

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

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Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Deputy to the Chairperson

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

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**MARCH 28, 2018  
3:00 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 308**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2075 SD1 HD1  
RELATING TO THE SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM**

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2075 SD1 HD1, which provides for an appropriation to support new research and extension personnel to expand and fortify the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. The Department supports this measure.

The expansion of organic agriculture is the fastest growing segment in production agriculture in the U.S. Additionally, sustainable agriculture techniques and tools are important for all forms of agriculture practiced in Hawaii. Those widely adopted sustainable agricultural practices such as cover crops for managing soil stability, fertility and pest management; no till/minimum till field management; biological control of key agricultural and floricultural pests; and the identification and selection of high yielding, high value crop plant varieties and cultivars appropriate for cultivation in Hawaii, are but a few of the sustainable agricultural practices that are key to the success of all segments of agriculture in our State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Finance  
Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

By  
Nicholas Comerford  
Dean, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources  
And  
Michael Bruno  
Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Vice Chancellor for Research  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### SB 2075 SD1 HD1 – RELATING TO THE SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Committee on Finance:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1.

Section 1. We fully support the idea that certified organic agriculture or some version of it is a valuable option in the diverse agricultural system portfolio that should exist in the state of Hawai'i. The three challenges identified also outlines the three legs of the stool that define a sustainable system. Field research conducted by the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa using scientific experimentation, design, and statistical analysis will provide science-based information on these farming practices that will be communicated back to the farming community via extension agents across the state.

Section 2. We support this section and provide more detail on the budget that may be helpful.

- 1) Research and Extension Assistant #1– This person will be stationed at Mānoa and will execute field and laboratory research in priority areas based on an industry needs assessment. The research assistant will be responsible for conducting replicated research trials in collaboration with Extension faculty, industry groups such as Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Kohala Group, Hawai'i Farmers Union United and responsibly communicate those results to stakeholders via field days, newsletters and online website postings.
- 2) Research and Extension Assistant #2 - This person will be stationed outside of Oahu and will have responsibilities similar to that of Assistant #1 working with local stakeholders but also with some state-wide responsibilities. The location where this person is stationed will be based on discussions with local agricultural groups in order to leverage additional support for SOAP activities.

- 3) Educational Assistant – This person will be responsible for extending research based information to stakeholders via the SOAP website, Hanai'ai newsletter and social media channels. The educational assistant will work to help Extension faculty assemble information into useable forms of outreach material and ensure material are ADA compliant before circulation.

Costs:

Research/Extension Assistant = ~\$70,000 x 2 positions = \$140,000

Educational Assistant = ~ \$42,000 + 52% Fringe benefits \$21,840 = \$63,840

Total Personnel = \$203,840

Operations = \$60,000

Grand Total =\$263,840

We fully support SB 2075 SD1 HD1 with the caveat that it does not affect, and is in addition to, the UH budget request.

March 26, 2018

**SB2075-RELATING TO THE SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM.**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers, agents and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to commercial sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders.

- Agriculture in Hawaii that was once dominated by the sugar and pineapple industry has shifted towards a diversified agricultural system.
- Small acreage and family owned farms now account for majority of Hawaii's agriculture industry across the state.
- According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, eighty-eight percent of farms in Hawaii are less than 50 acres in size, but only account for ten percent of the industry's sales.
- Increased food self-sufficiency and security is a priority for our program, as well as our state, as we live in an island state which relies on 85-90% of imports as its primary food source (State of Hawaii, Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism, 2012).

A change in Hawaii's agriculture industry has prompted a surge in request for Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program's (SOAP) services in responsive science-based information in sustainable and organic farming practices, farm productivity, agricultural marketing, pest management, crop nutrition, resistance management, risk management, food safety and environmental stewardship.

- The SOAP program has remained committed to supporting small and larger producers across Hawaii since 2008.
- CTAHR has endured about a 50% reduction in staffing over the years which includes the loss of statewide Extension specialist (researchers) agents.

**I believe that bill SB 2075 SD1 HD1 has much merit. Ongoing funding to support CTAHR's research and Extension educational programs are crucial to the sustainability of Hawaii's diversified agriculture. Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for SB 2075.**

I strongly support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget. Let me state from the onset of this testimony that, as a member of the faculty at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, it is important to note that I support the prioritization process that the administration utilizes to establish their annual budgetary request to the legislature and can only advocate for additional funding of university programs if it does not negatively impact existing requests that are included in the executive budget.

Jari Sugano, Personal testimony, Co-PI SOAP Program, UH CTAHR



O'AHU  
RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION &  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee:

O'ahu RC&D is pleased to submit testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

The SOAP program supports all types of farmers in the State of Hawai'i: from organic producers to growers who are often referred to as conventional producers by providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web-based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in-field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawai'i by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information to multiple farming stakeholders. *The SOAP program actively writes a number of grants that provide funds to hire staff on a short-term basis, however, this is not a sustainable model when trying to meet the Governor's goal in the next 3 years.*

The expansion of applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawai'i's diversified agriculture. O'ahu RC&D believes that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit and we strongly recommend that it be funded.

Sincerely,

Jean Brokish  
Executive Director



GoFarm Hawai'i  
University of Hawai'i at Manoa  
3050 Maile Way, Gilmore 115  
Honolulu, HI 96822

March 26, 2018

To: Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee

RE: Support of SB 2075

To Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee ,

I am writing to express GoFarm Hawaii's strong support of the funding for long term sustainable agriculture extension positions at CTAHR via the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP).

Our organization, GoFarm Hawaii, is a new farmer-training program funded by the USDA's Beginning Farmer Rancher Development Program, among other State and Federal agencies. As part of our curriculum, we actively interact with CTAHR researchers and extension agents throughout the State to provide the latest research and advice for new and aspiring farmers. The work presently being carried out by Extension on Oahu particularly is commendable and our program would not be as successful as it is without the hard work of the CTAHR Extension agents. For our program to continue to grow and for diversified agriculture to move forwards in the State (helping Hawaii achieve its wise and economically sage goal of greater food self-sufficiency), we greatly need more professionals on the ground, getting the latest research and techniques directly to new and existing farmers. CTAHR's SOAP program has a strong track record of doing exactly this.

Please help this bill move forward and provide stable funding for permanent extension agents so they can focus on developing long term, reliable programs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jay Bost  
GoFarm Hawai'i

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

I am one of the small acreage, family owned farms account for majority of Hawaii's agriculture industry. I am one of the 7,000 producers in the State of Hawaii, operating 7 acres and accounting for ten percent of the industry's sales. Poamoho Certified Organic Farm has been certified organic for over a decade—growing fruit and vegetables for our Oahu Ohana.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to statewide, commercial, sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders. *The SOAP program actively writes a number of grants that provide funds to hire staff on a short-term basis, however, this is not a sustainable model when trying to meet the Governor's goal in the next 3 years. This model does not allow for a continuity of knowledge and food stability.*

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

The SOAP program supports all types of farmers in the State of Hawaii: from organic producers to grower who are often referred to as conventional producers. There is often confusion that conventional or traditional producers do not employ sustainable agricultural practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, etc. However, this is not true. Larger acreage producers are perhaps the greatest adopters of sustainable agricultural practices on a per acre basis.

The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of our applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. **I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

**Wendy Gady**  
**Farm Manager**  
**Poamoho Certified Organic Farm**  
**808.225.9835**

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

I am writing on behalf of Barels Organic Avocados, Hawaii Organic Farming Association, GoFarm Hawaii and many other small, diversified farms and farmers unable to directly voice their opinions and support for this bill. The SOAP program and extension agents at the University of Hawaii CTAHR program are crucial for the growth and success of the next generation of Hawaii's farmers. Education, in the form of conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research, and in field technical support, allow both established and beginning farmers to remain productive and for new farms to grow.

Commercial sustainable agriculture systems are based on fulfilling our food and fiber needs while sustaining or enhancing the economic viability and prosperity of local farm operations. Sustainable agriculture practices can be implemented on small to large acreage farms and include practices such as, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, incorporation of locally available crop inputs, green/animal manures, composting and mulch, water management practices, biological pest management, choosing pest resistant varieties, etc. Hawaii is the perfect environment for these practices to be implemented and for commercial sustainable agricultural systems to flourish. Please support this program and allow Hawaii to help lead the organic and sustainable agricultural movement.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of SOAP's applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

**Daniel Carroll, Barels Avocados, Gofarm Hawaii, Hawaii Organic Farming Association**





S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

## RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to commercial sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders.

Agriculture in Hawaii that was once dominated by the sugar and pineapple industry has shifted towards a diversified agricultural system. Increased food self-sufficiency and security is a priority for our program, as well as our state, as we live in an island state which relies on 85-90% of imports as its primary food source (State of Hawaii, Department of Business Economic

Development and Tourism, 2012).

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

Commercial sustainable agriculture systems are based on fulfilling our food and fiber needs while sustaining or enhancing the economic viability and prosperity of local farm operations, and safeguarding our nonrenewable, environmental and natural resources. Sustainable agriculture practices can be implemented on small to large acreage farms and include practices such as, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, incorporation of locally available crop inputs, green/animal manures, composting and mulch, water management practices, biological pest management, choosing pest resistant varieties, etc.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of SOAP's applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1**

**HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

**Anthony kawika Deluze  
Farmer at Ka'onohi, Kalauao, Ewa  
Owner of Ho'aipono  
Director of Ho'ola hou ia Kalauao**

Last modified: 1:31 PM



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

March 28, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**TESTIMONY ON SB 2075, SD1, HD1**  
RELATING TO THE SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Room 308  
3:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, 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 SB 2075, SD1, HD1**, which appropriates moneys for three positions and operating expenses of the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program administered by the UH College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

HFB believes that Hawaii's organic sector of our agricultural industry has great potential and opportunity to expand in Hawaii. Having a stronger organic industry will not only help the overall agricultural industry, but it will also lead to reducing imported organic products and invasive species that are commonly found on the importation of organic fruits and produce.

For nearly a century, CTAHR has helped develop and improve agricultural technologies pertinent to organic growers. This includes intensive cover crop research, promoting the importance of locally grown produce, developing biological and cultural methods for controlling pests without chemicals, and the use of biological nitrogen fixation to significantly increase production of high protein foods while at the same time reducing the need for commercially produced fertilizers.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 10:19:48 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

## **Kauai County Farm Bureau**

*Affiliated with Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation*

P.O. Box 3895, Lihue HI 96766-6895

808-855-5429

[admin@kauaicountyfarmbureau.org](mailto:admin@kauaicountyfarmbureau.org)

***The Voice of Kauai's Agriculture***



**March 27, 2018**

**To: Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the House Finance Committee**  
**Subject: Testimony for SB2075 SD1 HD1**

**Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and members of House Finance Committee.**  
**On behalf of Kauai County Farm Bureau (KCFB) we are in full support of SB2075 SD1 HD1 regarding Sustainable & Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR).**

**CTAHR has been a valuable partner and to our local farmers The on Kauai and statewide for the past 50 years. The extension agents and support staff of CTAHR personal hands on assistance to farmers with science based information and outreach to commercial, conventional and organic farming in Hawaii.**

**We need to be continually educated with the latest trends in crop and livestock production, best management practices and applied research for agricultural professionals and producers across the state of Hawaii.**

**Kauai County Farm Bureau encourage you to provide continued funding to support CTAHR's mission and is critical to the sustainability of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

**Respectfully,**  
**John R. Gordines – President**  
**Kauai County Farm Bureau**



**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/26/2018 1:53:15 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
michele matsuo	Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus	Support	No

Comments:

Good Afternoon Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

The Democratic Party's Education Caucus is in strong support of this bill.

Mahalo,

Michele Matsuo,

Chair, Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/26/2018 10:54:27 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ronald Weidenbach	Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association	Support	No

Comments:

The Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association (HAAA), with statewide membership, strongly supports SB2017 SD1 HD1 which provides funding for the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR)

Agriculture in Hawaii has shifted in recent decades towards a diversified agricultural system. Increased food self-sufficiency and security is a priority for the SOAP program,. This important program is critical to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

The HAAA believes that the SOAP program, with its dedicated staff, provides the faarming community with the applied research support and information needed for the agriculture industry to meet increasing demand for local foods, including providing technical support for the emerging aquaponics sector. As such we strongly support SB2075 SD1 HD1.

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



**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/26/2018 2:45:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jean Brokish	Oahu Resource Conservation & Development Council	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/25/2018 9:00:14 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Redfeather	Ka Ohana O Na Pua	Support	No

Comments:

Organic Agriculture is growing at a sustained rate of 20% per year across the US. Major corporations are paying attention and are creating new organic lines of foods. Costco is bringing in more organic products every month. The future of agriculture will depend on farmers and decision makers realizing that healthy food and healthy soil creates healthy communities, and supporting steps toward that end. This is one of those important steps for the University of Hawai'i at Manoa CTAHR. Without trained staff to help farmers and community grow successfully the food will never reach Hawaii's markets to be purchased. According to Matthew Loke, Statistian at HDOA, we are leaving 3 billion dollars in food purchases on the table every year. Mothers want organic food for thier children. Increasingly, research studies are pointing to the down side of putting poisons on our food and in the environment. Please pass this appropriation, and take that first necessary step to support Extension and CTAHR. Mahalo!

# Hawaii Business Group Incorporated

94-538 Puahi St., Ste A, Waipahu, HI 96797

Ph: 808-676-0880 Fax: 808-676-0400

## Testimony RE: S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

### RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

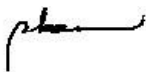
Small acreage and family owned farms account for majority of Hawaii's agriculture industry. With 7,000 producers in the State of Hawaii, we know that 88% of these farms operate on less than 50 acres and account for ten percent of the industry's sales. We are mindful that the remaining 12% of farms account for 90% of the agricultural sales in the state.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to statewide, commercial, sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders. ***The SOAP program actively writes a number of grants that provide funds to hire staff on a short-term basis, however, this is not a sustainable model when trying to meet the Governor's goal in the next 3 years.***

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

The SOAP program supports all types of farmers in the State of Hawaii: from organic producers to grower who are often referred to as conventional producers. There is often confusion that conventional or traditional producers do not employ sustainable agricultural practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, etc. However, this is not true. Larger acreage producers are perhaps the greatest adopters of sustainable agricultural practices on a per acre basis.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of our applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**



Peter Kam, President  
Hawaii Business Group Incorporated



Hawaii Papaya Industry Association

190 Kamehameha Ave, Room 1

Hilo, Hawaii 96720

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

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Agriculture in Hawaii that was once dominated by the sugar and pineapple industry has shifted towards a diversified agricultural system. Increased food self-sufficiency and security is a priority for our program, as well as our state, as we live in an island state which relies on 85-90% of imports as its primary food source (State of Hawaii, Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism, 2012).

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

Commercial sustainable agriculture systems are based on fulfilling our food and fiber needs while sustaining or enhancing the economic viability and prosperity of local farm operations, and safeguarding our nonrenewable, environmental and natural resources. Sustainable agriculture practices can be implemented on small to large acreage farms and include practices such as, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, incorporation of locally available crop inputs, green/animal manures, composting and mulch, water management practices, biological pest management, choosing pest resistant varieties, etc.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of SOAP's applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

**Eric Weinert**

**President, Hawaii Papaya Industry Association**

Testimony of  
**Kylie Matsuda-Lum**  
Managing Director, Kahuku Farms on  
**S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1**  
**RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

Small acreage and family owned farms account for majority of Hawaii's agriculture industry. With 7,000 producers in the State of Hawaii, we know that 88% of these farms operate on less than 50 acres and account for ten percent of the industry's sales. We are mindful that the remaining 12% of farms account for 90% of the agricultural sales in the state.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to statewide, commercial, sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders. ***The SOAP program actively writes a number of grants that provide funds to hire staff on a short-term basis, however, this is not a sustainable model when trying to meet the Governor's goal in the next 3 years.***

The SOAP at UH-CTAHR remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state. The SOAP program supports all types of farmers in the State of Hawaii: from organic producers to grower who are often referred to as conventional producers. There is often confusion that conventional or traditional producers do not employ sustainable agricultural practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, etc. However, this is not true. Larger acreage producers are perhaps the greatest adopters of sustainable agricultural practices on a per acre basis.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of our applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

Mahalo for allowing me to present this testimony.

Kylie Matsuda-Lum  
Managing Director, Kahuku Farms

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 11:53:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rene Siracusa	Malama O Puna	Support	No

Comments:

Malama O Puna is an environmental 501(c)(3) which has been advocating for a clean environment since its inception in 1990. We fully support this bill; State DOA has not focused enough on organic agriculture, which will help to move us forward to our State's sustainability goals, reduce our carbon footprint, positively impact the climate change problem and in general provide our State with major environmental benefits. This bill is a step in the right direction. Please pass it.

mahalo plenty and malama pono,

Rene Siracusa, President

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

I am a 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation papaya farmer on the windward coast of Oahu and the producers of the Kamiya Papaya sold throughout the island. As local farmers, we rely on heavily on the assistance and knowledge that the UH CTAHR provides for us. They are always willing to help with the limited resources they have and truly need the funding as SB2075 has described.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to statewide, commercial, sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders. ***The SOAP program actively writes a number of grants that provide funds to hire staff on a short-term basis, however, this is not a sustainable model when trying to meet the Governor's goal in the next 3 years.***

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**Michael Kamiya  
Sales Director  
Kamiya Gold, Inc.**



Testimony of  
**Melvin Matsuda**  
Director, Kahuku Farmers Inc on  
**S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1**  
**RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

Small acreage and family owned farms account for majority of Hawaii's agriculture industry. With 7,000 producers in the State of Hawaii, we know that 88% of these farms operate on less than 50 acres and account for ten percent of the industry's sales. We are mindful that the remaining 12% of farms account for 90% of the agricultural sales in the state.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to statewide, commercial, sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders. ***The SOAP program actively writes a number of grants that provide funds to hire staff on a short-term basis, however, this is not a sustainable model when trying to meet the Governor's goal in the next 3 years.***

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Mahalo for allowing me to present this testimony.

Melvin Matsuda  
Director, Kahuku Farmers Inc

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 8:33:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
marcy montgomery	Heritage Ranch Inc dba One Island	Support	No

Comments:

On behalf of 150 farms, farmers' markets, and retailers affiliated with our organization, we strongly encourage State support for Organic Ag. Org Ag is one of the fastest growing segments in the food industry, largely driven by consumer preferences. Hawaii's local and exported organic ag products require support to grow this industry. One shortcoming we repeatedly hear about is the lack of organic inputs, and organic processing facilities for mac nuts, coffee and fruit. We ask your support towards strengthening services to organic food producers and processors.

TESTIMONY OF TIN MYAING THEIN, PH.D  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PACIFIC GATEWAY CENTER

TO:  
THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURE &  
ENVIRONMENT  
MARCH 27, 2018

REGARDING  
SENATE BILL NO. 2075  
RELATING TO THE SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chairperson Kahele, Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for allowing the community to present our views on Senate Bill 2075, relating to an appropriation of \$250,000 supporting new research and extension personnel that will provide services to the agricultural sector increasing the needed support for the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. The Pacific Gateway Center, a community based non-profit organization, absolutely supports this measure.

Presently, organic agriculture is the fastest growing component of the agricultural world in the U.S. For the State of Hawaii to succeed in food security and be sustainable in agricultural production, attention and support for a variety of techniques and tools are needed for all forms of agriculture practiced in Hawaii. These included different methods of sustainable agricultural practices managing soil stability and pest management; different cover crops, keeping the soil fertile; biological control of pests that threaten the produce as well as research and the identification and selection of high yielding, high value crop plant varieties appropriate for cultivation in Hawaii. We really this is support from the legislature for sustainable agricultural practices in our State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



P.O. Box 99, Wailuku, HI 96793-0099

March 27, 2018

**IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB2075 SD1 HD1—AN APPROPRIATION TO THE  
COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES  
("CTAHR") FOR ITS SUSTAINABLE & ORGANIC AGRICULTURE  
PROGRAM  
BEFORE THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARING ON MARCH 28,  
2018 AT 3:00PM IN ROOM 308**

Vincent Mina  
State President

Kyle Studer  
Vice-President  
Ka'u, Hawai'i

David Case  
Secretary  
Kona, Hawai'i

Karen Reid  
Treasurer  
Haleakala, Maui

Sean Anderson  
Waimanalo, Oahu

Cab Baber  
Kohola, Hawai'i

Dave Burlew  
North Shore,  
Oahu

Maureen Datta  
Kona, Hawai'i

John Dobovan  
Haleakala, Maui

Steve Lund  
Puna, Hawai'i

Ray Maki  
Kauai

Mikala Minn  
Hana, Maui

Robert Pahia  
Mauna  
Kahalawai, Maui

James Simpliciano  
Lahaina, Maui

Drake Weinert  
East Hawai'i

Christian  
Zuckerman  
Wai'anae, Oahu

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and Members of the House Finance Committee.

HFUU (Hawaii Farmers Union United) represents some 1,350 family farmers and their supporters through its 13 Chapters on the four largest Hawai'i Islands. HFUU is in strong support of SB2075 to fund CTAHR's sustainable and organic agricultural extension program. We hope that the appropriations for anything having to do with rebuilding Hawaii's young but depleted soils through regenerative, sustainable practices will continue to be supported by our government through funding and policy. CTAHR's program will further empower our farmers to provide healthy and nutritious food for the community on a consistent basis through a resilient agricultural system based on healthy soils.

There seems to be a perception that there is something "different" from sustainable agricultural practices and conventional or organic farming. There is no real difference, because sustainable practices enhance both organic and conventional agriculture. These practices include composting, minimum tillage, cover cropping and promoting the growth of beneficial microorganisms in the soils. They are not different methods of farming but time-proven practices that rejuvenate the life in the soil, which benefits all farmers. These practices could also improve the efficiency of organic and conventional farming and thereby reduce costs and lead to better economic results for all farmers.

We urge your Committee to enact the full \$264,000 appropriation as detailed in CTAHR's testimony of March 13 before the House Committee on Higher Education. This will fund three full-time equivalent agricultural education, research and extension positions housed at CTAHR in the University of Hawai'i system. We also ask you not to divert this funding through the executive budget but make it directly to CTAHR through the University budget where it will be most efficiently used. We urge your Committee to fund SB2075 with \$264,000 for this well-conceived program.

HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED

Vincent Mina, President

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to commercial sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders.

Agriculture in Hawaii that was once dominated by the sugar and pineapple industry has shifted towards a diversified agricultural system. Increased food self-sufficiency and security is a priority for our program, as well as our state, as we live in an island state which relies on 85-90% of imports as its primary food source (State of Hawaii, Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism, 2012).

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

Commercial sustainable agriculture systems are based on fulfilling our food and fiber needs while sustaining or enhancing the economic viability and prosperity of local farm operations, and safeguarding our nonrenewable, environmental and natural resources. Sustainable agriculture practices can be implemented on small to large acreage farms and include practices such as, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, incorporation of locally available crop inputs, green/animal manures, composting and mulch, water management practices, biological pest management, choosing pest resistant varieties, etc.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of SOAP's applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

Owen K. Kaneshiro

Owen K. Kaneshiro Farms, LLC

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 2:58:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 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:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 10:06:31 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ted	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

**RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1 relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

I strongly support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget. Let me state from the onset of this testimony that, as a member of the faculty at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, it is important to note that I support the prioritization process that the administration utilizes to establish their annual budgetary request to the legislature and can only advocate for additional funding of university programs if it does not negatively impact existing requests that are included in the executive budget.

Small acreage and family owned farms account for majority of Hawaii's agriculture industry. With 7,000 producers in the State of Hawaii, we know that 88% of these farms operate on less than 50 acres and account for ten percent of the industry's sales. We are mindful that the remaining 12% of farms account for 90% of the agricultural sales in the state.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to statewide, commercial, sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders. The SOAP program actively writes a number of grants that

provide funds to hire staff on a short-term basis, however, this is not a sustainable model when trying to meet the Governor's goal in the next 3 years.

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

The SOAP program supports all types of farmers in the State of Hawaii: from organic producers to grower who are often referred to as conventional producers. There is often confusion that conventional or traditional producers do not employ sustainable agricultural practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, etc. However, this is not true. Larger acreage producers are perhaps the greatest adopters of sustainable agricultural practices on a per acre basis.

The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of our applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.

Theodore Radovich, Associate Specialist, personal testimony



S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

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UH CTAHR has been an integral part of our farming success for over 40 years. Without their resources and help, we would not have been able to overcome the many challenges we faced growing our crops.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of UH CTAHR's applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

**Clyde Fukuyama  
Matsuda-Fukuyama Farms, Inc.**

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/25/2018 6:34:25 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Betsy Cole	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is imperative that Hawaii focus its public investment on the types of agriculture that can be sustained over time, maintains the health of our ecosystems, and provides safe nutritious food for our population.

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/26/2018 3:53:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teri Heede	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/26/2018 11:53:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Frederick M. Mencher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee,

I have been involved with aquaponics education and production for the last several years. U.H. SOAP program personnel, as part of their research and outreach activities, have provided useful information that has helped me answer questions involving best practices for pest control. I believe that SOAP is a valuable program that will support the growing number of organic farmers, as well as any farmer who wishes to incorporate sustainable practices into his or her operation. I hope you will support SOAP's extension efforts by passing SB2075 SD1 HD1.

Sincerely,

Frederick M. Mencher

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

I am writing on behalf of Barels Organic Avocados, Hawaii Organic Farming Association, GoFarm Hawaii and many other small, diversified farms and farmers unable to directly voice their opinions and support for this bill. The SOAP program and extension agents at the University of Hawaii CTAHR program are crucial for the growth and success of the next generation of Hawaii's farmers. Education, in the form of conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research, and in field technical support, allow both established and beginning farmers to remain productive and for new farms to grow.

Commercial sustainable agriculture systems are based on fulfilling our food and fiber needs while sustaining or enhancing the economic viability and prosperity of local farm operations. Sustainable agriculture practices can be implemented on small to large acreage farms and include practices such as, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, incorporation of locally available crop inputs, green/animal manures, composting and mulch, water management practices, biological pest management, choosing pest resistant varieties, etc. Hawaii is the perfect environment for these practices to be implemented and for commercial sustainable agricultural systems to flourish. Please support this program and allow Hawaii to help lead the organic and sustainable agricultural movement.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of SOAP's applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

**Daniel Carroll, Barels Avocados, Gofarm Hawaii, Hawaii Organic Farming Association**



**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/26/2018 11:14:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Simon Russell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and honorable members of the committee,

My company farms on Maui and I strongly support SB 2075

Your support for the Sustainable Organic Agriculture Program will help Hawaii farmers increase thir ability to replace imported food with locally grown.

The SOAP program will also help farmers lower their cost of production by teaching them whole systems of farming that will reduce their reliance on imported farm inputs.

Please suport this measure,

Respectfully Submitted

Simon Russell

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 5:24:13 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jensen Uyeda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

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To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to statewide, commercial, sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders. ***The SOAP program actively writes a number of grants that provide funds to hire staff on a short-term basis, however, this is not a sustainable model when trying to meet the Governor's goal in the next 3 years.***

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**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 7:41:33 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keith Ranney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 8:23:43 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Colehour Bondera	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee Members:

Please support this effort, since agriculture in HI needs to be able to stand on its own and certified organic agriculture is what will help farmers both financially, but also the HI environment from costing so much in corrective and import control expenses for pests, diseases and more-so for dealing with problems caused by chemical uses (including checmical fertilizers).

As a certified organic farmer who has represented HI around the country, and who has watched as the farmers who can make it economically are those who do not rely on imported pest control chemicals and not on chemical fertilizers, it is clear that CTAHR can and should be the starting point for reserach and outreach to support production that is the most healthy for our communities and eco-systems.

Please support SB2075 and help HI get up to speed with global agariculture and mostly looking out for ourselves as a state that can and should be providing our own food production and not relying on imported chemicals or imported foods!

Aloha,

Colehour Bondera

KANALANI OHANA FARM

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 8:29:41 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
megan powers	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We need to increase support and awareness for the value of growing and eating organic food.

At the turn of the last century 1 Apple had the equivalent nutritional value as 42 apples today.

Our soils have lost their fertility and our food has lost its nutritional value.

Conventional farming continues to deplete soil nutrients, adds poisons because plants are not healthy enough to defend themselves and provides us with poisoned empty calories.

We we need to support and increase farming practices that build soil fertility and produces nutrient dense food.

I support this bill.

Just make sure that the chemical companies who fund a lot of activity at UH are not successful at their attempts to undermine the program and change the meaning of organic to something that increases their bottom line and erodes public trust in the true meaning of organic food.

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 8:32:28 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda Hastings	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 9:33:52 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephanie Mock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this measure as it will help secure research and support staff funding which will allow increased research efforts, dissemination of science based information and technical assistance necessary for continuing to build a stronger agricultural sector in Hawaii.

Please support this bill.

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 9:31:58 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Helmut Klauer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 8:39:30 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 9:43:09 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Janet Pappas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear FIN Chair, Vice Chair and members,

I strongly support bill SB2075 to promote sustainable and organic agriculture in Hawaii. However, we cannot just "hope" to have sustainable agriculture in Hawaii; we must make it happen.

I wholeheartedly agree with three goals stated in the bill:

- (1) Increasing farm income;
- (2) Promoting environmental stewardship; and
- (3) Promoting stable, prosperous farm families and communities.

All three of these goals must be met for Hawaii to have a thriving sustainable local farm community. Providing an adequately funded staff and resources is the first step to getting this program off the ground.

For years we in Hawaii supported research into a type of farming that has been found to be unsustainable over the long haul: it overused pesticides which drifted into nearby fields and communities; caused the proliferation of "superweeds"; and became very expensive for farmers (seed and equipment costs). Now, farmers on the mainland and in Hawaii are finding a burgeoning market for sustainable and organic crops, and it is time for the state to support this transition.

Growing our own food in Hawaii is a state goal, but there are formidable roadblocks: lack of farmers, expensive land, and limited (and shrinking) prime farmland are some of the issues. Having a staff and resources to attack these problems head-on will allow us to move toward our goal. Passage of the farm to school bill, SB 2928, will also be helpful.

We often don't become concerned about issues until there is a disaster. We have been warned by the Puerto Rican hurricane that islands are vulnerable in many ways.



Please be proactive and support SB2075 to put Hawaii on the path to a sustainable farm and food future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jan Pappas

Aiea, Hawaii 96701

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 10:45:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jerry Ornellas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 10:50:43 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Thomas Craig	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 11:01:40 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tommy Noyes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill because promoting local produce cultivation makes good economic sense and improves nutrition for consumers. Mahalo, Tommy Noyes

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 11:41:07 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dr. Jana Bogs	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

In 1862, Congress passed a bill to provide for “at least one college in each state where the leading object shall be, with excluding other scientific or classical studies, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts... in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes.” The bill provided for a grant of federal land to each state, which could sell the land and use the proceeds to build and operate its new college. President Lincoln signed the Morrill Land Grant Act into law that same year.

The University of Hawaii took up that offer and created the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to meet the requirement. I just wanted to remind legislators that the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program is a part of this effort.

Although not in the College of Agriculture, about 45 years ago, I saw how Cornell University was at the forefront of the effort to help the local dairy farms and agriculture industry. The University of Hawaii has done the same for pineapple and sugar but now we have a more diversified agriculture community. Support for the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program fulfills this need.

We at Ilili Farms, a commercial aquaponics farm on 2 acres in Waianae, have had the benefit of research done by SOAP. My wife and I, retired from real estate and I from structural engineering never farmed before and depend on new technology and research to assist our farm production. We lost the cutting edge on aquaponics technology with the retiring of Dr. Harry Ako and Dr. Clyde Tamaru, both of CTAHR. To fill the vacuum, we would like to see SOAP be funded.

**The ability to meet the Governor’s goal is dependent on the expansion of SOAP’s applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii’s diversified agriculture.**

**Daniel Ching, Farm Manager, Ilili Farms, Waianae Hawaii**

**From:** [Marelia Puche](#)  
**To:** [FINTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1 RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:00:01 AM

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S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1  
RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to commercial sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders.

Agriculture in Hawaii that was once dominated by the sugar and pineapple industry has shifted towards a diversified agricultural system. Increased food self-sufficiency and security is a priority for our program, as well as our state, as we live in an island state which relies on 85-90% of imports as its primary food source (State of Hawaii, Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism, 2012).

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web-based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in-field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

Commercial sustainable agriculture systems are based on fulfilling our food and fiber needs while sustaining or enhancing the economic viability and prosperity of local farm operations, and safeguarding our nonrenewable, environmental and natural resources. Sustainable agriculture practices can be implemented on small to large acreage farms and include practices such as, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, incorporation of locally available crop inputs, green/animal manures, composting and mulch, water management practices, biological pest management, choosing pest resistant varieties, etc.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of SOAP's applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded.**

**Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

**Marelia Puche, University of Hawaii Master Gardener Program, 2018 Master Gardener Intern**



S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

*I strongly support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget. Let me state from the onset of this testimony that, as a member of the faculty at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, it is important to note that I support the prioritization process that the administration utilizes to establish their annual budgetary request to the legislature and can only advocate for additional funding of university programs if it does not negatively impact existing requests that are included in the executive budget.*

Small acreage and family owned farms account for majority of Hawaii's agriculture industry. With 7,000 producers in the State of Hawaii, we know that 88% of these farms operate on less than 50 acres and account for ten percent of the industry's sales. We are mindful that the remaining 12% of farms account for 90% of the agricultural sales in the state.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to statewide, commercial, sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders. ***The SOAP program actively writes a number of grants that provide funds to hire staff on a short-term basis, however, this is not a sustainable model when trying to meet the Governor's goal in the next 3 years.***

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web-based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in-field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

The SOAP program supports all types of farmers in the State of Hawaii: from organic producers to grower who are often referred to as conventional producers. There is often confusion that conventional or traditional producers do not employ sustainable agricultural practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, etc. However, this is not true. Larger acreage producers are perhaps the greatest adopters of sustainable agricultural practices on a per acre basis.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of our applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

As a junior extension agent, I am especially appreciative of the role SOAP plays in providing mentoring and on the job training for extension agents where little structured training is otherwise available. I have been very impressed by my SOAP colleagues who proactively engage with junior faculty such as myself to support our professional development and ensure that we are well-equipped to serve the diverse farming and ranching communities that comprise our stakeholders. Working on the outer islands, like Kauai, I have found that the support of SOAP in providing resources to support our outreach, research, and educational programs has been indispensable.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this bill to ensure this critical programming can be sustained.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emilie R. Kirk', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

**Emilie R. Kirk**  
**Junior Extension Agent**  
**University of Hawaii at Manoa**  
**College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources**  
**Kauai County Cooperative Extension Office**

## FIN-Jo

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**From:** Tom Gibson <studiogibson@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 12:37 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** SB # 2075 SD 1 HD 1

Aloha:

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1  
RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to commercial sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders.

Agriculture in Hawaii that was once dominated by the sugar and pineapple industry has shifted towards a diversified agricultural system. Increased food self-sufficiency and security is a priority for our program, as well as our state, as we live in an island state which relies on 85-90% of imports as its primary food source (State of Hawaii, Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism, 2012).

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web-based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in-field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

Commercial sustainable agriculture systems are based on fulfilling our food and fiber needs while sustaining or enhancing the economic viability and prosperity of local farm operations, and safeguarding our nonrenewable, environmental and natural resources. Sustainable agriculture practices can be implemented on small to large acreage farms and include practices such as, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, incorporation of locally available crop inputs, green/animal manures, composting and mulch, water management practices, biological pest management, choosing pest resistant varieties, etc.

The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of SOAP's applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.

**Thomas M Gibson**  
**7210 Aina Pono St, Kapa'a, HI 96746**

**micro urban farmer**

Personal Testimony Presented before the  
House Committee on Finance  
Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 3:00 pm  
by  
Douglas L. Vincent, Ph.D., P.A.S.

SB 2075 SD1 HD1 (HSCR 1439-18) Relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program

Personal Testimony in support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1

Chair Luke and Vice Chair Cullen and members of the committee

My name is Douglas L. Vincent and I am a Professor and Animal Scientist in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources in the Department of Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences. I am currently a member of the faculty at the University of Hawaii at Manoa since 1985. My personal testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawaii nor the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

I strongly support SB 612 SD1 Relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program. I have worked with Hawaii's agriculture industries for over 30 years. The SOAP program at the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources in the University of Hawaii at Manoa is a fantastic program serving Hawaii's small organic farmers. But there is a greater demand for their services than the current staff can deliver. They need your help. To provide funding for three positions is a step in the right direction, helping farmers on all islands. To help Hawaii to become more self-sufficient in food production, we need more staff to support our extension and research staff in CTAHR. I strongly support passage of SB 2075 SD1 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 3:06:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Scott Crawford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 4:03:34 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shannon Alivado	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

Small acreage and family owned farms account for majority of Hawaii's agriculture industry. With 7,000 producers in the State of Hawaii, we know that 88% of these farms operate on less than 50 acres and account for ten percent of the industry's sales. We are mindful that the remaining 12% of farms account for 90% of the agricultural sales in the state.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to statewide, commercial, sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders. **The SOAP program actively writes a number of grants that provide funds to hire staff on a short-term basis, however, this is not a sustainable model when trying to meet the Governor's goal in the next 3 years.**

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

The SOAP program supports all types of farmers in the State of Hawaii: from organic producers to growers who are often referred to as conventional producers. There is often confusion that conventional or traditional producers do not employ sustainable agricultural practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, etc. However, this is not true. Larger acreage producers are perhaps the greatest adopters of sustainable agricultural practices on a per acre basis.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of our applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

Waiahole Nursery and Garden Center stands in absolute support of SB 2075 and UH Manoa CTHAR's SOAP initiative. Given Hawaii's natural inclination towards agricultural abundance, and agriculture's place in maintaining strong Hawaiian cultural ties, nothing stands of greater importance than a push towards preservation of current sustainable practices and future advancement of local environmentally-responsible farming. As SOAP aims to propel both organic and conventional Hawaiian farms further into an age of localized agricultural economy, we stand with UH CTHAR. SOAP will engender community, environmentalism, and a return to pre-contact agricultural self-reliance.

Thank you for your support of a brilliant Hawaiian future.

Signed enthusiastically,

Alexandra Welch, *Waiahole Nursery and Garden Center Team Member*

443.786.8056

[awelch\\_21@yahoo.com](mailto:awelch_21@yahoo.com)

48-190 Kamehameha Hwy

Kaneohe, HI 96744







**LATE**

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 4:31:59 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
phyllis fong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 4:57:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joy Nelson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 5:26:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Suellen Barton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to commercial sustainable farming stakeholders.

Agriculture in Hawaii that was once dominated by the sugar and pineapple industry has shifted towards a diversified agricultural system. Increased food self-sufficiency and security is a priority for our program, as well as our state, as we live in an island state which relies on 85-90% of imports as its primary food source.

While I am not a commercial farmer, I do have a small garden and prefer to buy local agricultural products when possible. Bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 will permit CTAHR to extend its work and improve the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's agriculture for the benefit of all Hawaii residents.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer my testimony.

Bill Skelton  
2432 Akoki St  
Lihue, Kauai 96766

**LATE**

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 9:09:01 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	HFUU	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 11:35:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jaime Tourin	Maui Tempeh Company	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Jaime Tourin and I own and operate Maui Tempeh Company.

Tempeh is a process of culturing beans to bind together into a meaty block. We choose Adzuki Bean although we can make Tempeh from any bean!

I want to get to the point and say, what Amjad is doing is revolutionary for the Hawaiian Islands.

Being able to diversify our crops is very important! Legumes have been proven to be a great crop for both profit and soil regeneration.

If we had local beans, we would buy them. Conventional and Organic, any bean operation is a good operation.

On a side note, Plant Protein and Veganism is BIG right now. Growing fast! The owner of a very large company was visiting us this week and is Very interested to work with us.

I am currently drawing up plans to establish a Maui Tempeh Factory... and I would LOVE if that facility could be on Ag land with Adzuki Crops!

Amjad has already planted Adzukis on Maui as well as his other bean crops... Garbonzo and Kidney beans i think? So far its going well and im excited to make our first block of local tempeh!

I support this bill... and will do the best i can as a businessman to perpetuate the growing of local legumes.

Aloha,

Jaime Tourin





**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 8:39:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dianna Wilcox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 9:05:27 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ken Stover	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2018 8:04:12 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
marcy cayton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-2075-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2018 8:54:16 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/28/2018 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Harriet Witt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

You cannot be any healthier than the soil where your food grows. Soil health is human health, and we need to recognize this. We also need to take action. This bill is such action.

**From:** s.bayles@chicnaturals.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 11:42 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Bill #: SB 2075



Bill #: SB 2075

To Whom It May Concern

Please accept this testimony as our pledge for support. Sustainable and organic farming programs are imperative to the survival and sustainability of farming communities like that in Hawaii. As land and resource cost increases, Hawaii has seen staple farming crops such as pineapple and sugar cane disappear from the landscape. This leaves farmers and employees out of work, it increases the costs of goods because everything has to be imported and it creates food security issues because food is no longer farmed in enough quantities to support the community.

In 2016, in collaboration with the University of Hawaii, we received a Specialty Crop Block Grant for introducing chickpeas to Hawaii. We were successfully funded in the amount of \$50,000. Over the last two years, that \$50,000 achieved the following results:

- A. We not only proved that chickpeas grow in Hawaii, we had astonishing results. In WA and areas up north where chickpeas grow, the yield is typically 25-50 pods per bush. Here in Hawaii, we were seeing yields as high as 80 - 120 pods per bush!
- B. We found that the chickpeas used very little resources because they don't require irrigation.
- C. We were able to show how using chickpeas as a rotation crop greatly reduces the amount of synthetic chemicals needed to restore nitrogen levels in the soil.
- D. We showed how farmers could gain a 15-20% higher yield from other crops by rotating with chickpeas.
- E. Because of the long shelf life of the dry beans at harvest, we were able to illustrate how this is a valuable plant based protein source to help address Hawaii's food security issue in case of natural disaster.
- F. We have 23 farmers now utilizing chickpeas as a rotation crop.
- G. We had our first fully mechanized crop go into the ground on a commercial scale 21 days ago.

These results may not seem like a big deal to some people, but if you really look into what was achieved, it's quite compelling. If it were not for this program, we would've never been able to acquire such data and we would've never made the progress we have to truly restore Hawaii's soils naturally and address a very serious food security issue, since 90% of Hawaii's food is imported.

Chickpeas are not the only beneficial crop and other states have issues just like we do here in Hawaii, so I believe that it is important to expand the program, not consolidate it. Furthermore, farmers, processors, businesses, schools and the community as a whole benefit from programs like these.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Shaun Bayles  
*Co-owner*



**PO Box 11541  
Lahaina, HI 96761**

**Ph: (808) 463-7878**

**[admin@chicnaturals.com](mailto:admin@chicnaturals.com)**

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## FIN-Jo

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**From:** Patricia Fallbeck <patriciafallbeck@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:39 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** SB 2075



Aloha Committee Members,

I urge you to support the SB 2075 to help Hawai'ian citizens realize our State goal of sustainability. I have been in the Kaua'i Master Gardener organization for six years. Our volunteers meet with approximately 200 citizens every week at the Farmers' Market to answer farming and personal Garden questions. We set up school gardens and community gardens to instill the principles of sustainability.

We can provide these services, free to the State, when we have an extension agent to support those efforts.

I appreciate your support in helping us achieve our goals of a healthy, sustainable agriculture support system.

Dr. Patricia Fallbeck  
3448 Lawailoa Lane  
Koloa, HI, 96756

Sent from my iPhone



**LATE**

S.B. NO. 2075 S.D. 1 HD.1

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in **strong support of SB 2075 SD1 HD1** relating to the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) the University of Hawaii, at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

To meet the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative goal of doubling the food supply in Hawaii by 2020, Cooperative Extension, the outreach component of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources needs more resources such as Extension researchers and support staff to distribute science-based information responsibly to commercial sustainable, conventional and organic farming stakeholders.

Agriculture in Hawaii that was once dominated by the sugar and pineapple industry has shifted towards a diversified agricultural system. Increased food self-sufficiency and security is a priority for our program, as well as our state, as we live in an island state which relies on 85-90% of imports as its primary food source (State of Hawaii, Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism, 2012).

The Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program (SOAP) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR) remains committed to providing continuing education, in the form of agricultural professional conferences, growers workshops, field day activities, web based newsletters, applied field research in sustainable, conventional and organic agriculture, and in field technical support for agricultural professionals and producers across the state.

Commercial sustainable agriculture systems are based on fulfilling our food and fiber needs while sustaining or enhancing the economic viability and prosperity of local farm operations, and safeguarding our nonrenewable, environmental and natural resources. Sustainable agriculture practices can be implemented on small to large acreage farms and include practices such as, cover cropping, reduced risk crop protection chemicals, incorporation of locally available crop inputs, green/animal manures, composting and mulch, water management practices, biological pest management, choosing pest resistant varieties, etc.

**The ability to meet the Governor's goal is dependent on the expansion of SOAP's applied research and outreach programs and recruitment of essential priority positions. I believe that bill SB 2075 SD 1 HD1 has much merit. I strongly recommend that it be funded. Ongoing funding to support at CTAHR is crucial to the sustainability and advancement of Hawaii's diversified agriculture.**

Name, Farm Organization





Hawai'i

**LATE**

Committee: House Committee on Finance  
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 28, 2018, 3 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 308  
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i with comments on S.B. 2705, S.D. 2 H.D. 1, Relating to Public Private Partnerships

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i writes with comments on S.B. 2705, S.D. 2 H.D. 1, which creates an Office of Public-Private Partnerships tasked with exploring, formulating, coordinating, and implementing plans for public-private partnerships in Hawai'i. The bill also gives state agencies the power to enter into arrangements with private partners to finance, design, build, operate, and maintain infrastructure facilities without necessarily obtaining approval from the Legislature.

While public-private partnerships in and of themselves do not raise civil rights concerns, such partnerships are particularly problematic in the context of law enforcement and corrections, areas which should remain free from for-profit motive. The experience of Hawai'i and other states amply shows that handing over control of corrections to for-profit corporations is a recipe for civil liberties violations including abuse, neglect, and misconduct.

To address some of these concerns, S.B. 2705 was amended to explicitly provide that public-private partnerships "[s]hall not be used for the design, maintenance, or operation of community correctional centers, high security correctional facilities, or youth correctional facilities that provide public safety services."<sup>1</sup> The bill currently is silent, however, on public-private partnerships being used to finance and build any such facilities.

The ACLU of Hawai'i appreciates the changes made so far in response to its concerns and respectfully requests that your Committee consider making two additional amendments to the bill.

First, given that—no matter what procurement method is used—the ultimate costs to the State to finance and build any correctional facilities would be significant and would have a major impact on criminal justice policy in Hawai'i, we ask that appropriate legislative approval and public input<sup>2</sup> be required. For this purpose, we propose the following amendment to Section 4, § 103D-303(j):

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<sup>1</sup> H.B. 2705, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, Section 4, § 103D-303(j)(3).

<sup>2</sup> Presently, the Department of Public Safety is required to "develop and implement a community partnering process to be incorporated into the request for proposal" for new prison facilities, including "a community hearing for the purpose of soliciting

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