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Lt. Governor



**PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER**  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

**GLENN K. MURANAKA**  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON LOWER & HIGHER EDUCATION AND  
AGRICULTURE**

**MARCH 15, 2019  
2:15 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 309**

**SENATE BILL NO. 762 SD1  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION**

Chairpersons Woodson and Creagan and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 762 SD1. The purpose of this bill is to establish a coordinator of the P-20 agriculture education working group to support the continuing efforts of the P-20 agriculture education working group to lead the implementation plan for a coordinated framework of support for P-20 agriculture education in Hawaii. The Department of Agriculture supports this measure.

Senate Resolution No. 80, SLH 2016, created the P-20 working group with a task to develop strategies to increase agricultural education within the local school system. This resolution highlighted the importance of increasing agricultural education among Hawaii's keiki and investing in the State's agricultural industry by influencing a future generation of local agriculturalists. This bill seeks to fund a coordinator position with operational funding to coordinate that task.

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 Lower and Higher Education  
And

House Committee on Agriculture  
Friday, March 15, 2019 at 2:15 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 762 SD1 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

Chairs Woodson and Creagan, Vice Chairs Hashem, Perruso and DeCoite, and members of the House Committee on Lower and Higher Education and House Committee on Agriculture:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 762 SD1 relating to agriculture education and establishes and appropriates funds for the P-20 agriculture education coordinator position within the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM), College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). This bill also outlines the duties of the coordinator and P-20 agriculture education working group. UHM/CTAHR supports with amendments the intent of this bill and we respectfully provide the following information to substantiate our position.

- Preschool through grade 20 (higher education) agriculture education is key to the development of future farmers and to a society that values and understands the vital role of agriculture, food, fiber, and natural resource systems in advancing personal, local, and global well-being and food security.
- UHM/CTAHR convened a working group under Senate Resolution 80 (2015) and developed a coordinated framework of support for preschool through post-secondary (P-20) agriculture education and a plan for implementation.
- The outcome of the working group was the consensus that a P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator position is needed within UHM/CTAHR for the purpose of overseeing ongoing communication and collaboration of the P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group and spearheading the Implementation Plan that includes:

- Teacher Development: Teacher training in agriculture and food systems education at all levels (P-20) for those preparing to become teachers (“pre-service teachers”), as well as additional professional development for those already in classrooms (“in-service teachers”).
- Curricular Integration: Integrating agriculture education into the core curriculum in all subject areas at all levels (P-20).
- Agriculture Educators: Helping to establish and fund positions at the state, community, and school levels that directly support teacher development and curricular integration around agriculture and food systems.

The report highlights the large number of organizations working in this area. What is evident is the amount of overlap and lack of coordination between organizations. More effective effort on this topic could be had if there was some level of coordination among groups; and this position could also seek to provide that. We fully agree with, and support, the amendment that this position be required to provide an annual report to the legislature.

We support the intent of this bill. CTAHR is pleased be the recipient of the position if that is the desire of the legislature. Our support is based on the condition the bill’s passage be understood to be an addition to the budget priorities of the University of Hawai’i Board of Regents Approved Budget.

We also suggest two amendments to the budget based on the legislative intent:

Amendment 1: If the intent of the bill is to have this coordinator position for a period of two years, then the bill as written is appropriate. If the intent is for the position to be permanent, then it would be important to clarify that the P-20 agriculture education coordinator position is a permanent Administrative Professional Technical (APT) with UHM/CTAHR, and includes a position number.

Amendment 2: We suggest that an advisory group be formed from members of the P-20 resolution group that participated in the resolution, and that wrote the final report. The intent of the advisory group would be to provide oversight, suggestions, and evaluation of the programs developed by the coordinator.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.



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

**Date:** 03/15/2019

**Time:** 02:15 PM

**Location:** 309

**Committee:** House Lower & Higher  
Education  
House Agriculture

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 0762, SD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Establishes and appropriates funds for 1 FTE P-20 agriculture education coordinator position within the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Specifies duties of the coordinator and P-20 agriculture education working group. (SD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education supports the intent of SB 762, SD1 to establish and fund a P-20 agriculture education coordinator within the University of Hawaii at Manoa college of tropical agriculture and human resources to lead the implementation of a coordinated framework for P-20 agriculture education in Hawaii.

Currently, the Department's Natural Resources pathway promotes student choice, interest and aptitude in conservation and environment, food and non-food production & natural resource management. Student leadership is cultivated through a renewed interest and investment in the Future Farmers of American (FFA) Hawaii that serves as a conduit to promote agriculture as a career. Schools at all levels continue to expand their gardens as a learning laboratory embedded within their unique school design to integrate agricultural experiences across the content areas.

The Department engages with an array of partners to revitalize our island agricultural economy and its contribution to local food systems. There is a collective vision and commitment galvanized by non-profit organizations, higher education, industry and community foundations to leverage supports, resources and services that foster garden-based learning, farm to school initiatives and the Aina Pono Program within Hawaii's public school system.

The Department appreciates the continued collaboration with the University of Hawaii and Hawaii P-20 agriculture education working group. As this proposal includes the need for technical and operational considerations with institutions of higher education, we defer to the

appropriate agency for additional comment.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 762, SD1.

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



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March 15, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOWER & HIGHER EDUCATION  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**TESTIMONY ON SB 762, SD1**  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

Room 312  
215 PM

Aloha Chairs Woodson and Creagan, Vice Chairs Hashem, Perruso and DeCoite, and Members of the Committees:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director 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 762, SD1**, which establishes and appropriates funds for the P-20 agriculture education coordinator position within the University of Hawaii at Manoa college of tropical agriculture and human resources and specifies the duties of the coordinator and P-20 agriculture education working group.

It is commonly known that the average age of a farmer in Hawaii is approximately 60 years old. For agriculture to be sustainable, and to produce more local crops we, as a society, must cultivate the next generation of farmers and ranchers.

The Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, under then-Director Dwight Takamine's and then-HDOA Chair Russell Kokubun's leadership, undertook a series of facilitated meetings with farmers, ranchers, educators and a diverse group of stakeholders across the state between 2007 and 2011 to address Ag Labor. The Hawaii Agriculture Skill Panel Report was the result of the stakeholder meetings. The report made a number of recommendations, of which several common themes emerged. #1 of those themes was "Increasing youth education and training".

In 2013, the Hawaii State Legislature saw fit to establish the Agriculture Workforce Advisory Board via HB 749 of that year. This Board convenes, in part, to execute the recommendations of Hawaii Agriculture Skill Panel Report. This board established a

program by which educators and school administrators can be exposed and incentivized to adopt existing broad-based agricultural curriculums. This is an important step toward the future of agriculture in Hawaii.

In 2015, Hawaii State Senate Resolution No. 80 requested that the UH-Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) develop an “implementation strategy and recommendations for the creation of a statewide coordinated framework of support for P–20 agriculture education, including any proposed legislation.” SR 80 sought to build upon the expertise of CTAHR and create a coordinated effort to address Ag education. It bears mentioning that CTAHR currently serves on the Ag Workforce Development Advisory Board.

Hawaii Farm Bureau suggests that a relationship continues with the existing Agricultural Workforce Advisory Board and the P-20 agriculture education working group.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure



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[www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org)

March 14, 2019

Chairperson Woodson, Chairperson Creagan Vice Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, Vice Chair DeCoite and distinguished members of the Committee on Lower and Higher Education and the Committee on Agriculture:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 762. As the state relations specialist for Hawaii from the National FFA Organization, I'm pleased to see to see this bill advance through the state legislature and urge you to support it.

The National FFA Organization supports the intent of SB 762 to fund and create a P-20 agriculture education coordinator to lead future P-20 efforts and implement a framework for agriculture education in Hawaii.

The National FFA Organization and The Council for Agriculture Education believe in the three-component model for the delivery of our content. This time-tested and academically-proven model requires investment above the normal school funding level in all 50 states and both US territories that offer FFA and agriculture education. Funding SB 762 is an excellent step forward in offering high quality agriculture education in Hawaii's schools to prepare and equip the next generation of sustainable food producers for the islands.

I can easily confirm that Hawaii has some of the most knowledgeable and passionate agriculture teachers in the nation. The National FFA Organization wants to continue providing professional development for agriculture/natural resource teachers and leadership opportunities for Hawaii FFA members. We are committed to doing our part to continue our 85+ year relationship and we look forward to working with agriculture/natural resource education leaders in Hawaii to do the same. Funding and passing SB 762 is a key part of this continued success and relationship.

In closing, I thank you for considering this bill and its associated funding request. Offering high quality agriculture education does require state investment. Creating this P-20 position is the right step forward and will yield dividends well beyond the cost being considered now.

The National FFA Organization looks forward to continuing to support agriculture education and FFA in Hawaii and will continue to provide professional development for teachers and state staff as requested. Thank you for considering this important investment in agriculture/natural resource education at your state level.

Sincerely,

Ben Meyer  
Western US Specialist  
National FFA Organization



**SB-762-SD-1**

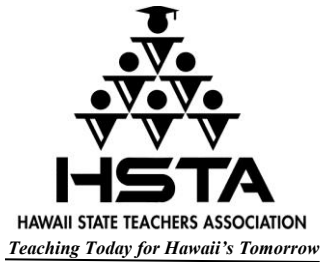
Submitted on: 3/13/2019 5:24:48 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ken Kajihara	Hawaii Association Future Farmers of America	Support	Yes

Comments:

I am a second generation ag teacher (retired) and former Department of Education program manager for agriculture education and its embedded intracurricular FFA student leadership program that teaches leadership skills and agricultural project management. I stand with many others who understand how agriculture education is uniquely suited to prepare students to build a better Hawaii. At this critical inflection point, we desperately need targeted resources SB 762 will provide to help our programs to thrive. Please help.



Corey Rosenlee  
President  
Osa Tui, Jr.  
Vice President  
Logan Okita  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Wilbert Holck  
Executive Director



TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOWER & HIGHER  
EDUCATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

RE: SB 762, SD1 - RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Woodson, Chair Creagan, and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports SB 762, SD1**, relating to agriculture.

This purpose of this Act would be to establish and appropriate funds for 1 FTE P-20 agriculture education coordinator position within the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. It also specifies duties of the coordinator and P-20 agriculture education working group.

We need to restore the balance in our public educational system in Hawaii. **Hawaii's Career and Technical Education programs need to be expanded to provide greater opportunity to prepare young people to design their own futures including those in agriculture.** The agriculture workforce needs have changed over time, and expanding our ag-tech industry, including the addition of an agriculture education coordinator to help coordinate the changing agricultural needs for career development, such as sustainability, aquaculture, hydroponics, vertical farming, organic farming etc. According to the Hawaii Agriculture Skill Panel Report from the Workforce Development Council, the average age of Hawaii's commercial farmers is over 60 years old. Interest in agriculture is waning in our youth and this is worrisome to the industry and to the economy and self-sustainability of our state.

There is a common misconception that farming is a low-paying, low-skilled trade. Our youth need to understand that there are a variety of careers within the agricultural industry that need to be filled. They need more workers that are not only technical in nature, but also those who will help to solve the problems listed in the report such as developing new technology and developing ideas for innovation that are critical components to the growth and expansion of the agricultural



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Corey Rosenlee  
President

Osa Tui, Jr.  
Vice President

Logan Okita  
Secretary-Treasurer

Wilbert Holck  
Executive Director

industry in Hawaii, especially in the areas of sustainability.

Passage of this bill would help provide a much needed Agriculture Educational Coordinator to help guide our youth to expand their knowledge and help them navigate the various opportunities within agriculture to gain the knowledge they need to pursue the ever expanding ag-tech career paths as a possible career choice.

Hawaii, like most states, is working toward the goal of getting their students 'college-and career-ready,' but CTE experts are concerned that what we mean by 'career-ready' is not always clear, and the supply of quality career-technical education programs has not kept pace with demand. Students must have several options available to them in order to explore a variety of career options, one of them being in innovation in agriculture. This bill supports these efforts.

According to a national study, *The Shocking Truth About The Skills Gap* (2015), only 25 percent of polled job seekers reported receiving career path in high school, and 41 percent said they wished they had received more guidance.

Because a robust education involves developing all aspects of learning for our ever-changing world including the changes in agriculture, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.



March 13, 2019

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Ethan Cooper

Pacific American Foundation  
C/O Bay View Golf Park  
45-285 Kāne'ohe, Bay Drive, #102  
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Hawaii House of Representatives  
Committee on Agriculture  
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Chair  
Rep. Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair  
Committee on Lower & Higher Education  
Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair  
Rep. Mark J. Hashem, Vice Chair  
Rep. Amy A. Peruso, Vice Chair

RE: Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 762 SD 1 Relating to Agriculture Education

Aloha Chair Creagan and Woodson and Members of the House Agriculture and Lower & Higher Education Committee:

On behalf of the Pacific American Foundation I am writing to express our SUPPORT of Senate Bill 762 SD1.

Established in 1993, the Pacific American Foundation (PAF) is a national 501c (3) nonprofit, tax-exempt organization with the mission to “improve the lives of Pacific Americans through service with dignity, courage, humility, and competence.” PAF’s goal is to influence systemic change in the educational system that preserve and perpetuate traditional indigenous ways of knowing for emerging Pacific Century leaders, college career readiness, culturally responsive research, evaluation and assessment, economic and community partnership development.

PAF has been involved in P-20 Agriculture Education for over 20 years with both in school and out-of-school programs to P-20 schools including the development of our first culturally relevant curricula in 2000.

Since 2000, we have developed over 21 titles of Hawaii-based curricula to teach all core areas called “Aloha ‘Āina.” We have trained over 5,000 teachers statewide on every island and have been honored to be a part of the opening and development of the Mālama Honua Public Charter School in Waimanalo

Mālama Honua PCS is a shining example of a project that underscore more opportunities for these schools, teachers, students, parents and community partners to apply knowledge and skills to the issues of community concern while building long lasting relationships, relevance and pursuing higher levels of rigor that we all strive for.

This has also proven to be a fertile ground for living and practicing Na Hopena A'o as we inspire children to aloha and mālama 'āina.

Our experience in Waimanalo and working with CTAHR staff and partners have been truly a transformation experience. CTAHR Waimanalo is the state's premier agricultural research facility. It is in a predominantly agricultural community that has been there for generations. Our school is focused on agriculture, food sustainability and related issues that reflect the needs of our community and state. The partnership has allowed us to find creative ways to educate, inspire, steward and develop rigorous standards of excellence that can and will stimulate the next generation of leaders in this critical area of need.

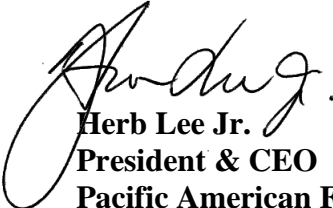
"A'ohe pau ka 'ike I ka halau ho'okahi," All knowledge is not learned in one school. Aunty Mary Kawena Pukui 'olelo no'eau continues to ring true today! The students that are served by the P-20 agricultural programs can have a unique opportunity to expand learning to the surrounding resources of their own community to broaden the awareness of agricultural practices in daily life.

This Coordinator position under CTAHR will further enhance the opportunities and expand the collective impact of these beginning programs to hopefully all schools across the state. Our future is dependent on it. There is no time to waste as our farmers are aging out and greater emphasis is being put upon our ability to sustain ourselves.

Please support this bill so that more schools can have the opportunity to expand learning for all our keiki grade P-20!

If there are any further questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 927-5646 or email me at [herblee@thepaf.org](mailto:herblee@thepaf.org).

Sincerely,



**Herb Lee Jr.**  
**President & CEO**  
**Pacific American Foundation**

March 15, 2019

RE: **Support of SB762 SD1** Relating to Agriculture Education

Aloha Chairs Woodson and Creagan, Vice-Chairs, and Members of the Committees:

Blue Zones Project–Hawaii **supports** SB762 SD1, which establishes a coordinator in the UH-Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. The measure also appropriates funding for this position as well as specifies the duties of the coordinator.

This recommendation came from the P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group in the Final Report. Building the appropriate curriculum P-20 is a key factor in addressing the continuum of food security in Hawaii. The recommendation was a priority of the working group because to have food security there needs to be a person focused on developing the coordinated efforts of all those who are part of our food system.

The state is at a crossroads in the food system, among other issues, our farmers are retiring with very few new farmers coming into the market, there is not enough food production to self-sustain, and there is a high cost of locally sourced food in the state, for these reasons and more, there needs to be a strong collaboration among partners to ensure success moving forward.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of SB762 SD1. It is one more way to make sure we are protecting our youth from the adverse effects of tobacco.

Sincerely,

*Peggy Mierzwa*

Peggy Mierzwa

Blue Zones Project—Hawaii

Brought to  
Hawaii by



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

March 14, 2019

To:

Chair Creagan  
Vice Chair DeCoite  
House Committee on Agriculture

Chair Woodson  
Vice Chair Perruso  
House Committee on Lower & Higher Education

Re: **Strong Support for SB762 SD1**

Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture,

Thank you for your dedication to the livelihood of the people of Hawai'i, and for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT of SB762 SD1**, which would establish and fund a P-20 agriculture education coordinator position, promote collaboration amongst the P-20 agriculture education working group, and increase agriculture education across the State of Hawai'i. Kaho'omiki is a non-profit organization that works to support and encourage lifelong healthy lifestyles through physical activity and good nutrition, as well as community and social interaction, to enhance the quality of life of Hawai'i residents.

The P-20 agriculture education coordinator will greatly increase exposure for students of all ages to agriculture education and drive career interest in agriculture and food systems. Studies show that agriculture education, school gardens, and hands-on nutrition learning triples student consumption of fruits and vegetables in school lunches<sup>1</sup> and increases access to low-fat fruits and vegetables at home.<sup>2</sup> Agriculture education can also play a critical role in shifting student's perceptions about healthy foods and provide opportunities for students to experience growing and cooking their own food.

The P-20 position will also lead to more teachers being trained in agriculture education, more local farms and farmers, and a stronger local food supply, all of which are extremely important for a sustainable and healthy future.

Agriculture education can help the families of Hawai'i enjoy healthier lifestyles, which is why Kaho'omiki strongly **supports SB762 SD1**. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Colby Takeda  
President, Kaho'omiki

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<sup>1</sup> Koch, P., Wolf, R., Graziose, M., Gray, H. L., Trent, R., & Uno, C. (2017) FoodCorps: Creating healthy school environments. Laurie M. Tisch Center for Food, Education & Policy, Program in Nutrition, Teachers College, Columbia University.

<sup>2</sup> Wells, N. M., Meyers, B. M., Todd, L. E., Henderson, C. R., Barale, K., . . . Franz N. K. (2018). The carry-over effects of school gardens on fruit and vegetable availability at home: A randomized controlled trial with low-income elementary schools. *Prevention Medicine*, 112:152-159.



# HAWAI'I FARM TO SCHOOL HUI

LEARNING GARDENS AND SCHOOL FOOD SYSTEMS



## HUI MEMBER CORE ORGANIZATIONS:

Grow Some Good/Maui School Garden Network

'Iolani School/O'ahu Farm to School Network

Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation

Mala'ai: Culinary Gardens of Waimea Middle School/Hawai'i Island School Garden Network

Mālama Kaua'i/Kaua'i School Garden Network

Sustainable Molokai/Molokai School Garden Network

The Bennett Foundation

The Kohala Center

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

Date: March 13, 2019

To: Representative Justin Woodson, Chair  
Representative Amy Perruso, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Lower and Higher Education

Representative Richard Creagan, Chair  
Representative Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Agriculture

Re: Strong Support of SB762 SD1, Relating to Agriculture Education

Hearing: March 15, 2019 at 2:15pm in Conference Room 309

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support of SB762 SD1** which establishes and appropriates funds for the P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator position within the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR).

This bill puts forth the recommendations of the **P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group** as detailed in [DC149](#): the Final Report on a Coordinated Framework of Support for Preschool Through Post-Secondary (P-20) Agriculture Education in Hawai'i pursuant to S.R. No. 80 (2015).

Convened by UH CTAHR, the P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group has met for three years to develop the report and recommendations. **Agriculture education at all levels (P-20) is key to strengthening Hawaii's food security and food self-sufficiency through the development of future farmers and a supportive citizenry.** Fundamental to expanding student interest in agriculture is the infusion of agriculture education into teacher development programs.

The **P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator would coordinate and support teacher training in agriculture and food systems education at all levels (P-20)** for pre-service and in-service teachers, and would continue to convene stakeholders through the P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group to advance the coordinated statewide approach to regenerating Hawaii's community food systems through agriculture education.

**UH CTAHR is in a unique and important position to help strengthen agriculture education in Hawai'i** by collaborating directly with the UH College of Education and other universities and programs to establish pathways to train and certify significantly greater numbers of agriculture teachers, school garden educators, and classroom teachers at all levels with an appreciation for and understanding of the value and importance of local agriculture and the knowledge of how to successfully integrate agriculture with core curriculum in all subjects. UH CTAHR is the most well suited state entity to accomplish such a task, and the coordinator position is absolutely essential.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB762 SD1.

Me Ke Aloha,

Lydi Bernal

Coordinator, Hawai'i Farm to School Hui, Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI)

[hiphi.org](http://hiphi.org) • 850 Richards Street, Suite 201 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813



# kōkua hawai'i foundation



## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB762 SD1 Committee on Lower & Higher Education Committee on Agriculture

Friday, March 15, 2019, 2:15pm; Conference Room 309

Aloha Representatives,

Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation strongly supports SB762, which establishes and appropriates funds for the P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator position within the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR).

The Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that supports environmental education in the schools and communities of Hawai'i. Our 'ĀINA In Schools program is a farm to school initiative launched in 2006 that connects children to their local land, waters, and food to grow a healthier Hawai'i. We work directly with 23 O'ahu elementary schools that have implemented the program and have also trained an additional 500+ educators from over 250 schools and organizations from across the state in the use of our 'ĀINA garden, composting, and nutrition curricula. While most of our work has focused on K-6 students, **we have seen a huge need for increased agricultural education resources and teacher training for educators reaching students from preschool through college.**

SB762 SD1 puts forth the recommendations of the P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group as detailed in DC149: the Final Report on a Coordinated Framework of Support for Preschool Through Post-Secondary (P-20) Agriculture Education in Hawai'i pursuant to S.R. No. 80 (2015). To gather input and recommendations to respond to this resolution, CTAHR invited members stakeholder groups that address Agricultural Education (Ag Ed) to participate in a series of Work Group meetings and gathered a listing of existing P-20 Ag Ed programs.

The P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator will focus on integrating agriculture education into pre-service teacher development programs for all levels (P-20) in order to produce a greater number of teachers, students, and citizens with an awareness of and interest in agriculture. The Coordinator would also continue to convene stakeholders through the P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group and facilitate curricular integration and the development of increased numbers of dedicated agriculture educators at the state, community, and school levels.

We are a part of the P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group and feel that CTAHR is the most appropriate entity to host the P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator position. CTAHR has led the convening the Working Group with the support and oversight of the last three Deans. Being based at the University of Hawai'i, the Coordinator would be well positioned to work with both CTAHR and the College of Education to strengthen preparation and retention of teachers focusing on agriculture education.

We urge you to vote in support of SB762 SD1 to help strengthen agriculture education and in turn, increased food security and self-sufficiency for Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Jack Johnson,  
Co-Founder, Vice-President

Kim Johnson,  
Co-Founder, President

Natalie McKinney,  
Executive Director

[www.kokuahawaiifoundation.org](http://www.kokuahawaiifoundation.org)

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

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



**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:01:30 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Grace Bigornia	Lahainaluna Highschool	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Mary Grace Bigornia and I am a member of the Lahainaluna High School FFA chapter. As a representative of FFA Chapter, I ask that you support and advance SB 762 with the end goal of funding an AGP20 position at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Interest in agriculture education is growing in the high schools, and we need more resources to grow our programs.

Aloha.

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 9:39:36 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keith Ideoka	Lahainaluna High School Agriculture Program	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Keith Ideoka and I am an Agriculture Teacher and FFA (Future Farmers of America) Advisor at Lahainaluna High School. As a high school ag teacher for 30 years, I have experienced many ups and downs in my long career. In the years prior to when WSF (Weighted Student Formula) funding to our public schools and when budget and position cuts were made at UH CTAHR (College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources), we had many thriving ag education and FFA programs in our state. However, every since that time, I have seen many ag programs with long and storied histories and legendary ag teachers (who were great role models to me) close and just become a memory. At one time, we had over 30 strong and successful ag and FFA programs in our state. Now, we have about only 15. I believe that the main reasons for this drastic and devastating decline in ag programs are the cuts in funding in the DOE that went directly to help and support our ag and FFA programs and also the loss of advisors at the UH CTAHR and the UH College of Education that recruited, advised, and supported new potential (highly-qualified) high school ag teachers. In the years that followed the loss of funding and support from the DOE and at UHCTAHR, many ag teachers retired and our high school Principals struggled with finding permanent ag teachers at their schools, but many could not. Thus, many ag programs across our state closed permanently.

However now, with the goal of Governor Ige and his administration to achieve food security and with the growth and success of our school garden programs, I believe we now have a great opportunity to once again fund and support our ag education programs through SB 762. We are tasked to grow our next generation of young farmers. I take this responsibility very seriously and every day that I go to my school, I try my best to spark that interest in my students. I humbly ask for your support and mahalo for considering this bill.

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 7:11:43 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Committee Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and Members of the House Lower and Higher Education Committee and the Agricultural Committee,

I was fortunate to attend all the meetings of the P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group that were held over the three year period. To my knowledge, it was the first time there has been a concerted, coordinated statewide effort by all those working directly with agricultural education programs in Pre-K, Elementary, Middle and High Schools, and the entire UH system. This work created a Coordinated Framework and envisions support for agricultural education P-20 that would raise the level of knowledge and awareness of both programs at all grade levels and seek to remedy the GAPS in the Framework, in the overlapping areas of agriculture, nutrition, health, environment, and their deep connections to culture and community and would greatly assist the States' food security needs. Ultimately this would form a firm foundation for a whole new Food Systems Workforce, and raise will the level of agricultural production something that the Legislature is currently envisioning in a Strategic Planning process at the State Level.

I firmly believe and have evidence, that greater investment in agricultural education will in the long-term, build aware and participatory citizens, develop vibrant community food systems. Our findings are summarized in the Final Report to the Legislature that has been recently submitted and sent to each of you.

This Bill reflects our most important recommendation, that an Agriculture Education Coordinator be placed in CTAHR UH Manoa, to continue the work this group has outlined in the report, and focus it's early work plan on developing more opportunities for Professional Development for our Teachers grades PreK-20 that will afford them the opportunity to integrate these concepts into their core curriculum. In this case as in many others, increased opportunities for education can be looked at as an investment in Green Career Opportunities and life-long healthy habits that will help build our State's Agricultural Economy.

Private family foundations in Hawai'i have supported this work for the past decade. There has already been a 7 million dollar investment in School Gardens K-8 alone. Our State Agencies and Institutions ( The DOE, DOH, UH Manoa, HDOA, and

UHWO) must now help build this reality through this position. Mahalo for your consideration of this important Bill, the work of so many

I think CTAHR is up for the responsibility of this position. Three Deans were part of this process over the past 3 years, and each one demonstrated their "commitment" to the future of Agricultural Education in the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha, Nancy Redfeather

Director: Ka Ohana O Na Pua - An Agricultural Education Community non-profit

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 10:06:37 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mariah Iris Ramo	Waipahu Intermediate FFA	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Woodson, Chair Creagan, and the Lower and Higher Education and Agriculture committee,

I'm Mariah Iris, an 8th grader from Waipahu Intermediate and I am currently in an agriculture program and an FFA member. Being part of an agriculture program has been an enjoyable experience because for one, we learn how to grow and manage plants. Secondly, we gain skills that helps us to grow as individuals. Not a lot of people view agriculture this way; instead, their first thoughts are that there's too much exposure to the sun and farmers do strenuous work. This is the reason why we need to establish these programs into the schools to educate students that agriculture is more than just that. We learn how to problem solve by using a soap solution to prevent bugs from biting into the plants. On top of that, students learn how to collaborate with one another to get all the tasks done. As for FFA, we participate in Career Development Events such as Creed Recitation, demonstrating the Parliamentary Procedure, and Prepared Public Speaking. Furthermore, we entered an Agriscience Fair Project to showcase our topics and how we used the scientific process. We're also given countless opportunities to advocate for agriculture such as going to the Capitol to share our thoughts about creating agriculture programs in the school. All these events and activities had help my fellow students and I to create a brighter future. Overall, it's crucial for people to know that agriculture isn't only for farmers, but it's open for everyone who's willing to support the future generations. To do so, we need a coordinator to oversee all the programs within each school. Our support system will branch out to the UH Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. As a result, they may provide supplies to hosts events to promote agriculture or materials to expand their gardens. There's a lot stored if there's a coordinator and P-20 agriculture education working group assisting schools. With their contribution, the importance of agriculture will be well-known statewide. It's time to start working with all these organizations and people to pave a path for the future generations to come.

Mahalo,

Mariah Iris

Waipahu Intermediate FFA Vice President of Leadership

Waipahu Intermediate Student Government 1st Vice President

Waipahu Intermediate National Junior Honor Society President

Hawaii Public Institute Youth Council Member

Waipahu Intermediate Youth for Safety Member

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 8:57:42 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julie Ann Laureto	Waipahu Intermediate FFA Chapter	Support	No

Comments:

Dear chair Woodson, chair Creagen, the members of the committee on lower and higher education, and the members of the committee on agriculture,

Hi, I'm Julie and I'm a 8th grade student in Waipahu Intermediate and in the program FFA

I support having the education of agriculture be incorporated into elementary schools all the way up to colleges so students could learn more and more about how agriculture affects us, and the world. I recently read an article about how Hawaii imports more than it exports. This was mainly because our islands weren't growing many of our food supply locally. In the article, there was a paragraph talking about how the growing of agriculture has many challenges. One of them was younger generations not being interested in becoming farmers. If we were to teach these younger generations about agriculture, they can grow up to love agriculture. This would be a greater way to get younger generations to be interested in the agriculture community. When these students learn more about how agriculture affects us, they can help in advocating for agriculture which could then help others become interested as well. Thank you for taking the time for reading my testimony.

Mahalo, Julie





Waipahu Intermediate School Future Farmers of America  
94-455 Farrington Hwy · Waipahu, HI 96797



**LATE**

March 14, 2019

Dear Chair Woodson and Chair Creagan, and Vice Chairs Hashem, Perruso, DeCoite, and the members of the Lower & Higher Education and Agriculture Committees.

I'm a teacher at Waipahu Intermediate writing to **strongly support SB762**, testifying as an individual.

Waipahu Intermediate just started our agriculture program last year and chartered the first middle school FFA program on Oahu. As it stands, there are not very many middle school agriculture programs across the state.

There are many elementary schools participating in gardening thanks to community partners such as Kokua Hawaii Foundation and Hawaii Ag Foundation. And there are many high schools that have agriculture programs, but there are few middle school ag programs and there is no coordinated effort to bridge the elementary, middle and high schools together.

Please support this bill so we can help the school ag programs to be vertically aligned all the way through college.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ken Kozuma  
Waipahu Intermediate  
CTE-Agriculture Teacher  
FFA Advisor  
Youth for Safety Advisor

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 1:55:20 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aren Pai	Mililani High School FFA Chapter	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Aren Pai and I am a member of the Mililani High School FFA chapter. As a representative of FFA Chapter, I ask that you support and advance SB 762 with the end goal of funding an AGP20 position at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Interest in agriculture education is growing in the high schools, and we need more resources to grow our programs.

Aloha

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 11:57:06 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Heather Mohr	Keiki and Plow	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

I am Heather Mohr, Executive Director of Keiki and Plow a hawaii based nonprofit with a mission to inspire health, empower children and connect community through sustainable agriculture. Our 4 acre farm hosts weekly field trips, educational workshops, community events around the issue of local food production and sustainability as well as weekly open farm harvest days to connect our keiki to the land and their food.

I believe that supporting SB762 SD1 is the right thing to do and fully endorse a bill that supports more resources and commitments to ag education.

Please contact me if you would like further testimony or follow up regarding my support of this bill.

Thank you,

Heather Mohr

Executive Director, Keiki and Plow

(808) 208-2740

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 9:41:32 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Regina Gregory	EcoTipping Points Project	Comments	No

Comments:

We strongly support this, provided it does not teach the "modern agriculture" promoted by Bayer (formerly Monsanto).



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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committees on Lower & Higher Education  
Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair Rep. Mark J. Hashem, Vice Chair Rep. Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

And Committee on Agriculture  
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Chair, Rep. Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair  
Friday March 15, 2019, 2:15 pm, Conference Room 309

**SB762 Relating to Agriculture Education**

Chairs Woodson and Creagan, Vice-chairs, and members of the committee:

My name is Kevin Kelly and I am the President of North Shore EVP, a regional economic development organization located on the North Shore of Oahu. Our organization strongly supports establishing a P-20 agriculture education coordinator position within the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

North Shore EVP provides food safety training to farmers that results in USDA GAP certification, the most common documentation requested by buyers locally grown, fresh produce. GAP certification is a testament to a farm's adherence to good agricultural practices, and food safety and quality standards on their farms. GroupGAP program that allows farmers to work together and share the expense of obtaining good agricultural practices training and subsequent certification.

Having observed the agricultural supply chain from many perspectives, North Shore EVP would look forward to working with the College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources on educational programs and engagement of P-20 students in agricultural education. This position is an important step in building a new pipeline of farmers, greatly needed in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Kelly, President



**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:16:35 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John R. Gordines	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

## **P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator**

**Aloha**

**This coordinator position will facilitate collaboration between the UH College of Education and CTAHR towards training teachers in agriculture education. It is a logical step following the legislative mandate for the P-20 Ag Education Working Group to develop a framework and curriculum. Furthermore, the timing for support in this academic content area is ideal with governor's Aloha+ Challenge initiatives, the plan to redesign the pre-k – 12 structure and the City and County of Honolulu revisiting Important Agricultural Land designations.**

**My father was a school principal, my mother a chancellor's secretary and I am a retired teacher and school counselor and later captured data for the USDA. We all farmed part time in Waikane Valley and Waimanalo. Agriculture and education is in our D.N.A.**

**Unfortunately, I did not guide many students towards agriculture due to past job market forecasts and budget cuts. However, due to climate change and other issues, there is concern regarding our dependence on food imports coupled with a call for increasing local food production and sustainability. The rubric for curriculum ranges from engaging younger students in conserving natural resources, gardening and repurposing to higher education and certification to fill key public and private positions in agriculture and port security.**

**The critical scope of topics from food safety, invasive species, traditional practices, ag technology, greening yields, plant pathology, botany, land use, planning, environmental law, ecotourism, business plans and resiliency can be introduced and taught prek – 20. I am inspired when watching the mainland U.S. Future Farmers of America student leaders and alumni on the RFD channel 1211 station. And I believe that Hawaii students can also serve as great practitioners and stewards in agriculture and conservation.**

**This position in CTAHR can play an instrumental role in that commitment, mission and collaboration between educators, stakeholders and communities.**

**Mahalo for your consideration.**

**Sam Kakazu, P-20 Ag Education Working Group, Pollinator Advocate**



**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 6:52:41 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 7:01:55 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ming Wei Koh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

1. name is Koh Ming Wei and I am an educator who uses agriculture education to teach students Early Childhood upwards to PhD. students. I am writing to support SB762 SD1.

This bill puts forth the recommendations of the P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group as detailed in [DC149](#): the Final Report on a Coordinated Framework of Support for Preschool Through Post-Secondary (P-20) Agriculture Education in Hawai'i pursuant to S.R. No. 80 (2015). Agriculture education is key to meeting the state's aspirations for increased food security and self-sufficiency. The P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator will focus on infusing agriculture education into pre-service and in-service teacher development programs for all levels (P-20) in order to produce a greater number of teachers, students, and citizens with an awareness of and interest in agriculture.

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 9:51:34 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laksmi M Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 8:26:09 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

March 14, 2019

**Testimony: SB 762, SD1 Related to Agriculture Education**

**Committee on Lower & Higher Education**

Chair: Representative Justin H. Woodson  
Vice Chair: Representative Mark J. Hashem  
Vice Chair: Representative Amy A. Perruso

**Committee on Agriculture**

Chair: Representative Richard P. Creagan  
Vice Chair: Representative Lynn DeCoite

Honorable Chair Woodson and Chair Creagan,

My Name is Michael Barros, I have recently retired from the Department of Education as the State Educational Specialist for the Career and Technical Education (CTE). I also was an Agriculture Education teacher at Waialua High and Intermediate for 10 years before moving into the state position. I am currently working part-time for the Department as the State Executive Secretary for the Hawaii Association Future Farmers of America (FFA).

The following table shows the number of students who have been enrolled in courses within the Agriculture, Food Innovation, and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster in the Department of Education. This indicates that there is significant student interest in the AFNR career cluster. However, as agriculture teachers are retiring, programs are not continued due to the lack of trained teachers. Of the number of schools listed below offering AFNR courses, I estimate that only 11 teachers have completed an Agriculture Education teacher education program through a state approved program.

Inclusive of Public Charter Schools	SY 2015-16	SY 2016-17	SY 2017-18
Number of Schools	37	39	38
Total Enrollment	3212	3521	3357

I am writing to you in support of SB762 regarding a P-20 Coordinator. If we are to attain food security in our state, we must have a strong and viable Agriculture Education program. The Department of Education’s biggest problem in sustaining or creating Agriculture Education Programs is finding qualified Agriculture Education teachers. Our own Hawaii College of Educations no longer has a teacher training programs for CTE teachers (formally Vocational Ed). Having a coordinator working closely with the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) and the College of Education will go a long way is providing both pre-service and in-service professional development for teachers in agriculture education.

Thank you for your time and I urge you to support this bill.



**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 10:17:13 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Greetings Members of the Higher/Lower ED Committee:

My name is Shaun Kamida and I am the adviser of the McKinley FFA chapter. As a teacher of an FFA Chapter, I ask that you support and advance SB 762 with the end goal of funding an AGP20 position at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Interest in agriculture education is growing in the high schools, and we need more resources to grow our programs.

Aloha

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 10:40:57 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

I write this testimony as an individual citizen. I work as a Professor of Nutrition at the University of Hawaii. I stand by my prior testimony.

This bill will provide critical facilitation of agriculture education across educational levels, as well as across state, private and not-for-profit agencies. This partnership is needed to support agriculture for local food consumption, to support care for the land while producing food, and for providing models and leadership for agriculture education and food security in Hawaii and beyond.



**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 11:19:29 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 11:20:01 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I would like to respectfully and wholeheartedly submit my support for SB 762 - Relating to agriculture education.

While our state has made excellent progress in farm to school and school garden programs, there is a very serious gap in opportunities for our youngest learners and also for those wishing to pursue agriculture and food systems work as a career, especially in rural communities off Oahu. If Hawai'i truly wants to support local agriculture and meet local food goals, we must seriously and strategically support making agriculture and sustainable food production a priority.

As a graduate of UH-West Oahu's Sustainable Community Food Systems Program and current County of Hawai'i Food Access Coordinator I can personally attest to value of food and agriculture education and the urgent need to expand Hawai'i's education programs. Developing Coordinated Framework of Support for P-20 Agriculture Education with a plan for implementation, an overview of the working group and career opportunities in agriculture and food systems, and a summary of current local resources for P-20 agriculture education would be invaluable step towards building a more resilient food system.

Being a mother of a 3 year old in preschool I would like to emphasize the importance of developing children's love of food and connection with the 'aina. I recently reached out to PATCH for information on Hawai'i Island preschool gardens, only 27 of the over 60 preschools on the island reported offering ANY outdoor play, let alone a garden program. This is a missed opportunity to develop healthy habit, value local food, and teach essential life skills. Food is so deeply connected to health and community and it needs to be a part of every step of education.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like me to clarify or expand on my support of this bill.

Respectfully,

Silvan Shawe

808-419-1016

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 11:21:52 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Greetings:

My name is Jessica Uyesaka and I am the secretary of the McKinley High School FFA chapter. As a representative of FFA Chapter, I ask that you support and advance SB 762 with the end goal of funding an AGP20 position at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Interest in agriculture education is growing in the high schools, and we need more resources to grow our programs.

Aloha

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 11:45:46 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 12:22:45 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 1:09:24 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gwen Morinaga-Kama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 1:19:29 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

We MUST support education for farmers. I am thrilled to be taking AG classes at UH Maui College and ALL UH campuses MUST have the opportunity to get AG ed!

Suzanne Fields



**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 1:51:10 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 1:55:12 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Aaron Otsu and I am member of the Mililani High School FFA chapter. As a representative of FFA Chapter, I ask that you support and advance SB 762 with the end goal of funding an AGP20 position at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Interest in agriculture education is growing in the high schools, and we need more resources to grow our programs.

Aloha Aaron Otsu

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:08:50 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeff Yamaguchi	Hawaii FFA	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:07:44 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:06:27 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:03:29 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Caralyn Yamasaki and I am Treasurer of the Mililani High School FFA chapter. As a representative of FFA Chapter, I ask that you support and advance SB 762 with the end goal of funding an AGP20 position at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Interest in agriculture education is growing in the high schools, and we need more resources to grow our programs. Agriculture is especially important for us here in Hawaii. In order to promote the youth's interest in farming, we need to integrate the agriculture curriculum for all grade levels. The only way to implicate those programs is to increase funds for Ag education.

Mahalo and Aloha

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:02:51 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Monica Yamaguchi	Hawaii Future Farmers of America	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 1:58:28 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Kainoa Kalahiki and I am member of the mililani FFA chapter. As a representative of FFA Chapter, I ask that you support and advance SB 762 with the end goal of funding an AGP20 position at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Interest in agriculture education is growing in the high schools, and we need more resources to grow our programs.

Aloha Kainoa Kalahiki



**LATE**

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:17:08 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:16:17 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
George Do	Hawaii FFA	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:15:22 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

My name is Kamryn Shimizu and I am a member of the Mililani FFA chapter. As a representative of FFA Chapter, I ask that you support and advance SB 762 with the end goal of funding an AGP20 position at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Interest in agriculture education is growing in the high schools, and we need more resources to grow our programs. Funding like this had allowed my fellow peers and I to experience lifetime opportunities to grow personally and in terms of our career development. Promoting these political goals will allow us to expand and advocate for these agricultural programs especially within high schools.

Mahalo and aloha!

**LATE**

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:18:59 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wilson H Li	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 3:27:51 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 3:54:06 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 5:57:00 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gail P. Gnazzo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 8:47:15 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

We need this islf we want to move beyond our dangerous dependence on the mainland for our food.



**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 9:33:50 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

My name is Chynna Chun and I am the current President of the Mililani High School FFA Chapter. As a representative of FFA Chapter, I ask that you support and advance SB 762 with the end goal of funding an AGP20 position at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Interest in agriculture education is growing in the high schools, and we need more resources to grow our programs. Likewise, many of us want to pursue an agriculture major in the future, yet we find ourselves feeling discouraged to continue our passion in college. Hawaii in it's current state is not fully supporting agriculture and what it could be. Being that most of the state funds goes into everything but agriculture, it seems very disheartening to pursue something we are so vocal about. Having this AGP20 position will allow this coordinator to put more emphasis on agr in education as well as giving us direction and even more opportunities to pursue in the agr career.

Aloha,

Chynna Chun

**LATE**

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 9:54:41 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 6:37:58 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kylie Hull	High school	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Kylie Hull and I am a member of the Mililani High School FFA chapter. As a representative of FFA Chapter, I ask that you support and advance SB 762 with the end goal of funding an AGP20 position at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Interest in agriculture education is growing in the high schools, and we need more resources to grow our programs. Agriculture helps us to build foundations and life skills needed in the future to further expand our view of the world. Having this bill will help to assure that possibility for the younger generations.

Aloha, Mahalo for your time

**LATE**

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 7:54:00 AM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Committee Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and Members of LHE/AGR,

Sorry for the late STRONG SUPPORT of this bill. We all know we need more local good, and smart people working out how to DO THIS. Our community values are shown by where our public funds are spent. Please pass this and success will hopefully justify many more such positions across the islands.

Mahalo & Happy Aloha Friday Climate March Day,  
James McCay  
HNL 96815

**LATE**

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 8:55:08 AM  
Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 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-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 2:07:09 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Soo Sun Choe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-762-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 2:07:52 PM

Testimony for LHE on 3/15/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Winslow	Hawaii Farmers Union	Support	No

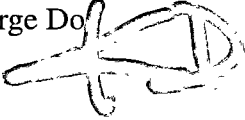
Comments:

March 14, 2019

Greetings,

The undersigned Kalani FFA members urge support of SB762.

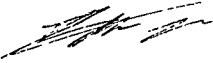
George Do



Patricia Keju



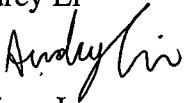
Katheren Lam



Ai Langevin



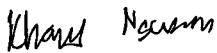
Audrey Li



Wilson Li



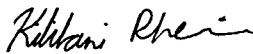
Khang Nguyen



Natalie Ou



Kililani Rhein



Rainer Tanaka



Reed Warner



Henry Wu

