawaii.edu

Crystal Kionia

From: eijzenga@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Heather Eijzenga
<eijzenga@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:05 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

LATE

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

The farm to school program is an easy one to support. Developing a basic understanding of nutrition and healthy eating habits is essential for long term health. I've been working as a docent with the aina in schools program over the past few years and kids love this type of hands-on learning. It gets them excited and they take that information home to their families.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee. Let's make this happen!

Sincerely,
Heather Eijzenga
404 Kalama St Kailua, HI 96734-7011
eijzenga@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: morenochow@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of MARIA MORENO-CHOW
<morenochow@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 3:55 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
MARIA MORENO-CHOW
548 Ulua St Kailua, HI 96734-4341
morenochow@gmail.com

Crystal Kionia

From: johnmaugustine@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of John Augustine
<johnmaugustine@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:13 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
John Augustine
657 Iliaina St Kailua, HI 96734-1814
johnmaugustine@gmail.com

Crystal Kionia

From: kseaton@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kathryn Seaton
<kseaton@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:54 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Seaton
1407 Ainakoa Ave Honolulu, HI 96821-1111 kseaton@hawaii.edu

From: mykie ozoa <meozoa@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 3:56 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF H.B. 2139

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
H.B. 2139 – RELATING TO DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION
House Committees on Education & Higher Education



January 31, 2018, 2:00 p.m.
, Conference Room 309

Dear Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and Members of the Committees:

I would like to thank the Committees for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of H.B. 2139, which would enact a state version of Title IX by prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities that receive state financial assistance.

H.B. 2139 is urgently needed in light of the current federal administration's overt and concerted effort to dismantle federal anti-discrimination laws. The Trump administration has reversed the federal government's previous interpretation of the prohibition against discrimination based on "sex" that included discrimination based on sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression. The administration also rescinded protections for transgendered students that had been put into effect by President Obama. In addition, USDOE rescinded its guidance on the investigation of campus sex assaults. As a result, those who have suffered sex-based harm must now contend with weaker protections from sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual assault. This war on women, girls, and LGBT individuals calls upon all of us to take action.

The recent University of Hawai'i Climate Survey Report, which polled 44,671 adult students across ten UH campuses, further reveals the necessity for a state-level solution. For example, 1 in 8 students felt that it was likely that they would experience sexual assault or sexual harassment while on campus, while 1 in 4 felt that an off-campus, university-sponsored event incident was likely. [1] In addition, 1 in 16 UH survey participants system-wide reported non-consensual sexual contact at any time while enrolled at UH. [2]

Accordingly, I SUPPORT H.B. 2139. I respectfully urge your Committee
s
to PASS this important bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Mykie E. Menor Ozoa, J.D.

[1] Loui, P. "University of Hawai'i Student Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Harassment and Gender-Based Violence: Executive Summary," Sept. 11, 2017.

[2] Id.

Crystal Kionia

From: melanie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Melanie Sumida
<melanie@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:32 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

LATE

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Melanie Sumida
1017 Luawai St Honolulu, HI 96816-4658
melanie@sumidas.net

kong1 - Blayne

From: ddella@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Denise Della
<ddella@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 4:04 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education



Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Denise Della
458 Manawai St Apt 1002 Kapolei, HI 96707-4611 ddella@wcchc.com

Crystal Kionia

From: jspencerklein@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Spencer Klein
<jspencerklein@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:10 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

LATE

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Spencer Klein
59 -024 Holawa St Haleiwa, HI 96712-9706 jspencerklein@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: rockeegsa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Racquel Alfsen
<rockeegsa@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 4:38 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

LATE

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Racquel Alfsen
45 -176 Ikenakai St Kaneohe, HI 96744-5330 rockeegsa@aol.com

Crystal Kionia

From: Tim <iamtimzhu@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:16 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: In support of HB2139



I would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of H.B. 2139, which would enact a state version of Title IX by prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities that receive state financial assistance.

H.B. 2139 is urgently needed in light of the current federal administration's overt and concerted effort to dismantle federal anti-discrimination laws. The Trump administration has reversed the federal government's previous interpretation of the prohibition against discrimination based on "sex" that included discrimination based on sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression. The administration also rescinded protections for transgendered students that had been put into effect by President Obama. In addition, USDOE rescinded its guidance on the investigation of campus sex assaults. As a result, those who have suffered sex-based harm must now contend with weaker protections from sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual assault.

It is now apparent that the Trump administration's rollbacks on the enforcement of federal regulations prohibiting sex discrimination extend beyond education. To ensure that no state agency be allowed to discriminate on the basis of sex, we request that you extend this bill to cover all state funded programs and services.

Accordingly, I SUPPORT H.B. 2139. I respectfully urge your Committee to PASS this important bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Tim Zhu

kong1 - Blayne

From: nikaelabusekrus@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nikaela Busekrus
<nikaelabusekrus@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 4:56 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018



To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

By knowing the origins of their school meals and seeing (and tasting) delicious, healthful food produced, harvested, prepared, and served locally, students will develop a greater sense of investment in not only their health, but also their education and the welfare of the state as they experience first hand the success of locally based efforts towards a more sustainable future. As a young adult born and raised in Hawaii, school projects that involved locally based efforts towards sustainable agriculture, energy and the like made me excited about the future of our state, and encouraged me to look beyond school led initiatives for ways I could be involved in the community.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Nikaela Busekrus

220 Ohana St Kailua, HI 96734-2352
nikaelabusekrus@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: lleger34@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Laura Leger <lleger34@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 5:03 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018



To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

I am the physical educator at Ala Wai Elementary School and have found great benefits to having the students learning about how their food is grown and taking pride in caring for their own gardens.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

I ask you to consider continuing education for our keiki and communities to build strong pride in our food control

Sincerely,
Laura Leger
2199 Kauhana St Honolulu, HI 96816-3013 lleger34@hawaii.edu

kong1 - Blayne

From: eypark93@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eun-young Park <eypark93@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 5:27 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Eun-young Park
1212 Nuuanu Ave Honolulu, HI 96817-4021 eypark93@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: jcpwrs04@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joan Powers <jcpwrs04@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 5:52 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

Sincerely,
Joan Powers
47 -543 Ahuimanu Rd Apt B Kaneohe, HI 96744-5460 jcpwrs04@gmail.com

Crystal Kionia

From: snharris@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stephen Harris
<snharris@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:24 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

LATE

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Stephen Harris
3703 B Pelu Pl Honolulu, HI 96816-3811
snharris@hawaii.edu

Crystal Kionia

From: msanfinson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stephanie Anfinson
<msanfinson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:27 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

As a retired Elementary School teacher of 38 years, I would like to tell you how important it is that we continue educating our children about healthy eating habits.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Thank you so much!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Stephanie Anfinson

Sincerely,
Stephanie Anfinson

57 -101 Kuilima Dr Apt 25 Kahuku, HI 96731-2116 msanfinson@sbcglobal.net

Crystal Kionia

From: kalanitm@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kalani Matsumura
<kalanitm@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:38 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

I support others' testimony about the benefits that a Farm to School program provides for education, health, and economy. In addition, as a CTAHR extension agent tasked with educating the public about gardening, agriculture, and environment, I feel that reaching DOE students is the most effective way to educate a large audience and create meaningful impact in our state. F2S will support our local farmers and businesses, and will help to establish the next generation of local farmers, entrepreneurs, business people, scientists, environmentalists, land managers, and problem-solvers. Thank you for your consideration. Aloha.

Sincerely,
Kalani Matsumura
631 10th Ave Apt A Honolulu, HI 96816-2287 kalanitm@hawaii.edu

Crystal Kionia

From: noels04@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Namiko Hironaka <noels04@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:43 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

LATE

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Namiko Hironaka
912 Honolulu, HI 96816
noels04@hotmail.com

Crystal Kionia

From: jonnalov@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jonna Loveridge
<jonnalov@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:48 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

LATE

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Jonna Loveridge
54 -144 Puuowaa St Hauula, HI 96717-9610 jonnalov@yahoo.com

Crystal Kionia

From: dkpochop@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Danica Pochop
<dkpochop@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:45 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider this bill, which will immediately impact the children and families involved with our public school system.

I volunteer with the AINA 'IS program and am amazed to watch the kiekis grasp the importance of their choices during the lessons and see them glow with pride as they harvest and share what they have grown in their garden.

When I first began volunteering six years ago I had always taken for granted my access to fresh fruits and vegetables. I was saddened once exposed to kieki that had minimal exposure to unprocessed fruits and veggies nor the desire to try them. As my lessons continued through that first year the students became more brave and would try new things. Volunteering that year did have a huge reward when a few of the students told me they had asked their parents to buy some of the fruits we had tried in class so they could share them with their family.

I know this bill is directed towards the children but it really does impact the parents. Through the AINA IS program I have been exposed, tried and enjoyed many local fruits and vegetables I would not have tried without the guidance of others. Imagine giving all children that guidance they can take home?

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Danica Pochop
117 Aikahi Loop Kailua, HI 96734-1643
dkpochop@gmail.com

Crystal Kionia

From: paulamac808@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Paula MacCutcheon <paulamac808@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 2:00 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Paula MacCutcheon
2668 Waolani Ave Apt A Honolulu, HI 96817-7308 paulamac808@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: tyjenlefler@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jennifer Lefler
<tyjenlefler@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 3:21 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

I was so grateful and excited when we moved to Hawaii to see all the ways the islands are trying to become more self sufficient. My children and I participated in the Aina program at school and as volunteers. We learned so much, had a great time and almost all of the students loved working in and eating from the gardens. There are things I can cook them now because of aina.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Lefler
1009 Kapiolani Blvd Apt 4309 Honolulu, HI 96814-2185 tyjenlefler@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: tinaricosmith@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tina Smith
<tinaricosmith@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 3:11 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Tina Smith
604 Ilimano St Kailua, HI 96734-1831
tinaricosmith@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: ashlee.klemperer.ak@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ashlee Chapman
<ashlee.klemperer.ak@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 3:06 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Ashlee Chapman
2758 Kauhale St Kihei, HI 96753-9632
ashlee.klemperer.ak@gmail.com

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 9:12:14 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

LATE

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jennifer Milholen | Kokua Hawaii Foundation | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 9:09:43 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM



| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ashley Moffat | | Support | No |

Comments:

Our Keiki and Commnuty greatly benefit from the farms to school program. I love the learning and exposure to good foods that it gives the children. Programs like these can impact children and each them to make healthy choices and will benefit us all for years to come.

mahalo and aloha

kong1 - Blayne

From: m.mah26@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mei-Mei Mah <m.mah26@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 6:40 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education



LATE

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Mei-Mei Mah
3951 Monterey Pl Honolulu, HI 96816-3921 m.mah26@yahoo.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: mnprHAWAII@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cassandra Kugler
<mnprHAWAII@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 6:41 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Dear Respectable Political Representative,

I spent six (6) years working for the State of Hawai'i as an elementary school teacher, so I can personally speak on my experience as a teacher and on the unique love that Hawai'i has for our school children. I have also volunteered as a Garden docent, for Kokua Foundation. So, I sincerely hope you take my letter seriously, to heart, but more importantly-factually.

I can tell you as a teacher for the school district, I had the privilege of ALSO getting school lunches, alongside my elementary school students. I want to tell you about the day, I realized something more had to be done, for our students, here in Hawai'i. It was a Spring day here in Hawai'i, we had amazing local kine school lunches at the school I worked at, all kine shoyu local chicken, rice, canned fruits, salad, milk. I had been eating these ono lunches for weeks, I began to put on weight, so I was relieved when I had the choice to get just a fresh salad. I had just made, a nice big salad, when I heard a student's voice say, "Miss Cass" that salad looks SOOOO good & fresh, I wish I could have some". As I looked up, I saw one of my students, a 4th grader, local Hawaiian-Filipino boy, who was my largest student, bigger than even the 5th graders at our school, and also the heaviest/overweight. It broke my heart in that moment when I realized, that the students don't even have the same access to fresh salad, like the teachers, I was surprised because he being so big, I figured he just enjoyed eating a lot; It was in THAT moment, I remembered, that people often overeat because their bodies are trying to obtain nutrients they are depleted in. I have taught adults how to eat healthier, so to imagine a child starting out so overweight at such a young age....broke my heart into several, million pieces that day. I said nothing to this student, weakly smiled, and walked away. Not only did he not have access to fresh salad, he had a want and desire to eat it, to learn about it, and incorporate it into his everyday life!!! I cannot stress, that education is EVERYTHING. If, most students cannot have these foods, the LEAST we can do is educate on the importance.

Because of THAT day, I started to volunteer as a Garden Docent for Kokua Foundation, but its difficult when we work full time jobs, so I can only volunteer several times a year, now. (Occurs during school hours & job). I hope my letter, has helped pave the road so we can begin, together, to establish theses positions rightfully within our district. Paid positions, would bridge the gap, it would bring up the health goals not just for our students, but for the teachers, who work long hours, and did not receive the education themselves ...which is reflected in the school kine lunches. Ono, but

primarily starches & fat. This will bring up the moral and education across the board; it would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state!

More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors. Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Aloha, Cassandra Kugler

Sincerely,

Cassandra Kugler

PO Box 10665 Honolulu, HI 96816-0665

mnprHAWAII@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: dyndyn07@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Shelley Chang-Purdy <dyndyn07@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 7:15 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Shelley Chang-Purdy
1422 Heulu St Apt A201 Honolulu, HI 96822-4391 dyndyn07@yahoo.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: jkd1414@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jodie Domina <jkd1414@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 8:06 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,

Jodie Domina

Sincerely,
Jodie Domina
3338 Hayden St Honolulu, HI 96815-4327
jkd1414@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: betsyanela@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Betsy Kositwongsakul
<betsyanela@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 8:12 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Betsy Kositwongsakul
PO Box 484 Laie, HI 96762-0484
betsyanela@hotmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: liseebusekrus@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Annalise Busekrus
<liseebusekrus@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 8:51 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

LATE

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Annalise Busekrus
220 Ohana St Kailua, HI 96734-2352
liseebusekrus@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: polina.semenova@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Polina Semenova
<polina.semenova@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:23 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Do it for the Keiki

Sincerely,

Polina Semenova

62 -2043 Kawaihae Rd Kamuela, HI 96743-8344 polina.semenova@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: augustespinal@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of August Espinal
<augustespinal@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:03 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156

LATE

Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
August Espinal
2128 Hillcrest St Honolulu, HI 96817-2027 augustespinal@yahoo.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: angela.surfdiva@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Angela Xoinis
<angela.surfdiva@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:49 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Angela Xoinis
1059 Lunahooia Pl Kailua, HI 96734-4616 angela.surfdiva@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: bmih@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bryan Mih
<bmih@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:33 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Bryan Mih
1944 Naniu Pl Honolulu, HI 96822-1758
bmih@hawaii.edu

kong1 - Blayne

From: psuenaga@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Patricia Soeda
<psuenaga@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 1:34 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Patricia Soeda
1147 Ala Napunani St Ph 6 Honolulu, HI 96818-1695 psuenaga@yahoo.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: joannmoe@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jo Ann Moe
<joannmoe@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 4:26 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Jo Ann Moe
1023 Kapahulu Ave Apt 23 Honolulu, HI 96816-1330 joannmoe@yahoo.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: kuuipocolleado@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Naomi Handy
<kuuipocolleado@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 5:23 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Naomi Handy
47 -420 Hui Iwa St Apt B303 Kaneohe, HI 96744-4550 kuuipocolleado@gmail.com

kong1 - Blayne

From: normandgorby@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Normand Dufresne
<normandgorby@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 7:22 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB2156



Dear House Committee on Education,

Date: January 29, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Kong, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB2156, Relating to the Hawaii Farm to School Program

Hrg: January 31, 2018 at 2:05pm at Conference Room 309

I strongly support HB2156 which will create a Farm to School program in the Department of Education (DOE) and provide funding for two Farm to School staff positions.

Farm to School programs promote healthy eating habits for our keiki both in school and at home. Through Farm to School, students develop a rich understanding and appreciation for improving nutrition and the environment. Establishing Farm to School within the DOE will allow our public school students to work on school gardens, learn about different fruits and vegetables, and the importance of reducing waste through successful composting.

This measure is essential to expanding Farm to School statewide, providing necessary support to the Department of Education to improve school food environments, incorporate school garden programs in the school curriculum, and work with stakeholders to increase educational opportunities and the procurement of locally grown produce in school cafeterias.

With more than 85 percent of our youth in Hawai'i attending public schools, Farm to School is an ideal program that would bring parents, students, teachers, and farmers together to strengthen what is grown and consumed in our state. More importantly, students who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume fruits and vegetables at school and at home. It is never too early to establish healthy behaviors to prevent unhealthy weight gain, tooth decay, or Type 2 diabetes, which are often associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors.

Passage of this measure will improve our keiki's health and local food systems. I strongly support HB2156 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Normand Dufresne
PO Box 587 Pahoia, HI 96778-0587
normandgorby@aol.com

HB-2156

Submitted on: 1/31/2018 4:33:16 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2018 2:05:00 PM

LATE

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wendy Baker | Hawaii Academy of Arts and Science PCS | Support | No |

Comments:

I attached the above letter from my current student when I told her I was presenting at the Schools of the Future conference. She asked me to bring this letter for my recipients. I believe it speaks volumes about the importance of including gardening and farming in schools. I am a garden educator and part of the Hawaii Island School Garden Network and know first-hand how much teachers invest to get garden programs running in their classrooms and schools. Currently, there is very little framework for individual efforts, and even so, almost 90% of our schools have some sort of garden program! Imagine the impact if we were to make a systemic change and support farm to school efforts. The ground is prepped and ready for cultivation. It is imperative that the DOE dig in and support the ongoing and important efforts our teachers and schools to incorporate farm to school. Do it for the kids!