

HB-1268-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:20:29 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/14/2023 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Corbin	Aquaculture Planning and Advocacy	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is John Corbin and I strongly support this measure. I managed the State Aquaculture Development Program from 1978 to 2006, when I retired. I have continued involvement through membership in the Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association and the Regional Aquaculture Center. During my tenure as Manager, development efforts were guided by a series of statewide planning documents each developed in consultation with public and private sector stakeholders.

It is very timely to develop a new 5 year Strategic Development Plan as the industry and the State economy begins to recover from the Pandemic. It is also appropriate because the Federal government is increasing its research and development support for expanding domestic aquaculture. Hawaii has an excellent reputation and tremendous capabilities for innovative aquaculture research.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.



Feb 14, 2023

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair, and Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
House Committee on Water & Land
Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 8:30 AM, Conference Room 430

Re: HB 1268 HD1 Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association (HAAA) representing aquaculture industry members, researchers, and supporters Statewide strongly supports HB 1268 HD1 as written, to conduct a SWOT analysis on the whole, diverse, statewide aquaculture industry and its place in the State economy. As specifically noted in this measure, it is important that UH Sea Grant's independent consultant invite industry leaders and stakeholders to participate in the development of this statewide strategic five-year plan for aquaculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 1268 HD1.

Sincerely,
Ronald P. Weidenbach
HAAA President



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Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 14, 2023

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

TESTIMONY ON HB 1268, HD1
RELATING TO AQUACULTURE

Conference Room 430 & Videoconference
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Ichiyama, Vice-Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau offers the following support relating to HB 1268, HD1, which would require the University of Hawai'i sea grant college program to contract with an independent consultant for the development of a statewide strategic five-year plan for aquaculture and appropriate funds for this.

The Legislature acknowledged the importance of Hawai'i's aquaculture industry by revitalizing the Aquaculture Development Program (ADP) through Act 63, SLH 2019, and in SLH 2022 provided funding for 4 positions for ADP. Supporting local aquacultural production can help the State move toward greater food sustainability and there is significant growth potential for the aquaculture industry in Hawai'i.

HFB strongly supports the goal of this measure and respectfully suggests that this body adopt the specific well-reasoned recommendations made by the Hawai'i Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association to assure that the goal will be met.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

2029 Nuuanu Ave. #1510
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817
February 11, 2023

Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair, and Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
House Committee on Water and Land
State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support HB 1268 HD1, "Relating to Aquaculture," which would allow the U.H. Sea Grant program to hire a consultant to develop a five-year strategic plan for aquaculture.

I have made my living in aquaculture and aquaponics in Hawai'i since the late 1970's. Since that time, aquaculture has grown into a major component of Hawai'i's diversified agriculture, with sales of almost \$80 million in 2021 and with much room for further growth. The five-year plan proposed by HB 1268 HD1 is a current industry priority, and is needed to guide State policies and programs in order to encourage the orderly development of this valuable and extremely diverse industry. I therefore respectfully urge your Committee to support passage of HB 1268 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important legislation, and for your support of Hawai'i's growing aquaculture industry.

Sincerely,



Frederick M. Mencher



EcoPonicX, Inc.
791 Aipo Street
Honolulu, Hi 96825

808-725-7168
www.ecoponicx.com

February 13, 2023

TO: Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair; Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
House Committee on Water & Land
Tuesday, February 14, 2023 @ 8:30 a.m. via videoconference or Room 430

**RE: SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 1268, HD1 RELATING TO AQUACULTURE – DEVELOP
A 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR AQUACULTURE**

Aloha Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our company is EcoPonicX, Inc., and we strongly support HB1268, HD1 RELATING TO AQUACULTURE – DEVELOP A 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR AQUACULTURE. We are developing indoor aquaponic technology utilizing fertilizers (fish effluent, ocean minerals, and limu) derived from local sources. Also, simultaneously, an aquatic feed product to supply the local aquaculture industry that's 100% locally sourced and produced.

This year we are collaborating with assistant professor Kacie Ho of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to investigate if hydroponic crops raised with aquatic organic fertilizers (fish effluent, ocean minerals, and limu) results in a product with an equal and or superior carotenoid and polyphenol load when compared with hydroponic crops raised on imported synthetic chemical fertilizers.

Expanding our current aquaculture industry will dramatically increase locally grown and locally consumed livestock and crops, thus enhancing our state's resiliency.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ame Arakaki".

Ame Arakaki
CEO and Co-Founder

HB-1268-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:28:46 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/14/2023 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
J Ashman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONG SUPPORT

This bill will support the expansion of sustainable aquaculture development and local food production for Hawaii.