

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT AND
WATER & LAND**

**FEBRUARY 14, 2018
1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2845
RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY**

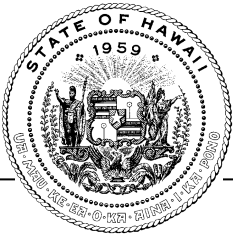
Chairperson Gabbard, Chairperson Rhoads and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2845 that requires the Office of Planning, in coordination with an appropriated departmental agency, to prepare and periodically update a functional plan for seafood sustainability that expands the State's priority on food by including wild seafood as a viable food source. The Department of Agriculture offers comments and a concern.

The Department of Agriculture supports the State's initiatives to increase food self-sufficiency. We note that the plan for seafood sustainability is to be incorporated into the Agriculture Functional Plan. This suggests that the Agriculture Functional Plan itself may have to be amended. We are aware of and concerned about the substantial resources required by the Functional Plan process identified in Sections 226-55 to -57 (Functional Plans; preparation and update, form and submittal, implementation). Furthermore, the thirteen existing functional plans cover very broad areas - Agriculture, Conservation Lands, Education, Employment, Energy, Health, Higher Education, Historic Preservation, Housing, Human Services, Recreation, Tourism, and Transportation. The Department requests additional resources to fund this effort.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our testimony.





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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Director, Office of Planning
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Wednesday, February 14, 2018
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of
SB 2845
RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY.

Chairs Gabbard and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Riviere and Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment, and Water and Land.

The Office of Planning (OP) provides the following comments for SB 2845.

SB 2845 requires the OP, in coordination with the appropriate departmental agency, to prepare and periodically update a functional plan for seafood sustainability that expands the State's priority on food by including wild seafood as a viable food source.

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

The Office of Planning defers to the Department of Agriculture regarding the financing and implementation of updating the State Agricultural Functional Plan.

The State Legislature recently revised the functional planning process through Act 82 (2017). Which streamlined the State's functional planning process to be conducted by the "lead state agency" to be able to update their own respective functional plan. The OP will continue to assist the lead state agency in the planning process.

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

The OP offers the following amendments:

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

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

"(c) The governor shall submit the functional plan pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes §226-56, including any

proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2019.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
and
WATER AND LAND**

**Wednesday, February 14, 2018
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2845
RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY**

Senate Bill 2845 proposes to require the Office of Planning, in coordination with the appropriate departmental agency, to prepare and periodically update a functional plan for seafood sustainability that expands the State's priority on food by including wild seafood as a viable food source. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (“Department”) appreciates the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.**

Fresh local seafood is an important component of life in Hawai‘i. Having a functional plan for seafood sustainability that includes wild seafood will help to balance the goal of promoting fishing and seafood consumption with the need to sustainably manage the State’s fisheries resources in the face of increasing threats to our marine environment. The Department notes that many wild seafood fisheries are unsustainable, and care must be taken in determining which seafood stocks should be looked to as viable food sources.

The Department’s Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) is responsible for managing and administering the aquatic life and aquatic resources of the State. DAR does this through the establishment of Marine Managed Areas, bag and size limits, gear restrictions, and other fishery management tools. The Department does not have the resources to develop a seafood sustainability functional plan, but stands ready to contribute its expertise to inform the development of such a plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



February 12, 2018

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018
Hearing Time: 2:45PM
Regarding: SB 2845 RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY

STRONGLY SUPPORT SB2845 Relating to Food Sustainability

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

HFACT **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** SB2845 Relating to Food Sustainability. In 2012, the state published a report entitled “INCREASED FOOD SECURITY AND FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY STRATEGY, A STATE STRATEGIC/FUNCTIONAL PLAN”. While HFACT applauds the intent of the plan, the 2012 plan did not address fish and seafood. Nowhere in the plan was there recognition that fish and seafood are a critical and integral part of food security or food self-sufficiency, especially for an island State.

HFACT asks that the committee support SB2845 so that a plan could be developed to set forth objectives, policies and actions to increase the amount of locally caught fish that is high quality food consumed by Hawaii’s residents.

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

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

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

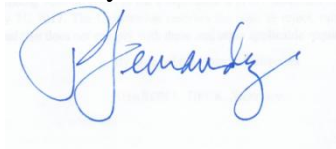
In 2017, sustainability and self-sufficiency discussions focused on agriculture and omitted the **state's largest food producing entity**, ... *which is fishing*. Hawaii's commercial fishing vessels land about \$110 million (2014 data) of seafood. Eighty to 90 percent of the locally caught fish stay in our islands as food for our people and visitors. By comparison, according to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (2014 data), cattle production was valued at about \$65 million with only 24 percent kept in the state. Sugarcane was valued at about \$54 million with less than 5 percent kept for local consumption. Algae production was worth \$33 million with 0 percent retained locally. Papayas were worth \$11 million with half of the production staying in the state. All of the banana, milk, lettuce and taro produced in Hawaii are consumed locally, but together these local products were valued at about \$31 million, which was less than a third of the value of local commercial seafood landings.

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

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

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

Sincerely and Aloha,



Phil Fernandez
President

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 9:42:44 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa L. Nakama	BIFA	Support	No

Comments:

On behalf of BIFA (Big Island Fisheries Alliance) we hereby support SB2845. We live in the middle of the Pacific Ocean and these Islands fishing community needs to have a viable plan that manages its seafood sustainability into the future. This bill will be part of a component to have science and fisherman to work together to gather data and have a plan to increase seafood and insure that our future generation for food self-sufficiency.

Respectfully Yours,

Teresa L. Nakama

BIFA

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 1:46:15 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephen Lee	HFACT	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB2845 as it is about time that the Legislature recognize the importance of seafood in our economy as well as to our local and visiting people. Wild caught seafood is essential to our island people and we need to manage it with the best available science, not the emotional responses we have seen in the past. I strongly urge passage of this bill so that the best available science is used in this important resource. We hear too much from environmental persons who want to restrict our harvesting and consumption of seafood.

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 10:55:24 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Silva	Waialua Boat Club	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. This is very important to helping Hawaii reach it's sustainable food locally grown.

Fish is an important food source for most of the local population.

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/11/2018 1:15:18 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tony Sylvester	The Society for Hawaii Heritage Animals	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 12:59:33 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
AND
THE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
THE SENATE
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018
Wednesday, February 14, 2018
1:15 P.m.**

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 224

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 2845, RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY

To the Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair; the Honorable Gil Riviere, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment

To the Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair; the Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on Water & Land:

Good afternoon. My name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of

Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on Senate Bill No. 2845 relating to Seafood Sustainability.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of Senate Bill No.2845 and supports its passage.

Senate Bill No.2845 is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it requires the office of planning, in coordination with the appropriate departmental agency, to prepare and periodically update a functional plan for seafood sustainability that expands the State's priority on food by including wild seafood as a viable food source.

The DPH Platform states that "[a]griculture in our state must be preserved and its future strengthened. Sufficient prime agricultural lands must be maintained for the health, economic well-being and sustenance of the people. We believe in an integrated approach to agricultural innovation and sustainability. We encourage the responsible development of ocean resources in order to achieve sustainability of our marine resources and ensure and improve the health of our reef and marine life.

This approach includes but is not limited to, the adoption of the native Hawaiian concept of ahupua'a, an integrated approach to land management. This could also include the development of economic, land and ocean use policies that foster sustainable crops both for local consumption and for export, policies to foster agriculture-related infrastructure at shipping points, and increased inspection to protect against invasive species and to encourage reduced holding times. (Platform of the DPH, P.2, Lines 76-86 (2016)).

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

Given that Senate Bill No.2845 requires the office of planning, in coordination with the appropriate departmental agency, to prepare and periodically update a functional plan for seafood sustainability that expands the State's priority on food by including wild seafood as a viable food source, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ **Melodie Aduja**

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

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

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 10:32:35 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erica Scott	Cuddle Party	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 8:03:27 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy A. Ogasawara		Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill as our ocean resources are often overlooked as an important food resource. As with agriculture we as a State must sustainably manage all of our natural resources.

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 8:30:01 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 9:17:36 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 4:24:01 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jim Hori, DDS		Support	No

Comments:

STRONG SUPPORT!

I strongly support this bill because it is a no brainer that fish is the number one product that Hawaii produces mainly to feed ourselves locally and that it is available for harvest without investment of our own resources that agriculture requires!

Mahalo!

Jim Hori, DDS

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/11/2018 10:47:25 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl M Jellings Sr	Fishermen	Support	No

Comments:

Strong Support

Carl P Jellings Sr Fishermen

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 6:10:27 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Cheung		Support	No

Comments:

Strong support. Fish is food!

SB-2845

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 11:45:24 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/14/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frank Farm Jr		Support	No

Comments: