



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

**Date:** 02/20/2019  
**Time:** 10:05 AM  
**Location:** 211  
**Committee:** Senate Ways and Means

**Department:** Education

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

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

**Purpose of Bill:** 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. Specifies duties of the coordinator and P-20 agriculture education working group.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education supports the intent of SB 762 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.

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).

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 8:30:53 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, and Member of the Senate Ways and Means,

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 the Elementary, Middle and High Schools, and the 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.

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 and create a more robust agricultural economy for the State. 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 increased 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. Our State Institutions ( The DOE, UH Manoa and UHWO) must now help build this reality through this position. Mahalo for your consideration of this important Bill, the work of so many.

Aloha, Nancy Redfeather

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

## **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 now work for the USDA. We 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**



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759  
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921  
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February 20, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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

Room 211  
10:05 AM

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

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**, 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

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 9:17:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 11:08:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeffrey Garvey	Testifying for Waipahu High School	Support	No

Comments:

Date: February 18, 2019

From: Jeff Garvey, Teacher Waipahu High

Re: Support of Senate Bill 762, to provide an Ag Preschool to College (AgP20) coordinator position at the UH Manoa.

Aloha,

The Academy of Natural Resources at Waipahu High School supports Senate Bill 762, to provide an Ag Preschool to College (AgP20) coordinator position at the UH Manoa. In order for the people of Hawai'i to reach current objectives in food security, the new generation must be educated in all aspects of this complicated issue. Not only does today's new generation need to know how food systems are connected to many aspects of their lives, but also know how basic agriscience principals influence food security. As an instructor of agriculture at the high school level, I am concerned with a noticeable disconnect between our new generation and agriculture. For example, many students do not consider agriculture as a viable career option. They are unfamiliar with careers or jobs that support agriculture. If our community is truly concerned with our future food security, we must do more to educate today's new generation of agriculture entrepreneurs, teachers, agronomists, policy makers and agricultural scientists. Given this concern for food security, we cannot afford to lose agricultural education at any level.

By establishing this position, students would be better able to continue their studies within the University of Hawai'i system or at other four-year colleges. Examples within the UH system would be the Sustainable Community Food Systems at UHWO and the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at Manoa. In fact, students from Waipahu High School are transferring to Leeward Community College to study plant science and agriculture, and have been subsequently moving on to other related fields of study. My students have engaged in plant sciences and agriculture at Leeward, and have expressed their personal affection for Leeward. Without the agriscience options provided by Leeward Community College and Waipahu High, I wonder what my students would do. Many of my students do not have the ability to transfer directly to

Manoa or a mainland university. These are the same students that could potentially transform our community into becoming more sustainable.

In my 10-year experience in high school agriculture, I have witnessed the decline and noticeable lack of agriculture instructors in our state. Having a position to solve this problem is needed to achieve state objectives of food security. On behalf of Academy of Natural Resources at Waipahu High School, we thank you for this opportunity to submit this letter of support for support of Senate Bill 762, to provide an Ag Preschool to College (AgP20) coordinator position at the UH Manoa. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely, Jeff Garvey

Dear Ways and means Committee,

I would like to rule in favor of Senate Bill 762 because I believe that there should be people to influence the community of agriculture through high schools, colleges, and business work. This will help the people understand that Hawaii needs to become more sustainable to better ourselves and our health. We can all work together to make Hawaii a better living environment by growing a garden at our houses, getting our children into agricultural programs, and volunteering for agricultural purposes. Jobs will also be created for those that are unemployed. For Hawaii to not be reliable on the Mainland supply for food will create such a large step towards independence and will embark on a new course for our environment. Senate Bill 762 will help us take that step towards positivity and a changed and better Hawaii.

TO: Senator Dela Cruz, Chair, Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair and Committee Member

FROM: 7th Grade Students of My Life, My Island, My World course at 'Iolani School

BILL: In support of SB762 Relating to Agriculture Education

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members

Our class is writing to you requesting your support of SB762 Relating to Agriculture Education. We recognize the importance of agriculture education for all of Hawai'i's keiki. As we learn about and navigate the complexities of our food systems, we see how vital it is for our state that agriculture education is a necessary component for all education systems in Hawaii from Preschool through Post-Secondary and hope that you will support this bill providing the state with an Agriculture Education Coordinator.

We are including a poster we made together about a project we did in our class about our own food stories and how when we all connect more to our food, we can envision a better system for everyone. We invite you to discover your own food story.

Mahalo for allowing us to provide this written testimony.

# What's Your Food Story?



I like to fish and fish is something I like to eat  
-Oakley '24

We Support **farm to school** and ask you to consider the following important bills:

- **HB1102/SB762** (Relating to Agriculture Education)
- **SB303** (Relating to Gardens)
- **SB80** (Strengthens HIDEO SFSB to expand 'Aina Pono)



My favorite thing to do is hunt  
-Ethan '24



My favorite food is orzo pasta. We are Italian.  
-Castle- '24



My first food was poi.  
-Kualau '24



My taste buds always change though my favorite hasn't. Rice.  
-Cade '24

The food that I enjoy is turkey bacon. Sometimes my family grills on a kamado in my backyard.  
-Ryder '24



Ride the vibe. At Malaekahana my grandpa likes to bbq.  
-Bubba Shea-Park '24



I usually eat meals on the couch because it is comfortable.  
-Devin '24



My family always eats dinner at the table because it's a way for all of us to come together at the end of a day.  
-Keenan Lam '24



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 10:05 a.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 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 762 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 support the intent of this bill and offer the following suggested amendments provided that its passage is an addition to the priorities as indicated in our University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Approved Budget:

- clarify that the P-20 agriculture education coordinator position is a permanent Administrative Professional Technical (APT) with UHM/CTAHR, and
- appropriates out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i the sum of \$65,000 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020, the same sum for fiscal year 2020-2021, and the same sum for future fiscal years should the position be required.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

February 20, 2019

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith Agaran, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

Blue Zones Project–Hawaii **supports** SB762, 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. 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

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS  
Wednesday, February 20, 2019 – 10:05 AM - Room 211

**RE: SB 762 – Relating to Agriculture Education – In Support**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee:

Hawai'i Aquaculture &  
Aquaponics Association  
Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council  
Hawai'i Farm Bureau  
Federation  
Hawai'i Farmers' Union  
United  
Hawai'i Food Industry  
Association  
Hawai'i Food  
Manufacturers Association  
Kohala Center  
Land Use Research  
Foundation of Hawai'i  
Malama Kaua'i  
Maui School Garden  
Network  
Ulupono Initiative  
College of Tropical  
Agriculture and Human  
Resources - University of  
Hawai'i at Manoa

The Local Food Coalition **strongly supports SB 762**, 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.

We commend the efforts of the P-20 agriculture education working group which developed a coordinated framework of support for P-20 agriculture education and a plan for implementation. This coordinator position is needed to implement the plan.

Agricultural education is vital in developing future generations to be agriculturally literate. A comprehensive and coordinated agricultural education framework will expose students to agriculture and by doing so, hopefully increase the number of local farms and farmers, and local food production. This effort will be a major contribution towards achieving the goal of doubling local agriculture production by 2030.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprising of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawaii's food supply.

We respectfully request your support of SB 762. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

John Garibaldi  
808-544-8319  
[jgaribaldi@wik.com](mailto:jgaribaldi@wik.com)



## **Strong Support for SB762 Relating to Agriculture Education**

Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2019  
To: Senator Dela Cruz, Chair, Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair and Committee Members  
From: Debbie Millikan, Coordinator, Oahu Farm to School Network  
Re: **STRONG SUPPORT for SB762**  
Relating to Agriculture Education  
Hearing: Wednesday, February 20, 2019, 10:05am

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

On behalf of the Oahu Farm to School Network (OFSN), I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of SB762** relating to Agriculture Education. As a representative of the P-20 Agriculture Education Working Group over the past 3 years, I can attest to the recommendation for a P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator 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 a key to meeting the state's aspirations for increased food security and self-sufficiency.

Founded in 2012 and coordinated through 'Iolani School, OFSN works to strengthen and connect farm to school programs on O'ahu by building the network of service providers and producing professional development and policy advocacy opportunities for stakeholders. This bill will strengthen the work of OFSN as the P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator will increase the capacity of agriculture education by developing and coordinating much needed pre-service and in-service teacher professional development.

Thank you for allowing this opportunity to submit testimony. I respectfully ask you to pass this measure out of committee.

Mahalo,

*Deborah Millikan*

Debbie Millikan  
Oahu Farm to School Network, Coordinator  
Hosted by 'Iolani School

# kōkua hawai'i foundation



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB762  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Wednesday, February 20 at 10:05 am, Room 211**

Aloha Senators,

Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation 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 founded in 2003 to support 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 reaching students from preschool through college.

SB762 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). 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 strongly urge you to vote in support of SB762 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.kokuahawaii.org](http://www.kokuahawaii.org)

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



# 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 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: February 18, 2019

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Support of SB762, Relating to Agriculture Education

Hearing: February 20, 2019 at 10:05am in Conference Room 211

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support of 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).

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 those preparing to become teachers ("pre-service teachers"), as well as professional development for those already in classrooms ("in-service teachers"). 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.

**Agriculture education strengthens Hawaii's farm to school movement** by directly connecting more students to where their food comes from and involving them in creating a vibrant local food system in Hawai'i.

**UH CTAHR is in a unique position to help strengthen agriculture education in Hawai'i.** This bill is essential to increasing their capacity to do so.

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

Me Ke Aloha,

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



**Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.**

**COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**  
**Rep. Chris Lee, Chair**  
**Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair**

DATE: Tuesday, February 19, 2019  
TIME: 2:05pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 325

**SB 762 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION.**

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. Specifies duties of the coordinator and P-20 agriculture education working group.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Buenaventura, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dale Sandlin, and I am Managing Director of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 150+ member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports** SB 762 as this measure would support agricultural education in the state.

The average age of our farmers is increasing nationwide and while the cattle industry has been able to produce more beef using fewer inputs, fewer cattle, and with little impact on our natural resources, developing younger generations to ranch is one of the biggest challenges our industry faces. With the global population expected to hit 9.7 billion by 2050, we are going to need every form of agriculture to feed the world.

This measure would provide support for agricultural education in Hawaii and that is a critical need for the future of agriculture in this state. This measure could also encourage students to participate in 4-H and FFA programs which provide a varied foundation in all forms of agriculture.

We respectfully ask this committee to support this measure and we appreciate the opportunity to testify on this important matter.



**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 2:23:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

## Comments:

Hello, my name is George Do and I am with the Hawaii FFA organization as the Oahu County Vice President. I strongly support bill SB762 as it allows further support of agricultural education. Agriculture is an important subject for students to be engaged in. It is a subject that isn't going anywhere for a long time and something that this state is big on. Many people don't have much knowledge of Hawaii's agriculture and environment, but more funding towards Agricultural Education would allow our students to be more informed on our current events and how it affects us and the land.

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:00:22 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Althea Magno	Testifying for Hawaii FFA	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:36:51 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Zoe Tengan	Testifying for Hawaii FFA	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Zoe Tengan, and I fully support SB762 as a alumni of the Hawai'i FFA association. As a past member of the Mililani chapter and past state president of the Hawai'i FFA state association, the knowledge, skills, and experience gained through FFA has been a strong component to how it has shaped me and my fellow peers. FFA and other agricultural programs in the school system is vital and integral in educating and empowering our youth to understand what agriculture is in Hawaii and the dire extent of the issues in our agricultural workforce. FFA on a national level has taught students the power of advocating, leadership, and initiative to solve issues in not only our chapters, but in our community. Our FFA members are proud to be the future of agriculture, and makes up much of what will be the future leaders of the community. Having a coordinator to organize and provide resources for educators as well as provide opportunities, programs and enriched experiences would greatly benefit students who wish to see change in the community. If we are to fight the 90% dependency of imported foods, and other critical issues in Hawaii (as most stem from the decline of agriculture in Hawaii), we need to create a platform for students to learn and address the issues if they are to be our future leaders in whatever field they choose.



**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:50:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tina Alcain	Testifying for Hawaii Future Farmers of America	Support	No

## Comments:

Agriculture is the most important industry in the world. Without agriculture, society would starve. Please support this bill so agriculture gets the support it deserves in Hawaii.

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 11:21:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joanna Maile Pokipala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of HB 1102 and SB 762, that would provide an AG P20 position to coordinate agriculture education from grades P through 20, with an emphasis on preservice and inservice agriculture teacher training.

In order to reach our food sustainability goals and to build a strong agriculture, agribusiness and STEM workforce, we need to recruit, train and support our agriculture teachers. This measure will serve the entire Ag P20 family, and will also help to reset secondary ag education as a major part of the Ag P20 continuum.

The FFA (formerly Future Farmers of America) component of secondary ag education has been in Hawaii since 1929 and continues to practice innovation and develop community and business leaders. Your support will also maintain and grow this organization, which has tripled in membership over the past 8 years.

As a Kanaka Maoli, **He Ali'i Ka'Āi'āina; He Kauhā ke Kanaka: The Land is the Chief, the man is the servant.** Everyone should learn how to be servants of the land because it is simple our Kuleana (responsibility). Empowering teacher with this knowledge will then empower our community and add to our sustainability.

Please support SB762 and HB1102. Mahalo!

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 11:10:10 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelli Ann K	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 2:44:17 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support the Agriculture Education Coordinator Position Bill SB 762. Many of Hawaii's farmers are over the age of 65. In the near future, this could lead to a farmer shortage. One influential way for Hawaii to create a shift in the future of agriculture is to invest more in the education of the youth.

By financing an Ag Ed Coordinator, students from Primary School to Secondary Schools will have more exposure into the world of agriculture. Through this experience they will learn how they can play a role in the future of food security, self-sufficiency, and lower their overall environmental footprint on the planet. It's time for an increase of education through financing an Ag Ed Coordinator Position that focuses on where our food comes from and inspires the youth to think about ways to improve our current food system and provide the resources to foster the next generation of farmers.

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor

**JOSH GREEN**  
Lt. Governor



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

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

**TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS**

**FEBRUARY 20, 2019  
10:05 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 211**

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

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 762. 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.



**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 7:09:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Manuel Jadulang and in suport of SB 762. I am an agriculture teacher at Honokaa High and Intermediate and FFA Advisor. I have been in the DOE for 18 years and have seen the need for the establishment of a state wide coordinator. As the state initiative for sustainability, it is important to have a pipeline from elementary school, middle school, high school to college and industry so all parties are involved for the need of agriculture in our state.

UH CTAHR as the state's univerisity system can be the host site for the coordinator.

Thank you for your attention in this.

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:03:39 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

Comments:

I'm suprised the items in this bill don't already exist! Food self-sufficiency for us is too important not to be doing everything in our power about.

Mahalo,

Cyrus



**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:17:16 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:27:36 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:36:01 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 9:06:31 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support Ag Education and feel that funding a coordinator is vital to perpetuating Hawaii's agriculture, and future farmers.



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



February 19, 2019

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and the members of the Ways and Means Committee,

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

We have some amazing students in our FFA program at Waipahu Intermediate and all of the other FFA chapters across the state. Our students work really hard to develop leadership and career development skills which will help them continue to advocate for agriculture in the future.

The Waipahu Intermediate FFA Chapter was chartered last school year and we've already had our chapter receive national recognition and had students place at the national level with their agriscience projects. However, none of this could have been possible without the help of all our community partners and supportive principal for allowing us to create an agricultural program in the middle school level.

With your support of the P-20 Agriculture Education, others will be able to create programs and innovative projects to help the agricultural industry.

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**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 9:49:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and the member of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Jhanella Shayne, I am an 8th grader at Waipahu Intermediate FFA and I am testifying as an individual to support SB762.

Growing up in the Philippines, I was surrounded by agriculture. When I moved to Hawaii, I was given an opportunity to be a part of Future Farmers of America (FFA), a nationwide program that advocates for agriculture. Being in this program allowed me to learn and expand my knowledge about agriculture. I learned the importance of agriculture and issues the industry have been facing. I realized how these issues affect us, especially my generation and younger ones. Agriculture surrounds us from the food we eat, the clothes we wear, and so much more. The problem is: my peers aren't informed of the impacts agriculture has in their life. They are unaware of the issues the industry might be facing and that is why I'm testifying to support this bill. Agriculture programs such as FFA has allowed me to be aware of these issues. It has also opened many opportunities such as agriscience fair. There's so many possibilities we can do with our projects. If more students are engaged into doing this, we'll have more people educating the world. Our future depends on agriculture so we need to continue making it more efficient and getting others interested. We will be running the world one day, that's why we believe it's important that we have a say on these matters. That is why I hope you take our voices into consideration and think of our future when deciding on this bill.

Mahalo, Jhanella Shayne

**SB-762**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 9:54:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2019 10:05:00 AM

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

Comments:

Local agriculture not only should be the backbone of our food system, but it deserves a spot in the forefront of our education system. Supporting agriculture education is supporting local career opportunities, transformative food systems (which are NECESSARY when we have only 3 days worth of food on the island), and alternative hands-on education. We need positions like this to be on the forefront of change.

February 19, 2019

Testimony: SB 762 regarding P-20 Coordination

Committee on Ways and Means

Chair: Donovan Dela Cruz

Vice Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz,

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).

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.