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March 21, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

**TESTIMONY ON HB 1568, HD2  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference  
1:00 PM

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Moriwaki, Vice-Chairs Nishihara and Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committees:

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.

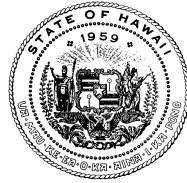
**The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports HB 1568, HD2**, which changes the law requiring all state departments to ensure that a certain percentage of food purchased consists of fresh, local agricultural products or local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products to apply only to the DOE, DOH, PSD, DOD, and UH System. It also requires each of those departments and the UH System to report to the legislature on its progress toward meeting these benchmarks and clarifies the information to be reported.

HFB strongly supports the increased use of locally grown agricultural products, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, poultry, and local value-added products in our state institutions.

HFB appreciates the intent of Act 176 SLH 2021 (HB 817, HD2, SD1) which established benchmarks to increase the required percentage of locally grown produce and value-added food products that all departments must purchase. The changes proposed to ACT 176 SLH make the implementation of the local purchase requirement more practical.

We believe that policies, investments, and resources that support agriculture are necessary to ensure that Hawai'i's farmers and ranchers can supply the produce and food products to meet the goals established in Act 176 SLH and in this measure.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on HB1568 HD2  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.**

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

SENATOR SHARON Y. MORIWAKI, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Hearing Date: March 21, 2022

Room Number: Video & 224

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Unspecified general fund expenditure to purchase foods that are likely  
2 more expensive than current inventories.

3 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the intent of this measure,  
4 which is to improve Hawaii's food security and enhance the local economy. However, the two  
5 entities to which this measure would apply will have negligible benefits:

- 6 • The Hawaii State Hospital's facility license is a maximum 273 patients.
- 7 • The Kalauapapa Settlement on Molokai has a patient census of 9 individuals.
- 8 • **The sum of these two populations is .0002% of the State's population.**

9 DOH respectfully requests the Legislature to reconsider the inclusion of the department, at least  
10 at this early stage.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

12 **Offered Amendments:** N/A.

13



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
And  
Senate Committee on Government Operations  
March 21, 2022 at 1:10 p.m.  
by  
Jan Gouveia  
Vice President for Administration  
University of Hawai'i System

### HB 1568 HD2 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairs Gabbard and Moriwaki, Vice Chairs Nishihara and Dela Cruz, and members of the committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1568 HD2. The University supports the intent of HB 1568 HD2, but is compelled to oppose the bill because it could be interpreted to apply to concession arrangements across all campuses. This bill amends Act 176, SLH 2021, by changing the requirement of all state departments to ensure that a certain percentage of food purchased consists of fresh, local agricultural products or local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products to apply only to the DOE, DOH, PSD, and UH System.

The University wholeheartedly supports the growth of local agriculture in our state in an effort to reduce our dependence on importing food and contribute to the State's economy. However, the legislature's intent with respect to the application of this bill to the University is unclear. The University would respectfully like to point out that the exclusions noted in Section 1 ("departmental or university staff travel expenses, office staff procurement, any other staff meals separate from each department's offered meal services or programs, or other staff meals separate from the university's offered meal services or programs") are not codified in Section 2. As such, the legislature's intent is not legally captured in the statutory language.

Furthermore, the University respectfully recommends that Section 2 of the bill be amended to exclude University concession agreements from the local food purchasing percentage requirement. Most, if not all, of the University's food contracts with vendors are concession-type agreements that support a business model in which the food service provider conducts business with the end consumer. As such, a strict requirement to purchase locally sourced food or agricultural products primarily impacts the end consumer, namely students, by passing on higher costs. Additionally, the University is concerned that its ability to source food locally will be restricted by the availability of the local food supply. As such, purchasing up to 50% of its food locally may be unachievable. Some of the University's contracts with vendors have already implemented a "local first" policy. However, at best, this results in approximately 30% of

food purchased locally due to supply constraints. Additionally, there are a number of other challenges to purchasing food locally. For example, farms may not meet our vendors' required purchasing standards or be willing to complete the process to become an approved vendor, which is accompanied by insurance and distribution requirements; and the University's food needs are generally highest from Fall through Spring and lowest in the Summer, which is generally the peak of the local food supply.

To address these concerns, the University respectfully requests that the exclusions set forth in Section 1 and language excluding concession agreements be added to Section 2 of the bill to be properly codified and clarify the legislature's intent.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1568 HD2.



1050 Bishop St. PMB 235 | Honolulu, HI 96813  
P: 808-533-1292 | e: info@hawaiiifood.com

#### Executive Officers

**Charlie Gustafson**, Tamura Super Market, *Chair*  
**Eddie Asato**, Pint Size Hawaii, *Vice Chair*  
**Gary Okimoto**, Safeway, *Secretary/Treas.*  
**Lauren Zirbel**, HFIA, *Executive Director*  
**John Schliff**, Rainbow Sales and Marketing, *Advisor*  
**Stan Brown**, Acosta Sales & Marketing, *Advisor*  
**Paul Kosasa**, ABC Stores, *Advisor*  
**Derek Kurisu**, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*  
**Toby Taniguchi**, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*  
**Joe Carter**, Coca-Cola Bottling of Hawaii, *Immediate Past Chair*

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TO:

Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

Committee on Government Operations  
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: March 21, 2022

TIME: 1:10pm

PLACE: Via Videoconference

RE: HB1568 HD2 Relating to Agriculture

Position: Support

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

HFIA is in support of this measure which changes the law requiring all state departments to ensure that a certain percentage of food purchased consists of fresh, local agricultural products or local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products to apply only to the DOE, DOH, PSD, DOD, and UH System. Requires each of those departments and the UH System to report to the legislature on its progress toward meeting these benchmarks and clarifies the information to be reported.

These changes will help ensure that the law regarding institutional purchasing is more functional and that progress can be tracked towards state goals. Institutional purchasing of local food helps strengthen and stabilize our local agricultural sector, and makes sure that school kids and other consumers have access to healthy local food. We encourage the committee to pass this measure and we thank you for the opportunity to testify.



## Food+ Policy Internship 2022

[food@purplemaia.org](mailto:food@purplemaia.org)

March 19, 2022

To: Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment; Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

Subject: Testimony in Support of **HB1568 HD2**, Procurement; Food Contracts; Specifications; DOE; DOH; PSD; DOD; UH System

I am writing on behalf of Hawai'i Food+ Policy to express our support for HB1568 HD2, Relating to Agriculture. This measure changes the law requiring all state departments to ensure that a certain percentage of food purchased consists of fresh, local agricultural products or local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products to apply only to the DOE, DOH, PSD, DOD, and UH System.

Requiring the DOE, DOH, PSD, DOD, and UH System to procure a certain percentage of their daily consumed fresh agricultural products or value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products from local producers not only secures a market for locally grown foods, but it also supports local farmers to raise their scales of production and thereby increase profits. This will make farming a viable form of business for prospective entrepreneurs and a reliable source of living wage for farm workers. It will also help improve the living conditions of farmworkers and their families.

Enabling the success of farming as a business will encourage the youth to go into farming as their chosen career. This path will provide future replacements for our now aging farmers and farm workers and will ensure the continuity of Hawaii's local agriculture.

We of the Food+ Policy Program strongly support this measure and urge that it be passed into law.

Mahalo,

Erwin & the Food+ Interns  
#fixourfoodsystem



Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)

SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT AND GOVERNMENT  
OPERATIONS

Monday, March 21, 2022 — 1:10 p.m.

**Ulupono Initiative supports HB 1568 HD 2, Relating to Agriculture.**

Dear Chair Gabbard, Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food; renewable energy and clean transportation; and better management of freshwater and waste.

**Ulupono supports HB 1568 HD 2**, which changes the law requiring all State departments to ensure that a certain percentage of food purchased consists of fresh, local agricultural products or local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products to apply only to the DOE, DOH, PSD, DOD, and UH System. This bill also requires each of those departments and the UH System to report to the Legislature on its progress toward meeting these benchmarks and clarifies the information to be reported.

Ulupono supports the State leading by example in purchasing 100% locally grown, raised and harvested local food as part of institutional purchases. This bill seeks to provide a few housekeeping updates to Act 176, SLH 2021, by adding clarifying language around local food and targeting institutional purchase goals with the DOE, DOH, PSD, DOD, and UH System. These agencies represent the bulk of State institutional food purchases.

We appreciate the continued commitment by the State to support local farmers and ranchers with a consistent market and keeping State money here in the islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata  
Director of Government Affairs

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 3:36:00 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support HB1568 HD2





**Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment /  
Senate Committee on Government Operations**

**Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: HB1568 HD2 w/  
amendments**

Monday, March 21st, 2022 1:10 p.m. Conference Room 224

Aloha Chair Gabbard/Moriwaki, Vice Chair Nishihara/Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee,

HAPA supports HB1568 HD2, which we believe helps to provide a tangible solution to moving toward more local food production and strengthening our local food system, while supporting our local farmers and food producers, as well as our economy.

HB1568 HD2 changes the law requiring all state departments to ensure that a certain percentage of food purchased consists of fresh, local agricultural products or local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products to apply only to the DOE, DOH, PSD, DOD, and UH System. Requires each of those departments and the UH System to report to the legislature on its progress toward meeting these benchmarks and clarifies the information to be reported.

To ensure meaningful reporting of departments covered by the statute, and for that reporting to provide market signals to the agricultural industry, **we ask that this bill by amended to require ALL departments and UH reporting on the following:**

- Status of the department's progress in meeting the local percentage procurement goal
- Total spending on consumable foods
- Total spending on produce (as defined in the current statute)
- Total local purchase spending
- For departments that do direct purchasing and food preparation, total purchases and total local purchases by produce category, (as demonstrated by the exemplary and clear reporting by the Department of Public Safety). Namely:
  - Fruits & Vegetables
  - Coffee
  - Staple Starches
  - Eggs
  - Poultry & Poultry Products

- Livestock (Beef)
- Livestock (Pork)
- Milk & Milk Products
- Aquacultural and maricultural products
- For departments that only purchased food in the form of prepared meals from third-party vendors, an estimate use/purchase of local produce/products (as demonstrated in the reporting of the Department of Defense)
- If the department or UH did not meet the relevant benchmark, an explanation of why

Sourcing our food locally is key to increasing our local food production, supporting our farmers, and future farmers, and developing a society that values and understands the vital role of agriculture, food security, quality food, and natural resources systems in advancing personal, local, and global well-being.

The more we develop a framework to help support sourcing local foods the more we support our local farmers and help our economy. When sourcing more local food we also reduce carbon emissions related to shipping and packaging waste associated with importation from the United States.

HB1568 HD2 will also support access to more culturally appropriate and nutritious foods for public school students, such as kalo, sweet potatoes and others.

Please support HB1568 HD2.

Thank you for your consideration,



Anne Frederick  
Executive Director

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/17/2022 8:51:22 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB1526.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei, Maui

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 11:28:03 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sarah Burns	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- Sourcing our food locally is key to increasing our local food production and supporting current and future farmers. This can also help develop a society that values and understands the vital role of agriculture, food security, quality food, and natural resources systems in advancing personal, local, and global well-being.
- The more we develop a framework to help support sourcing local foods, the more we support our local farmers and help our economy.
- When sourcing more local food, we also reduce carbon emissions related to shipping and packaging waste associated with importation from the United States.

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 12:12:55 PM

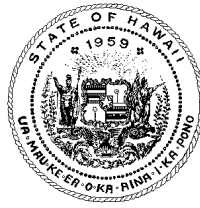
Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara Penn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We must support our local farmers so Hawaii can become more self sufficient. This is why I support this bill HB1568

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
1177 Alakea Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**MAX N. OTANI**  
DIRECTOR

**Maria C. Cook**  
Deputy Director  
Administration

**Tommy Johnson**  
Deputy Director  
Corrections

**Jordan Lowe**  
Deputy Director  
Law Enforcement

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1568, HOUSE DRAFT 2  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

by  
Max N. Otani, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Government Operations  
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

Monday, March 21, 2022, 1:10 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 224 & Via Videoconference

Chairs Gabbard and Moriwaki, Vice Chairs Nishihara and Dela Cruz, and Members of both Committees:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) offers comments on House Bill (HB) 1568, House Draft (HD) 2, which amends Act 176, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, requiring PSD and four other Executive Branch departments to ensure that a certain percentage of food purchased consists of fresh, local agricultural products or local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products.

The Department understands and has always been very supportive of the goal to increase local agricultural production and consumption. Unlike other State agencies, PSD has its own inmate farming program at the Waiawa Correctional Facility and Women's Community Correctional Center on Oahu and the Kulani Correctional Facility on Hawaii Island. The produce grown is used in our

correctional facilities to promote a “Farm-To-Table” experience for staff and inmate meals, thus offsetting a small portion of food expenses. Augmented by Corrections Program Services contracts with the University of Hawaii at Manoa’s “Go Farm” program, which provides education to inmates on basic agricultural practices and “farm-to-table” processes, PSD’s “Farm-To-Table” initiatives allow inmates to earn their way towards a successful reentry back into the community. These programs are successful in providing inmates with knowledge and education in sustainability, so that when they are released, they are able to provide meaningful support to the local agricultural industry and themselves and their families as contributing members of society.

The Department’s food service program is an institutional food service program funded by the State general revenues, which requires large quantities of food items, reliably delivered when it is to be prepared and consumed at all correctional facilities statewide. As with other similar agencies/organizations, PSD follows a standardized 5-cycle menu based on the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*.

With a lean budget (FY2020-21 food costs were \$7,199,772, of which, \$213,700 (2.97% was locally produced), and procurement preference for purchasing Hawaii products, the following staple items needed weekly that are not locally produced make it challenging to meet the required benchmarks:

Produce – Apples, carrots, celery, oranges, potatoes, and round onions.

Locally produced head cabbage and Chinese cabbage, papayas and pineapples, and shell eggs may also be sourced locally, but smaller supplies and higher costs make them infrequent purchases.

Beef, Pork, Chicken – local supplies are insufficient for PSD’s needs.

The Department’s Food Services program makes every effort to purchase local agricultural products and in good faith, is willing to increase its purchasing of local agricultural products which are generally more expensive, as long as the needed quantities are available. To meet the 2025 calendar year target of 10%-local

Testimony on HB 1568, HD 2  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Senate Committee on Government Operations  
March 21, 2022  
Page 3

proposed in HB 1568, HD 2, the Department will make its budget request to the Legislature for a significant Food Services budget increase, beginning in the 2024-25 fiscal year.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 1:36:38 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Celle Galarza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support all local food! All state departments should lead the way to support local.

The Department of Education (DOE), Department of Health (DOH), PSD (Department of Public Safety), Department of Defense (DOD), and the University of Hawai'i (UH) System should use a certain percentage of locally produced products.

Sincerely, Michelle Galarza

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 2:30:08 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melissa Barker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Senators:

I am respectfully asking that you please support HB1568 concerning local food procurement.

Thank you,

Melissa Barker

Kapaa, HI 96746

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 4:50:31 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judith White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please Support locally grow and produced food!

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 7:15:46 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
laurel brier	Testifying for Kauai women's caucus	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Great way to support local and future farmers and the local economy. Also reducing GHG involved in packaging and shipping. It would benefit the community with fresher and hence more nutritious food.

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 12:09:11 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elia Titiimaea	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chairperson Gabbard, Vice Chairperson Nishihara, and esteemed members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

Chairperson Moriwaki, Vice Chairperson Dela Cruz, and esteemed members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations,

I humbly submit my testimony in support of HB 1568 (HD2) which sets a minimum percentage of food purchases by the State of Hawai`i's DOE, DOH, DPS, UH system, as well as DOD, that must come from locally grown, agricultural products. This minimum percentage will increase every 5 years, so that by 2050, a minimum of 50% of these departments' food purchases must be from local sources. This measure will not only benefit our local farmers and livestock businesses, but our school-aged keiki will have fresh, locally grown food served to them in their school lunches.

Respectfully,

Elia K. Titiimaea



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment and Government  
Operations  
Monday, March 21, 2022; 1:10 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224  
Via Videoconference**

**RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 1568, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.**

Chair Gabbard, Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Joint Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** House Bill No. 1568, House Draft 2, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines to over 150,000 patients each year who live in rural and underserved communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of healthcare.

This bill, as received by your Committee, would require the Departments of Defense, Education, Health, and Public Safety, and the University of Hawaii System to ensure that a certain percentage of food purchased in public school, youth campuses, public hospitals, public prisons, and University of Hawaii facilities be fresh, local agricultural products and local value-added processed, agricultural products.

This bill would take effect on July 1, 2112.

Over the past five years, HPCA has served as a member of the Obesity Prevention Task Force, and as such has joined the Hawaii Public Health Institute and other advocates in support of efforts to promote healthy diets and the increased consumption of locally-grown vegetables and fruits in our schools and communities.

**Testimony on House Bill No. 1568, House Draft 1**  
**Monday, March 21, 2022; 1:10 p.m.**  
**Page 2**

Because the State purchases so much food for the daily operations of public schools, hospitals, prisons, and higher education facilities, it is prudent and essential for government to spend its limited resources within the State to ensure that these funds are circulated through local businesses and communities. The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly exacerbated the need for a bill like this. Our over-reliance on tourism has weakened our ability to respond to unforeseen economic downturns. The only way for us to protect ourselves from the next global pandemic is for Hawaii to diversify its economic base and become more self-sufficient. And for us to do that, we need to utilize more locally-grown food.

**We urge your favorable consideration of this bill.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Public Affairs and Policy Director Erik K. Abe at 536-8442, or [eabe@hawaiiipca.net](mailto:eabe@hawaiiipca.net).

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 7:45:45 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Colehour Bondera	Testifying for KANALANI OHANA FARM	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and Committee Members:

Please support Hawaii local small-scale farmer work and vote for this piece of legislation.

While this is only a starting point, we (Hawaii) needs to eat from our islands, and this is one means for that historical habit to be put back in place through legislation so mandating.

The numerous small-scale farmers of Hawaii should have local demand for their production and this is a great opportunity to support your constituents.

Sincerely,

Colehour Bondera



**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 8:49:37 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 8:59:22 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Norris Thomlinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is vital that our islands become food self-sufficient, to minimize dependency on global supply chains, and to minimize the environmental damage of food grown industrially and transported from far away. Leveraging the purchasing power of state departments would facilitate the necessary transition, by encouraging and supporting local food cultivation. Please support this bill. Mahalo!

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 9:04:22 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of HB 1568 HD2, a bill that requires all state departments to ensure that a certain percentage of food they purchase consists of fresh, local agricultural products or local value-added/processed agricultural or food products.

I do believe that the bill should be implemented immediately, or at the minimum in fiscal year 2023, instead of 2025. I also believe that 10 percent is too low a bar to start with, especially given the 2025 starting date. I believe that the 10 percent starting level should only be implemented as a quick stop-gap measure to meet the fiscal year of 2023, and immediately should be raised to meet the 2024 fiscal year to 25 percent with a 50 percent benchmark by 2025. Although I know there are a lot of contingencies, I believe the specter of climate change and food insecurity needs more radical measures such as these. However, despite the more conservative benchmarks that HB 1568 HD2 implements, I agree that the bill is at least recognizing these goals of sustainable food production as being essential to our health as a state and a society,

I would also like it if this was a full state mandate, as at this juncture this bill only requires the Department of Education (DOE), Department of Health (DOH), PSD (Department of Public Safety), Department of Defense (DOD), and the University of Hawai'i (UH) System to adhere to the mandate.

These statures of this bill are very limited and basic, but they are better than nothing and at least make a start towards local food sufficiency. However, because of the bill's limited scope, there is no reason not to give this kind of policy a try to show the state's commitment to local farmers and sustainable food production.

There are many reasons why this policy should not only be passed but expanded to all state agencies and even in the private sector. Obtaining our agriculture from local sources is essential to help develop a society that values and understands the vital role of agriculture, food security, quality food, and natural resources systems in advancing personal, local, and global well-being. This kind of education dovetails with the objectives of HB 1568 HD2, as the education sectors would be funded and the practice of utilizing local food sources and agriculture could aid in educating future generations in the benefits of sustainable and local agriculture.

Additionally, with the state's goal of net negative emissions, the more we invest in local agriculture and local food sourcing, we also reduce carbon emissions related to shipping and

packaging waste associated with importation from the mainland and elsewhere in the world. Considering the initiatives that are looking to impose producer responsibility bills for excess plastic packaging, it will save not only money but food miles, reduce reliance on extractive fossil fuels that goes along all plastic and current shipping methods, and in case of emergencies such as war or current boycotts of countries such as Russian imports, will help move us to a case of self-sufficiency so we are not beholden and dependent on others for our basic needs. Climate change will make it very likely that our current food sources may not be able to support us, such as heat waves in California that are leading to extreme drought. We cannot base food security by automatically relying on these places to budget our food supply anymore.

If we are to be a free society, the ability to feed ourselves and to be good to the aina by adopting local, sustainable and holistic food practices is essential. This bill is a good start towards this objective.

Mahalo for taking the time to consider my views and for your hard work.

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 10:00:31 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keoni Pikini	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Always support local!



COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

**HB1568 HD2**  
Relating to Agriculture

Monday, March 21, 2022, 1:10 p.m.  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Chairs Gabbard and Moriwaki, Vice Chairs Nishihara and Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committees,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 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 over 750 thousand acres of land in Hawaii, or 20% of the State's total land mass. We represent the interests of Hawaii's cattle producers.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports HB1568 HD2** to change the law requiring all state departments to ensure that a certain percentage of food purchased consists of fresh, local agricultural products or local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products to apply only to the DOE, DOH, PSD, and UH System and for a report to the legislature on its progress toward meeting these benchmarks and clarifies the information to be reported.

We appreciate the inclusion of livestock products, as Hawaii's cattle producers are poised to increase production of local beef with the increase of harvest and processing capacity and the increase of demand for products. The required reporting of purchases is important, as data on local food purchasing has been scant, but could help us to get onto the path of increased food production.

Nicole Galase  
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council  
Managing Director



**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 11:49:57 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maki Morinoue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

My name is Maki Morinoue and I am in support of HB1568 HD2 for Local Food Procurement. As a 4th generation kama'aina living in the sweet spot of Hawai'i to grow much food. It is amazing to know that the Hawaiians were thriving here pre colonialis in this Ahupua'a with more full time residents while taking care of their Natural & Cultural Resources. We must move away from shipping in over 80% of our food to our islands and encouraging a volitile displacement of food with the continouse climing numbers of transiant visitors and part time residents that stress our food security along with affordable housing.

Please pass HB1568 HD2

Mahalo  
Maki Morinoue  
Holualoa  
96725

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 12:34:43 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wendy Gibson-Viviani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, Vice-Chairs Nishihara and Misalucha and Members of the Committee,

I am a 29 year resident of Oahu, an RN who supports HB1568. Having State departments procure food locally seems like a good first step in building a framework for food security in Hawaii. This could also decrease the impact on the environment from the importation of food.

Thank you.

Wendy Gibson-Viviani RN/BSN

Kailua



**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 12:56:56 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sherri Thal	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support HB1568 as it is good for our local economy, cuts down on Greenhouse gases by sourcing food locally, and promotes education and awareness of the importance of buying locally grown foods.

Mahalo,

Sherri Thal, Kea'au, HI 96749

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 4:49:39 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Waia'u	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 1568 HD2.

Sourcing our food locally is the key to increasing our local food production and supporting current and future farmers. This can also help change the mindset of our community and put food security, agriculture and natural resource management at the forefront in understanding our overall well-being. What we put in our bodies matter and I advocate for healthy, locally grown food.

Mahalo,

Jessica Waia'u

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 8:01:41 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- Sourcing our food locally is key to increasing our local food production and supporting current and future farmers. This can also help develop a society that values and understands the vital role of agriculture, food security, quality food, and natural resources systems in advancing personal, local, and global well-being.
- The more we develop a framework to help support sourcing local foods, the more we support our local farmers and help our economy.
- When sourcing more local food, we also reduce carbon emissions related to shipping and packaging waste associated with importation from the United States.

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:14:49 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Crystal Robello	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Act 176 (SLH2021) is very important to advancing farm to state efforts in Hawai'i. Please allow for more time that is needed before changes to the Act are made.

Mahalo,

Crystal

**HB-1568-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:44:40 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/21/2022 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kelly Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Support HB1568 HD2

Act 176 (SLH 2021) is very important to advancing farm to state efforts in Hawai'i. More time may be needed before changes to the Act are made.

Aloha,

Kelly Perry