

THE SENATE  
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2021

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, February 1, 2021  
TIME: 1:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Via Videoconference

**THE STATE CAPITOL IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**  
To comply with social distancing requirements, only written and videoconference testimony will be accepted. If you wish to testify via videoconference you must also submit written testimony.

A live stream of all Senate Standing Committee meetings will be available on the [Senate YouTube Channel](#).

Click [here](#) for more information about Live and On-Demand Video options.

A G E N D A

<a href="#">SB 128</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURE. Establishes a Fungicide Subsidy Program until June 30, 2026, to subsidize coffee growers for the purchase of fungicides to combat coffee leaf rust.	AEN, WAM
<a href="#">SB 129</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO COFFEE BERRY BORER. Extends the sunset date for the Coffee Berry Borer Pesticide Subsidy Program until 6/30/2026, for the purchase of pesticides containing Beauveria bassiana to combat the coffee berry borer. Extends the program manager position to 6/30/2027. Appropriates funds.	AEN, WAM
<a href="#">SB 179</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO IRRIGATION. Transfers operational authority over portions of the east Kauai irrigation system operated and maintained by the east Kauai water users' cooperative as of 7/1/21, to the Department of Agriculture. Appropriates funds.	AEN, WAM
<a href="#">SB 336</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LOANS. Increases the Board of Agriculture Chairperson's authority to approve agricultural loans and aquacultural loans not to exceed \$50,000 of state funds, rather than \$25,000.	AEN, WAM
<a href="#">SB 339</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO THE IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL LAND QUALIFIED AGRICULTURAL COST TAX CREDIT. Clarifies that a taxpayer can claim the credit in the third taxable year after they apply for the credit, rather than in any taxable year. Extends the time that the department of agriculture may certify the important agricultural land qualified agricultural costs tax credit from 12/31/2021 to 12/31/2030.	AEN, WAM

<a href="#"><u>SB 341</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	RELATING TO TARO. Establishes an exemption from state income tax for the first \$100,000 of income derived from taro, taro products, and land used to produce taro if the total amount of land used to cultivate taro in Hawaii does not exceed thirty thousand acres at any point in the year.	AEN, WAM
<a href="#"><u>SB 478</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	RELATING TO FARMS. Creates an exclusion from income tax for the lesser of a percentage of gross annual income or an amount of gross annual income earned by a farmer from farming activities. Applies to taxable years beginning after 12/31/2020.	AEN, WAM
<a href="#"><u>SB 496</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURE. Establishes a task force to identify the top ten fruits or vegetables that are imported into the State but may be commercially grown in the State. Creates an income tax credit to incentivize the production of those fruits or vegetables to obviate the need to import them into the State.	AEN, WAM
<a href="#"><u>SB 497</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	RELATING TO MANUFACTURING. Creates an income tax credit to incentivize the food manufacturing industry in the State. Applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2020.	AEN, WAM

Decision Making to follow, if time permits.

All testimony received by the Hawai'i Senate is posted on the Hawai'i Legislature's website, which is accessible to the public. Please do not include private information that you do not want disclosed to the public.

Persons wishing to submit written testimony or request to testify via videoconference may do so up to 24 hours prior to the hearing.

Click [here](#) to submit **written testimony**.

If you wish to **testify via videoconference** during the hearing, please sign in to your account on the Legislature's website, then click on the "Testimony" icon on the home page. Detailed step-by-step instructions are available on the testimony submittal page. They are also posted on the Legislature's website [here](#).

Please note the following:

- The number of videoconference testifiers and/or time allotted to each testifier may be limited by the Chair when necessary to adhere to the committee hearing schedule. We may not be able to accommodate everyone who requests to testify remotely.
- Videoconference testifiers for this hearing will be limited to **2 minutes** each.

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or [par@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:par@capitol.hawaii.gov). You can also visit their website at <https://lrh.hawaii.gov/par/>.

For special assistance: The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you require other auxiliary aids or services to participate in the public hearing process (i.e., interpretive services (oral or written) or ASL interpreter), or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee at [AENcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:AENcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov) at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.

For amended notices: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are underscored. If a measure is both underscored and stricken through, that measure has been deleted from the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT (808) 586-6693.

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Senator Mike Gabbard  
Chair