

**HR-87**

Submitted on: 3/26/2018 1:54:34 PM

Testimony for HED on 3/27/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair; the Honorable Mark J. Hashem, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on Higher Education:

Good afternoon, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **HCR46 / HR 87** relating to Food Safety; Department of Agriculture; and the Department of Health.

The OCC on Legislative Priorities is in favor of **HCR46 / HR 87** and supports its passage.

**HCR46 / HR 87** is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it requests Department of Agriculture, the Department of Health, and the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa to recommend any: (1) Necessary changes to the Hawaii Revised Statutes and the Hawaii Administrative Rules regarding jurisdictional responsibilities, including changes necessary to clarify that the Department of Agriculture is responsible for the oversight of food safety on farms, and that the Department of Health is responsible for the oversight of food safety after food products leave farms; (2) Funding necessary to ensure food safety; and (3) Other reforms necessary to ensure food safety.

Specifically, the Platform of the DPH provides that "As an island state, securing affordable food for all is a priority. We support healthy, sustainable, and 97 diversified local food production, and "Buy Local" strategies to assure greater food security and food 98 safety." (Platform of the DPH, P. 2, Lines 97-99 (2016)).

Given that **HCR46 / HR 87** requests Department of Agriculture; the Department of Health; and the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, are requested to review the expanded requirements of

the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act, food safety requirements of the United States Department of Agriculture, and applicable sections of the Hawaii Revised Statutes and Hawaii Administrative Rules regarding food safety, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,  
/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC on Legislative Priorities of the DPH

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