

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
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TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

FEBRUARY 7, 2019
2:50 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

SENATE BILL NO. 762
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

Chairperson Kim 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.





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

Date: 02/07/2019
Time: 02:50 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Higher Education

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.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 2:50 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 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education:

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 does not replace or adversely impact 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.

kōkua hawai'i foundation



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB762 Senate Committee on Higher Education Thursday, February 7 at 2:50pm

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.kokuahawaiiifoundation.org

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

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 4:57:27 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Committee Chairs, Vice-Chairs & Members,

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 programs in the Elementary School, Middle and High School, and the UH system. This work created a coordinated Framework and envisioned support for agricultural education P-20 that would raise the level of knowledge and awareness of both programs at all grade levels and 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.

1. 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.
1. 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.

See my attachment that outlines the Investment by private family foundations in Hawai'i who 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



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 5, 2019

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

Re: Strong Support of SB762, Relating to Agriculture Education

Hearing: February 7, 2019 at 2:50pm in Conference Room 229

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)



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February 7, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

TESTIMONY ON SB 762
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

Room 229
2:50 PM

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, 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: 2/6/2019 1:21:00 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alexis Jinbo-Doran	Testifying for Hawaii FFA - Kalani High School	Support	No

Comments:

SB-762

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 9:12:07 AM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chris kobayashi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

aloha,

no farm(ers), no food. so please support this bill.

mahalo, chris kobayashi

SB-762

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 7:02:40 AM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Espania	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-762

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 7:12:09 AM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel Novotny	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a Professor of Nutrition at the University of Hawaii, though I am submitting this testimony as a private citizen, in favor of SB 762.

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

With an aging farmer population, and competing demands for use of Hawaii's land, agriculture education is key to meeting the state's aspirations for increased food security and self-sufficiency.

The P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator is needed to focus on infusing agriculture education into pre-service teacher development programs for all educational levels (P-20) in order to produce a greater number of teachers, students, and citizens with an awareness of and interest in agriculture and food systems.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rachel Novotny

SB-762

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 12:27:58 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Havilah Mills	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

- 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

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:42:49 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sam Kakazu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

This coordinator position will facilitate the recent affirmation to increase collaboration between the UH College of Education and CTAHR towards training teachers in Ag Education. It is a logical step following the legislative mandate for the P-20 Ag Education Working Group to develop a framework and curriculum. The timing for this content area is ideal with the Governor's Aloha + Challenge to increase agriculture in Hawaii coupled with his plan to redesign the PreK - 12 structure. My father was a school principal and farmer. My mother a chancellor secretary and farmer. I am a retired teacher, counselor and farmer. Education and agriculture is in our D.N.A. Unfortunately, I did not guide many students towards agriculture because of the job market and forecast. However, there is increased concern regarding our dependence on imports and emphasis on local sustainability. The critical scope of topics from land use, planning, environmental law, natural resources, conservation, traditional practices, ecotourism, high tech operations, food safety, business plans and resiliency can all be introduced and taught from a young age. I am inspired when watching the mainland U.S. Future Farmers of America student leaders and alumni showcased on the RFD Channel 1211 station. And I believe that Hawaii students can also be great stewards for agriculture and conservation. This position in CTAHR can play a major role in that process, commitment and mission.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sam Kakazu, Agriculture and Pollinator Advocate

SB-762

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 9:25:45 AM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Duax	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-762

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 9:41:51 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Ranney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-762

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 3:50:57 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 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:



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



LATE

February 7, 2019

Dear Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and the members of the Higher Education Committee,

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

I apologize this is late, we were at the capitol yesterday for Ag Day. I had four of my FFA members presenting about different projects and community service activities they've done.

I wish I could bring students to testify in person; hopefully in the future I will be able to bring some of my students so you can meet them. They have so much passion and they want to help other schools create programs so they too will be able to gain the kind of experiences they are receiving. One of my students said, "Since I've joined FFA, I've become a better leader. I learned how to be more efficient, plan activities, be organized and take initiative." This same student is working on building a vertical hydroponic lettuce wall that can fit over 500 heads of lettuce in 24 square feet. She hopes to use this project for her Agriscience Fair project. She placed 6th at nationals this past year for a different project and wants to do even better at the next national convention.

I also took my students to Dole Middle School after Ag Day yesterday to promote FFA and hopefully have their school create an agriculture program too.

Please support this bill so 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: 2/7/2019 8:41:29 AM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maureen Datta	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-762

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 8:42:06 AM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-762

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 9:34:23 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/7/2019 2:50:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alison Riggs	Testifying for Down to Earth Organic & Natural	Support	No

Comments:

Down to Earth is in support of SB762. Mahalo.