

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor

**SHAN S. TSUTSUI**  
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**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 AGRICULTURE**

**MARCH 15, 2017  
8:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**SENATE BILL NO. 624 SD2  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 624 SD2, which proposes to develop a strategic plan that identifies benchmarks for increased food production in Hawaii and increased exports of food crops and value-added products from Hawaii. The Department supports the intent of this bill provided it does not impact the department's priorities listed in the Executive Budget and offers comments.

The Department recognizes the importance of metrics in determining local food production in the State. Strategic planning will allow the State to identify attainable goals for the State as it moves into a diversified agricultural economy. The Department would also like to note that strategic planning is complex and often controversial, therefore the Department supports the additional resources that the current draft appropriates.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





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March 15, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**TESTIMONY ON SB 624, SD2**  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 312  
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, 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 interest of our diverse agricultural community.

**Hawaii Farm Bureau supports SB 624, SD2**, which requires the board of agriculture, in cooperation with the office of the governor, to develop a strategic plan to double local food production and exports by 2020 and to submit a strategic plan to the legislature prior to the regular session of 2018.

The Governor challenged agriculture to double food production by 2020 to meet the public's desire for greater self-sufficiency. Through various measures, there is an effort to encourage interest in and expansion of farming. However, for many reasons, this is not easy an easy task.

Land, water, labor, infrastructure, transportation, invasive species, marketing, FSMA, regulations, R&D are just some of the issues that need to be addressed if we want to increase the viability of our farmers and ranchers while increasing Hawaii's agricultural capacity.

Many studies to identify actions to increase Hawaii's food security have been conducted over the years. However, actual systematic implementation steps have been erratic. As the Governor proposed doubling food production by 2020, the development of a strategic plan is critical in order to achieve this goal.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment on this important subject.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 4:15 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB624 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM\*

**SB624**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** launahele@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB624 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM\*

**SB624**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** nredfeather@kohalacenter.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB624 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM

**SB624**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Redfeather	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	Support	No

Comments: Critical step to bring the Governor's vision into reality. Without a strategic plan, actions steps, and a due date, this important vision will languish. Mahalo!

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Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
Wednesday, March 15, 2017 — 8:30 a.m. — Room 312

**Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports SB 624 SD 2, Relating to Agriculture**

Dear Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and reduce waste. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

**Ulupono strongly supports SB 624 SD 2**, which develops a strategic plan to double local food production by 2020, because it aligns with our goal of creating more locally produced food.

Ulupono is supportive of the Governor's plan to double local food production by 2020. However, to meet such an ambitious goal, it is important to have a strategic plan to help the industry, funders, policymakers, and the public. If everyone is using similar metrics and are on the same page, it will help to provide guidance so organizations like Ulupono can be more effective at aligning our actions. We also understand that with so many funding requests to the Legislature, what gets measured gets funded. We hope more metrics and information will help provide momentum at the Legislature for increasing funding for agricultural initiatives.

As Hawai'i's local food issues become more complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that by collaborating, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*

General Partner



**LATE**

**Board of Directors: Senate Committee on Economic Development, Tourism & Technology**

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action strongly supports: HB1578

Gary L. Hooser  
President

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi and members of the Committee,

Andrea N. Brower  
Joshua D. I. Mori  
Co-Vice Presidents

My name is Anne Frederick and I am the Executive Director for the Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA). HAPA is a statewide environmental, social and economic justice organization. HAPA's fair and sustainable food systems work focuses on protecting Hawai'i's environment and the health of its residents from the potentially harmful pesticide impacts and promoting regenerative agriculture. HAPA engages over 10,000 local residents annually through our work.

Ikaika M. Hussey  
Treasurer

I am writing in strong support of SB 624, which will result in the creation of a strategic plan with measurable benchmarks for doubling Hawai'i's food production by 2020.

Bianca K. Isaki  
Secretary

Governor Ige's challenge to double food production by 2020 will help Hawai'i become more self sufficient and sustainable. In order to reach this goal, the development of a strategic plan is critical. Strategic planning will allow the state to identify attainable goals towards achieving a diversified agricultural economy, and gauge progress against a set of benchmarks.

Paul Achitoff

Malia K. Chun

Let's help the Governor and the state create both a strategy and actionable steps with accountability to assure that this worthy vision is supported and progress is measurable.

Bart E. Dame

Laura Harrelson

SB624 is an important measure for the future of agriculture in Hawai'i. I urge you to support SB624. Thank you kindly for considering HAPA's testimony in strong support of the measure.

Kim Coco Iwamoto

Katie McMillan

Respectfully,

Walter Ritte Jr.

Karen Shishido

Anne Frederick, Executive Director  
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action

Leslie Malu Shizue Miki

Kekaulike Prosper Tomich

Cade Watanabe

*The Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) is a public non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. HAPA's mission is to catalyze community empowerment and systemic change towards valuing 'aina (environment) and people ahead of corporate profit.*





**LATE**

**Board of Directors: Senate Committee on Economic Development, Tourism & Technology**

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action strongly supports: HB1578

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Karen Shishido

Anne Frederick, Executive Director  
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Leslie Malu Shizue Miki

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 6:55 AM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** 808nateyuen@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB624 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM

**LATE**

**SB624**

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nathan Yuen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB624 which requires the Department of Agriculture to develop a plan to double local food production and exports by 2020. Hawaii's food security is vulnerable to disruptions in shipping from tsunami, earthquakes and other other natural and man-made disasters. It would behoove the State of Hawaii to grow a larger proportion of its food. I support this measure to develop a plan to double local food production and exports by 2020.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 1:47 AM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** mmcardle19@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB624 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM\*

**SB624**

Submitted on: 3/15/2017  
Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Peggy McArdle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 9:33 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** rfurst808@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB624 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM

**SB624**

Submitted on: 3/14/2017  
Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Richard Furst	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a strong believer in the importance of local food production for our island community. The fact that Hawaii still imports over 85% of its food is shocking, especially when measured against Native Hawaiian cultures, who fed a larger population on 100% locally produced food. Local sustainable food production is the most important issue of our time, and I strongly support measures such as SB624 that move us towards self-sufficiency. Mahalo for your kokua!

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:59 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** wao-hsl@WeAreOne.cc  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB624 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM

**SB624**

Submitted on: 3/14/2017  
Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joseph Kohn MD	We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments: Strongly support sustainable organic agriculture in Hawai'i.  
[www.WeAreOne.cc](http://www.WeAreOne.cc)

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:21 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** sherrivann@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB624 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM

**SB624**

Submitted on: 3/14/2017  
Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
sherri vann	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I definitely support increasing food production in Hawaii. Let's turn those cane fields into organic crops. That's what the people of Hawaii want to see happen and we will continue electing officials who can get it done. Mahalo!

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**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 6:09 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** bob-marion@hawaiiintel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB624 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM

**SB624**

Submitted on: 3/14/2017  
 Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marion McHenry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill.

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**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** blackbird4aloha@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB624 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM\*

**SB624**

Submitted on: 3/14/2017  
 Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Merle Hayward	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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