

LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT,
WATER AND LAND, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
HEARING ON FEBRUARY 13, 2019 AT 1:15PM IN CR 224

SB 1066 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

February 13, 2019

Aloha Chairs Gabbard, Kahele, Shimabukuro, and members of the Committees:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) submits comments on this bill that creates a three-year pilot program to determine if state incentive tied to agricultural land leases can increase local food production.

The Department appreciates the overall motivation behind this measure that provides incentives to produce food locally in order to promote increased sustainability. It is important to note that the proposed pilot program incentives wouldn't benefit lessees because DHHL lessees don't pay rent for their agricultural land or bid on land leased by DHHL. However, land designated for agricultural purposes not currently awarded for homesteading could benefit from this program. More importantly, any decision to lease DHHL land for agricultural purposes under this pilot program would require approval from the Hawaiian Homes Commission. The incentive that would probably most assist with local food production on DHHL land is access to water.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

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 COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT;
WATER & LAND; AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

FEBRUARY 13, 2019
1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224

SENATE BILL NO. 1066
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Chairpersons Gabbard, Kahele, and Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 1066. This measure creates a three-year pilot program to determine if state incentives tied to agricultural land leases can increase local food production; requires the Departments of Agriculture (Department), Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), and Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) to report to the legislature annually, and appropriates an unspecified amount of funds. The Department supports the intent of the bill provided it does not impact the Department's priorities identified in the Executive Budget.

The Department appreciates the Legislature's efforts to assess the impact of incentives on local food production. Incentives for agriculture include but are not limited to tax benefits, relaxation of use restrictions, reduced or discounted lease rents, government assistance, and other favorable terms to encourage the food production and achieve food security and sustainability. Those incentives are provided by numerous sources that cross federal, state, county, and departmental lines. The Department is not always informed of which, if any, of the incentives are being sought and utilized by farmers. As such, an accurate correlational assessment between incentives and actual food production may be challenging.



The Department notes that pertinent agricultural data is compiled in the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism's (DBEDT) State of Hawaii Data Book annually. Consequently, using DBEDT's data, the Legislative Reference Bureau may be better suited to conduct a correlational study between incentives and food productivity rather than individual government agencies with incomplete information.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



JAMES J. NAKATANI
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT AND WATER
AND LAND AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Wednesday, February 13, 2019
1:15 p.m.

SENATE BILL NO. 1066
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Chairpersons Gabbard and Kahele and Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees:

My name is James Nakatani, Executive Director of the Agribusiness Development Corporation (“ADC”). The ADC supports Senate Bill No. 1066, which creates a three-year pilot program to determine if state incentives tied to agricultural land leases can increase local food production. It requires the departments of agriculture, land and natural resources, and Hawaiian home lands to report to the legislature annually and also appropriates funds.

Increasing local food production is one of the primary focuses of the Agribusiness Development Corporation. ADC’s philosophy is to reach a complementary relationship with its tenant/farmers and welcomes a program to create a systematic framework across the HDOA, DLNR and DHHL. If used properly, incentives can facilitate production and increase the bottom line for the producers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and for your consideration of this bill.

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/10/2019 8:02:47 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Support with clarification that incentives should only be granted to prioritize organic, non-gmo food grown for local consumption, not high fructose corn syrup or exports for cattle feed, or any other similar uses.

There is no rational reason to pollute our own environment or destroy ecosystems.
www.WeAreOne.cc

LATE

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 8:56:13 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Testifying for Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 8:24:53 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Mulinix	Testifying for Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/13/2019 4:01:29 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Miyamoto	Testifying for Hawaii Farm Bureau	Support	Yes

Comments:

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 11:05:06 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

LATE

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/13/2019 4:10:42 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Testifying for Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	Yes

Comments:

WE ARE IN STRONG SUPPORT OF THIS BILL, WITH RESPECT TO native HAWAIIAN BENEFICIARIES ON HAWAIIAN HOMELANDS.

LATE

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 11:27:47 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Testifying for Farm Maui LLC	Support	Yes

Comments:

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 10:36:36 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Autumn Ness	Testifying for Hawai'i Center for Food Safety	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 1:38:50 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Winslow	Testifying for Hawaii Farmers Union	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 6:46:47 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Suiso	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I like the concept of having departemtns report on their progress ag porduction tied to their leases. I am also wondering if there is a well understood measure or progress in increased local food production?

- Is it in number or acreage leased? Is it in production reported by those that have a lease? Is it in the form of weight? crop units? sales \$? acreage planted?

I suspect this wil be a work in prograss so allowing for the reporting method to evlove would be a good Idea.

Mark Suiso

Makaha Mangoes.

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/10/2019 7:44:29 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
denise woods	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha! A pilot program to incentivise food growing is an excellent and long overdue action. Please support this! However, incentives should only be granted to prioritize food grown for local consumption, not high fructose corn syrup or exports for cattle feed. We need to encourage ways and means to help make Hawaii more independent of imports to feed our people.

Denise Woods, RN

Kauai

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/10/2019 8:41:58 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dave Kisor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We need food grown in Hawai'i, not corporate garbage like HFCS. We need locally grown food for Hawai'i, not stuff for export. If there was a crisis and we couldn't get food here, I wouldn't want to be on Planet Honolulu. You may have a chance to see who the canibals really are!

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/10/2019 10:06:10 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Harden	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Aloha legislators,

We all know we need to grow more food locally.

But please grant incentives only to prioritize food for local consumption--not for high fructose corn syrup or exports for cattle feed.

mahalo,

Cory Harden, Hilo

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/10/2019 10:09:31 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Incentives should only be granted to prioritize food grown for local consumption, not for things like high fructose corn syrup production or exports for cattle feed.

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/10/2019 10:12:32 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
janice palma-glennie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

please support this legislation which will begin a pilot program to incentivize food growing on ADC and other public lands.

mahalo for supporting this legislation to help increase our islands' sustainability.

sincerely,

janice palma-glennie

kailua-kona

[A pilot program to incentivize food growing](#) on ADC and other public lands - Please support with clarification that incentives should only be granted to prioritize food grown for local consumption, not high fructose corn syrup or exports for cattle feed.

Wednesday 02-13-19 1:15PM in conference room 224.

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/10/2019 10:38:32 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Aitken	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support support the clarification that incentives should only be granted to prioritize food grown for local consumption.

-tom aitken, PO Box 800, KÄ• ne`ohe, HI 96744

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 1:04:53 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suellen Barton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 3:07:42 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Berrett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Encouraging local farmers and local food production critical in reducing Hawaii's dependence on distant sources. Please legislate accordingly.

Mahalo,

Richard Berrett

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 6:24:18 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chairs Gabbard, Kahele, Shimabukuro; Vice Chairs Ruderman, Keith-Agaran, Kahele; and members of the committees,

I support SB1066. Food production should be primarily for local consumption. We currently grow about 10% of the food eaten here. This is a recipe for disaster in the age of climate change.

A pilot program to grow food for residents is a good start. But we need to expand it to all Hawaii agriculture. High fructose corn syrup, seed corn, cattle feed are not what we need. The state has to incentivize businesses like Ma'o Farms and Kahumana Farm. Not only do these farms grow food for local consumption, they provide a community and life skills to people.

Please pass SB1066. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Randy Ching

Honolulu (makikirandy@yahoo.com)

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 9:25:44 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Culbertson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 9:28:49 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sunny Savage-Luskin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note my support, but that incentives should only be granted to prioritize food grown for local consumption, not high fructose corn syrup or exports for cattle feed!

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 10:32:59 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John NAYLOR	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Real food for real Hawaii residents please.

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 12:51:35 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marjorie erway	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

THis pilot program to incentivize food growing on ADC and other public lands is important as long as the incentives should be ONLY granted to prioritize food grown for local consumption, NOT high fructose corn syrup or exports for cattle feed. Please insure that it in this bill.

Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 12:52:20 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 1:16:29 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
K. McGlone	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Support if used for local ORGANIC Food production.

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 12:02:26 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support IF food is to be consumed locally. Not sure if three year pilot projects are long enough to determine a real outcome. Not sure if waiving Chapter 91 HRS rules are a benefit to the public, you practically have to be a lawyer to fully understand the consequences of 'waiving' those rules.

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 3:18:55 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacquelyn Chappel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB 1066 to test out an incentive program to increase local food production. The Senate should be doing everything in its power to support local food production in Hawaii. As members know, given a natural disaster blocking transportation between the US and the mainland, we would have only one week of food. Incentivizing local food production in any way we can is related to the island's long-term food security. But it's more than that. It's also about quality of life and having affordable *fresh* readily available for the local populace to promote our health and well-being. Currently, because of the high prices of local foods, including meat, dairy, and produce, much of Hawaii's food comes from far far away--as far away as South America and Asia. The travel time required means people in Hawaii grow up not knowing what good produce even tastes like.

The people of Hawaii should have access to affordable, fresh, local produce. And, given the small profit margins and inclement weather issues involved in farming, it is not unusual for government to get involved in subsidizing agriculture. This bill supports Hawaii's long-term food security, health and wellness, and quality of life. It is for these reasons, I urge the Legislature to support SB 1066. Thank you.

LATE

SB-1066

Submitted on: 2/13/2019 2:40:50 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lawrence Ford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This could help pave the way toward food independence. Keeping our food purchases in our state would increase profits here and increase the velocity of money here, increasing tax revenues.