



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

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Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION AND ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

Tuesday, March 18, 2021
2:00 P.M.
House conference room via videoconference

Comments in consideration of
SB 1311 SD2
RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS.

Chairs Woodson and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kapela and Marten, and Members of the Committees, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on SB 1311 SD2, which requires the department of education to establish food waste and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the sustainable schools initiative including annual reports to the legislature.

SB 1311 SD2 aligns with the State's efforts to expand strategies and mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the reduction of energy use, adoption of renewable energy, and control of air pollution among all agencies, departments, industries, and sectors, including transportation. Emissions from ground transportation account for the largest share of energy sector emissions in the state accounting for over 4 million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents per the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Inventory. For Hawaii to meet its statutory target "to sequester more greenhouse gases than emitted as soon as practicable but no later than 2045", policies that support the adoption of cleaner transportation options are necessary and tremendously important.

In 2020 the State of Hawaii along with 14 other states and the District of Columbia were signatories of the Multi-State Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero Emission

Vehicle Memorandum of Understanding (MDHD ZEV MOU). The signatories who represent 50% of the U.S. economy agreed to strive to make sales of all new medium- and heavy-duty vehicles in their jurisdictions zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) by no later than 2050. In order to ensure adequate progress toward the 2050 goal, the Signatory States strive to make at least 30 percent of all new medium- and heavy-duty vehicle sales in their jurisdictions ZEVs by no later than 2030.

SB1311 SD2 addresses an important action within the State's power that will advance the goals of the MDHD ZEV MOU. Converting school buses to ZEVs sends a clear signal to the market on Hawaii's commitment to the decarbonization of the ground transportation sector. Per the ICCT October 2020 report "RACE TO ZERO: How manufacturers are positioned for zero emission commercial trucks and buses in North America"¹ battery electric school busses are now available in the market to support a transition of that ground transportation sector. In 2018 Blue Bird was the first legacy OEM to offer a fully electric school bus in the market. Since then Thomas Built Buses (Daimler) and IC Bus (Navistar) have introduced battery-electric busses. Zero-emission vehicle manufacturers GreenPower offers the Synapse 72 School Bus and Lion Electric has three models (LionA, LionC, LionD) covering the various types of school buses.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

¹ <https://theicct.org/sites/default/files/publications/Canada-race-to-zero-EN-oct2020.pdf>



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

Date: 03/18/2021

Time: 02:00 PM

Location: 309 & 430 Via
Videoconference

Committee: House Education
House Energy & Environmental Protection

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 1311, SD2 RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the department of education to establish food waste and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the sustainable schools initiative. Requires annual reports to the legislature. (SD2)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) offers comments on SB 1311, SD2.

While the Department supports setting more comprehensive goals to achieving the aims of the Sustainable Schools Initiative, significant financing will be required for successful implementation of the program. This is especially true to achieve the proposed targets related to net-zero energy consumption, zero-emissions vehicles, locally sourcing school meals, and food waste outlined in this measure.

Currently, the Department receives no funding from the legislature for the Sustainable Schools Initiative pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 302A-1510 and \$300,000 for the Resource Recovery Program pursuant to Act 207, SLH 2018. The important pursuits in these statutes are vital to effectively meeting the goal of creating more sustainable environments at Department campuses and the Department appreciates the legislature's commitment to further expanding sustainability efforts.

The Department urges the legislature to consider the provision of funding to the Department to ensure the successful implementation of the important goals in existing law and those proposed by this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. 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.



TESTIMONY OF PLANIT ENVIRONMENTAL VISION + BRANDING
IN REGARD TO SB1311 SD2,
RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS TO BE HEARD BY HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021 2PM

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Daniela Torres, and I am an account manager for PlanIt, an environmental vision and branding agency located in Honolulu, Hawai'i. We work with businesses that are sustainable but need help with content and messaging as well as businesses which would like to become sustainable. Many of our clients are local businesses with keiki in school, and while they are working hard to change the way businesses operate, there is a major roadblock in education when it comes to an individual's environmental impact- and that needs to start at a young age in school. It is crucial to support the sustainable school's initiative outlined in SB1311 for the future of our keiki, the environment, and the resiliency of our islands. We need to do all that we can to make our islands more resilient and healthier, and that starts with making changes in the DOE.

The elements of the Sustainable Schools initiative are not only feasible, but already underway. While COVID-19 has provided a major set back due to regulation from the DOH and state funding, this is a temporary set back and we will recover, here and everywhere else. It is also important to set metrics in place for the DOE so that they have goals and a clear path that will not falter with the changing of staff. PlanIt **supports** SB1311 SD2.

Setting 60 percent local food goals can increase food security, create local jobs, support the growth of local agriculture, and decrease Hawai'i's carbon footprint.

Prior to COVID-19, HIDOE was on track for 40 percent local food by 2024 and upon discussion with Dexter Kisha, the previous HIDOE Farm to School Coordinator whose position has still not been filled, a goal of 60 percent local produce and 60 percent local animal proteins is entirely achievable. As an island, we are currently importing roughly 90%¹ of the foods we consume as a whole at a cost of approximately \$3 billion, leaving our islands and schools vulnerable, should

¹ http://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/op/spb/INCREASED_FOOD_SECURITY_AND_FOOD_SELF_SUFFICIENCY_STRATEGY.pdf

an unpredictable shipping problem occur. HIDOE, however, had already been incorporating 30 percent local ingredients into school meals and working with farmers statewide to supply more food items based upon FDA food requirements, increasing both jobs and food security. If they could do it previously, they will be able to do it again.

The goals of HIDOE are in line with an overall growing trend in the federal DOE that shares a push towards local foods. According to the USDA, they already “encourage a push for school districts to use locally-produced foods in school meals and to use "farm-to-school" activities to spark students' interest in trying new foods.” They even established an official Farm to School Grant Program² as well as a grant program to help schools purchase kitchen equipment to help them provide healthier school meals. Hawai’i is one of the only states that has a growing season of 365 days/year and having this advantage truly allows for HIDOE to focus on local food production.

Setting local food production goals for proteins and produce means that both local farmers and fisherman can benefit. Currently, HIDOE offers no seafood options, but in their quest for local foods and the knowledge that seafood is more readily available than any other protein source, they are already testing seafood dishes. Additionally, 100% of HIDOE’s had always been (prior to COVID-19 restrictions) fresh beef products, which are already locally produced, so a shift from proteins like chicken to seafood could allow HIDOE to easily hit a 60 percent target.

There is a large environmental impact attached to food imports, and low prices provided through massive companies abroad undercut the prices of local farmers. By making these shifts to more local foods through HIDOE, we are paving the path for increased local food production and support overall for the entire state. Additionally, by adding this requirement we are creating an increased demand for local produce which will further stimulate the local farming economy, and with economies of scale, should drive down prices.

There is a direct correlation between local ingredients, fresh food, and local recipes, and overall waste reduction.

In 2018, Mililani Schools launched a pilot program that analyzed the effects of changing ingredients and recipes on waste reduction. Traditionally, DOE schools serve prepackaged meals with minimal prep, but with food waste rates so high, Mililani wanted to test “scratch cook,” or, cooking with fresh ingredients, in the schools to see how the change would impact waste. After a food waste audit was conducted, the research showed that Mililani high school students wasted 19 percent of their meal daily, while students at Mililani Uka elementary schools wasted 35 percent, and Mililani Waena Elementary School wasted 32 percent. When the scratch cooking program was tested, the percentages of food changed from 60 percent processed to 60 percent scratch cooking, with an increase from 20 percent to 40 percent local ingredients. These menu

² <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/farm-school-grant-program>

changes reflected in a 40 percent waste reduction overall. To measure scratch cooking meals directly against processed meals within the same time period, styles of food were interspersed throughout the week. The audit during this time revealed that students threw away 9–21 percent less food on days they were served freshly prepared meals.

Making shifts to local ingredients and fresh foods additionally provides an opportunity for schools to teach students about nutrition, local agriculture, Hawaiian culture, food waste, plant life cycles, and more.

A zero emissions goal for all school transportation is feasible and essential to decrease our dependency on oil and move towards a net zero carbon state.

As a state, we have some of the highest fuel costs in the country. These costs are due to the distance oil must travel to Hawaii, a state that produces NO fossil fuels, but endless renewable energy sources- sun, wind, hydro, and geothermal. It only makes sense as a community to use the energy sources we have been provided with, which happen to also cause little to no harm in comparison to fossil fuels. School buses only last so long, so requiring that any new school buses purchased are electric, will not lead to any wasted vehicles, and will not be an extraordinary ask. Ultimately, these buses will save the schools money, which is something essential for a state operating at a \$5 billion deficit. Additionally, buses emit a lot more hazardous fumes than cars due to their size and the amount of fuel used. Eliminating gasoline-powered buses will also provide cleaner air for us to breathe.

It is only fitting that the school transportation move to zero emissions when the buildings have already set the target of net zero energy, and that happened six years ago.

Integration of sustainability into curriculum allows for more creative freedom for teachers, Hawaiian place-based learning, project-based learning, increased environmental awareness, and increased student engagement.

In 2010, the Hawai'i Farm to School Hui was formed and in 2017 it became a part of Hawai'i Public Health Institute.³ This hui provides resources to HIDOE schools including garden safety, foodservice tips, curriculum ideas, Āina Pono, and the Garden to Cafeteria Program. While this Hui is already there, it is underutilized as a whole and requires more support from a state level to reach its full potential and provide what it can for all HIDOE schools.

This bill will give that further support and resources for the hui, students and teachers, and provides aid to those looking for a way to start these changes.

³ <https://www.hiphi.org/farmentoschool/>

According to the Green Schools Alliance,⁴ “students spend the majority of their day in a school building during their most crucial developmental years. [...] The journey to that goal begins with educating students in a healthy and sustainable environment.” The underlying goal for this bill is to make all DOE schools Net Zero Energy Green Schools by 2035, a first attempt of its kind in the nation. As defined by USGBC Center for Green Schools, “All green schools share three common goals: reduced environmental impact, increased health and well-being, increased environmental and sustainability literacy for all graduates.”⁵ Our children are already more environmentally aware than many adults and it is a topic amongst the youth thanks to global youth leaders such as Greta Thunberg and local leaders such as Hawaii Youth Climate Coalition. Students around the world are demanding sustainability education in schools and working with their schools and student body to find ways to decrease their school’s environmental footprint.

PlanIt **supports** SB1311 SD2 and we urge these committees to pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Daniela Torres
PlanIt Environmental Vision + Branding

⁴ <https://www.greenschoolsalliance.org/home>

⁵ <https://www.centerforgreenschools.org/what-green-school>

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2021 3:16:44 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dyson Chee	Hawai'i Youth Climate Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Lowen and Woodson, Vice-chairs Marten and Kapela, and members of the EEP and EDN,

My name is Dyson Chee, I am a 19-year-old student living in Ala Moana, and I am testifying in support of SB1311 on behalf of the Hawai'i Youth Climate Coalition. It is critically important that we not only teach sustainability in schools, but that we also practice it in schools. This bill would codify the importance of efforts that many students and teachers are already making to increase the self sufficiency of their campus. The sooner we set these goals, the more resilient we will become in the face of an undeniable climate crisis. I hope you will consider our testimony and pass SB1311

Sincerely,

Dyson Chee



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION AND ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Thursday, March 18, 2021 — 2:00 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports SB 1311 SD 2, Relating to Sustainable Schools

Dear Chair Woodson, Chair Lowen, 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 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 SB 1311 SD 2, which requires the Department of Education (DOE) to establish food waste and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the Sustainable Schools Initiative.

Ulupono supports the State's efforts to increase energy efficiencies, clean transportation, and local food procurement. The State currently maintains goals for 100% clean energy by 2045 and doubling local food production by 2030. Each state department and agency should find ways to lead by example in meeting these sustainable goals. The DOE can make a strong impact for the State by making these statements and policies a reality through the Sustainable Schools Initiative. The DOE can also benefit from teaching our keiki about the importance of clean energy and transportation and local food production, creating a more resilient future for all.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association

PO BOX 6310

Hilo, HI 96720

hawaiidriveelectric@gmail.com



February 26, 2021

Dear Chairs Woodson and Lowen, Vice-Chairs Kapela and Marten, and members of the Committees on Education and Energy and Environmental Protection,

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association is in SUPPORT of SB1311 SD 2 (RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS).

The electrification of our school buses will not only enable our state to achieve its decarbonization goals more aggressively, but it will also allow our keiki to not be exposed to unhealthy exhaust associated with internal combustion engine vehicles.

It is well-established that diesel exhaust is filled with particles and gases that are toxic and carcinogenic^[1] and that air pollution associated with the burning of fossil fuel contributes to significant death across the globe^[2]. Today's school transportation fleet exposes our kids to these dangerous exhaust fumes as they are transported to and from school. It behooves us to stop exposing our young bus riders and bus drivers to this air pollution and to do so with urgency.

Electric buses will also allow for a lower total-cost-of-ownership for bus fleet operators. These buses have moving parts and are easier to maintain compared to internal combustion engine buses. In the long-run, electric buses are more economical than their diesel counterparts^[3]. There are other counties in the nation that have already transitioned their school bus fleet or are in the process of doing so^[4] - we will be in good company as we make our transition.

The electrification of our school buses is inevitable – it will ultimately happen. However, we must accelerate the transition to make a dent in our global-warming emissions and the exposure of our keiki to harmful air pollution.

Please support **SB1311 SD 2**.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Noel Morin - President

^[1] Diesel Exhaust and Cancer - cancer.org/cancer/cancer-causes/diesel-exhaust-and-cancer.html

^[2] Fossil Fuels Kill Nearly 9 Million Annually, More Than Twice Previous Estimate, Study Finds - ecowatch.com/fossil-fuels-air-pollution-deaths-2650416201.html?rebelltitem=1#rebelltitem1

^[3] Electric buses for mass transit seen as cost-effective - publicpower.org//periodical/article/electric-buses-mass-transit-seen-cost-effective

^[4] Miami-Dade Starts Transition to Electric School Bus Fleet - cleantechnica.com/2021/01/18/miami-dade-starts-transition-to-electric-school-bus-fleet/

Hawaii EV Association is a grassroots non-profit group representing electric vehicle owners in Hawaii. Our mission is to accelerate the electrification of transportation through consumer education, policy advocacy, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure expansion. For more information, please visit hawaiiev.org.

Big Island Electric Vehicle Association

www.bigislandev.org



March 17, 2021

Dear Chair Woodson, Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Kapela, Vice-Chair Marten, and members of the Committees on Education and Energy and Environmental Protection,

Big Island Electric Vehicle Association is in SUPPORT of SB1311 SD 2 (RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS).

Electrifying our school transportation, especially our school buses, is something that will eventually become unavoidable – the operational and maintenance cost, and environmental advantages of electric buses will force this transition. As with passenger cars, large vehicles like buses are available in electric form. They offer us the opportunity to have lower cost (total-cost-of-ownership is lower for electric), clean, and environmentally friendly bus transportation.

Let's not wait...

Diesel bus exhaust is filled with toxins that are not compatible with health. It is unconscionable for us to expose our kids to the pollution generated by diesel buses, especially when viable, clean alternatives already exist. Notably, there are several school districts (e.g., Montgomery, MD, Middletown, CT, Lexington, MA, Boulder Valley, CO) that are making the shift and are experiencing economic and clean air benefits. (We will be in good company.)

Please consider including aggressive milestones that allow for us to meet the proposed January 1, 2035 goal.

We urge you to support **SB1311 SD 2**.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Noel Morin – President

Big Island Electric Vehicle Association (bigislandev.org), established in 2011, is a grassroots non-profit group dedicated to accelerating the adoption of EVs on Hawaii Island. Our members are EV owners and supporters.



To: The House Committee on Education (EDN)
and
The House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection (EEP)
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021, 2:00 pm

In strong support of SB1311 SD2

Aloha Chairs Woodson and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kapela and Marten, and members of the EDN and EEP committees,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii's 6,000 members **strongly support SB1311 SD2** which requires the department of education establish food waste and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the sustainable schools initiative.

Efforts to increase energy efficiencies, clean transportation, and local food procurement promotes good health for students and our local economy, as well as improving the health of our planet. These efforts avoid the greenhouse gases that would have been emitted from shipping food in for meals offered at public schools, in addition to avoiding exposure to toxic exhaust emissions from internal combustion engine vehicles via the electrification of our school buses. It also stimulates our economy by creating local jobs and supporting the growth of local agriculture. These efforts and more are the type of actions needed to move Hawaii to a decarbonized economy.

The planet faces an existential climate crisis and we must act now. As an island state, Hawaii is ground zero for climate devastation, from more intense storms, to food insecurity, to rising seas and shoreline destruction.

And let's be clear. Climate change is not an abstract problem for the future. Climate change is happening now, we are causing it, and the longer we wait to act, the more we lose. **Children living today will live to see a 1.5°C warmer world because of the failure of adults to take real action when there still was time to do so.** Scientists have made clear that we are part of the last generation that can stop or at least mitigate the devastating impacts of climate change.

If we are to solve the climate crisis, it will require **all of us** working together. Hawaii can and should be a leader in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. The sooner we inspire others to take action and lead by example, the better off the future will be for our children. We need efforts like those described in SB1311 SD2 across all sectors of our society, and we need them in earnest.

In closing, I wish to share the words of a young climate activist who was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, Greta Thunberg.

“Adults keep saying we owe it to the young people, to give them hope, but I don’t want your hope. I don’t want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic. I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. I want you to act. I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if the house is on fire, because it is.”

It is time to act now, not after our house has burned to the ground.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this very important legislation.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2021 10:43:17 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Helen Cox	Kauai Climate Action Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Kakou,

I am writing on behalf of the Kauai Climate Action Coalition to support SB1311 Relating to Sustainable Schools. Kauai Climate Action Coalition supports bills that will have a positive impact on the climate crisis, are economically viable, and are socially just. This bill meets these criteria. As one of the largest organizations in the state the DOE can not only have a large impact if it sets goals for zero emission vehicles and reducing food waste, but it can also send a strong and positive message to other state and private entities. The climate crisis is here NOW, and the need to move to zero emission vehicles is paramount. In addition, keep food waste out of the landfills reduces methane released, and appropriate use of necessary food waste can sequester carbon in the soil. Finally, the state can save money through both of these measures, money that can be used to support other important initiatives. Please support SB 1311.

Mahalo,

Helen A. Cox, Chair

Kauai Climate Action Coalition



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

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Rep. Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair

Rep. Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

SB1311 SD2

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS.

Thursday, March 18, 2021, 2:00 PM

Video Conference

Chairs Woodson and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kapela and Marten, and Members of the Committees,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports SB1311 SD2** to require the department of education to establish food waste and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the sustainable schools initiative.

This bill stimulates increasing the amount of animal protein purchased locally. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council supports increasing the percentage of locally sourced food, and Hawaii's ranchers are ready to contribute to that by providing local beef, a nutritious protein. Hawaii's locally grown beef provides 10 essential nutrients in a single 3 oz. serving. This includes high-quality protein, iron, zinc and B vitamins. These nutrients are especially important for the development of young, active growing children.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council

Position Statement on Local Beef Production

One of the core strengths of any society lies in its ability to be self-sufficient, to feed itself. Hawaii's beef producers are committed to providing wholesome food for its community that is safe, secure and sustainable.

For most of its existence, Hawaii's beef industry has followed a conventional model with production, harvest and processing occurring within state. In the early 1990's, a combination of rising costs and inefficiencies led Hawaii producers to shift to an export calf model which remains dominant today. However, with increasing consumer demand for locally sourced food, there is renewed focus on expanding local beef production. Several private labels have emerged over the last 10 years, raising the flavor and tenderness profile for local beef, further driving demand. The groundwork for expansion has been set.

In recent years, Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) recognized limited harvest capacities as one of the primary constraints for expanding local beef production. It has been HCC's position that each island should have access to a full complement of harvest and processing facilities. The economic benefit of efficiencies achieved with consolidation should be balanced with the unique challenges Hawaii's beef industry faces. These include;

- the vulnerability of interisland transportation of perishable goods and/or live animals as it relates to;
 - food security and safety, animal welfare, affordable shipping rates, labor disputes and equipment failure
- the need to develop and maintain a diversified economic base and skilled labor force on outer islands
- limited competitive markets
- quasi-public responsibility of state-owned food processing facilities

Among other things previously identified (see attached, "A Livestock Harvest Facility for Hawaii"), the ideal model should address;

- Flexible marketing – direct sale vs retained ownership
- Increased capacity/access for all producers to harvest, process and market
- Growth of market share through "coopetition" vs direct competition
- Compliance with regulatory planning concepts and concerns, especially as related to environmental issues
- Preservation of the integrity of locally labeled beef
- Opportunity to expand locally branded products

Our producers continue to provide high-quality grass-fed beef year-round, which serves a loyal, sustainability-minded customer base that increasingly want to know where their food comes

from. HCC supports a business model that facilitates infrastructure that allows each island to maintain autonomy over its beef production from gate to plate.

A Livestock Harvest Facility for the State of Hawaii Hawaii Cattlemen's Council



Senate Bill 1257 provides \$1.5M for the planning and design of a livestock harvest facility within the state of Hawaii. This is an ambitious initiative that represents our strong belief in the future of our industry and our commitment to building infrastructure that will help grow and expand our local markets.

Our critical need for this project is based on the following;

- a. increased consumer demand for local beef
- b. increased market demand created by expanding programs, such as our schools' Aina Pono initiative
- c. availability for producers' strategic culling programs
- d. security for animal welfare in the face of disease or drought

The Request for Proposal (RFP) for planning and design should include the following key components and deliverables from firms who will respond;

1. An analysis of a viable business/feasibility plan that addresses expected throughput, revenues, expenses and return on investment related to the operation of a new facility. Our initial recommendation for Hawaii Island is for a 5,000 head capacity that can be expanded to 10,000 head/year. This will be varied island by island. We see this information as critical to attracting capital to our state and industry.
2. Schematics and drawings of the layout of a new facility that can be adapted to meet different environmental conditions for each island and can scale up or down to meet production needs.
3. Analysis and review of technologies to support the remote locations and sensitive environments in which this facility will operate.

4. Review of the following key features of the facility itself. These features will ensure that the proposed model will meet our goal of creating a facility that serves the sustainability needs of our industry addressed through these economic, social and environmental considerations.

Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity (target steady state, initial, and ramp up) • Scalable/modular • Marketing partner • Added value/processing • Certification for specialty markets – i.e. export, BRC, GFSI • Management expertise • Transportation costs • Flexible marketing – direct sale vs retained ownership • Innovation and technology • Useful life • Potential for multi-species use • Scope of facility—slaughter, processing, and further processing capabilities • Value Added Products and Processing
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food safety • Worker safety • Animal well-being • Employee engagement • Central location • Affordable housing
Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable energy • Waste disposal - bio digester • Water resources and requirements • Critical path for permits • Environmental Impact Statement • Air emissions/odor • Proximity to existing infrastructure and need for establishment of new connections to electrical, water, wastewater, and roadways.

HCC believes our industry and agriculture as a whole are at a critical crossroads. There is a great deal to be optimistic about including consumer demand for more locally sourced food, public officials who have declared a commitment to improve Hawaii’s food security, an advocate in our HDOA administration who believe in the need for Hawaii’s agriculture to thrive and people within the ranching community with the will to move our industry forward. These things combine to create powerful synergy to keep our industry and agriculture a vibrant and relevant part of our state’s economy and landscape. This project is the result of that synergy and a real, tangible move forward for the beef industry.



March 17, 2021

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Pacific American Foundation
C/O Bay View Golf Park
45-285 Kāne'ohe, Bay Drive,
#102 Kāne'ohe, HI 96744

Phone: (808) 664-3027

www.thepaf.org

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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And Members

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair

Rep. Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

And Members

Re: Testimony in support of SB 1311 SD2.

Aloha, My name is Herb Lee, Jr. and I am the CEO of the non-profit, Pacific American Foundation. We have been a proactive community partner with Hawaii schools for over 25 years statewide. I am writing in SUPPORT OF SB1311, SD2

Specifically, increased procurement of locally-grown foods for consumption by Hawaii's students will have a positive impact on the health of children and youth and the development of sustainable food systems in Hawai'i. We appreciate the addition of local food procurement as part of the vision and plan for sustainable schools.

We also affirm the critical importance of curricular integration of sustainability concepts and practices, as a foundation for Hawaii's social, economic, and environmental recovery and resiliency.

Pleas give this your highest consideration in helping to better serve our keiki o ka 'aina!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Herb Lee, Jr.", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Herb Lee, Jr.
Pacific American Foundation
President & CEO

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2021 12:49:47 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To: The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair, the Honorable Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Education, and

The Honorable Nicole Lowen, Chair, the Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

From: Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing **SB1311 SD2 RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS.**

Hearing: Thursday, March 18, 2021, 2:00 p.m., by videoconference

Aloha Chairs Woodson and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kapela and Marten, and members of the House Committees on Education and Energy and Environmental Protection:

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i is a group focused on reversing the climate crisis. We **STRONGLY SUPPORT SB1311 SD2!**

As a tropical island State, Hawai'i will be among the first places harmed by the global climate crisis, with more intense storms, loss of protective coral reefs, food insecurity, and rising sea levels destroying our shorelines. We must do all we can to reduce our carbon footprint and become carbon negative as soon as possible.

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require the Department of Education to establish locally sourced food and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the sustainable schools initiative.

Hawai'i imports more than six million pounds of food on a daily basis at a cost of more than \$3,000,000,000 per year. An increase in locally sourced produce would simultaneously improve food quality and public health, boost the local economy, improve overall food sustainability, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from importing food. With proper farming practices, growing local food can also sequester carbon in the soil.

Traditional internal combustion school bus engines emit exhaust, which children breathe in while riding buses and sitting in traffic, and can increase asthma and other health problems. In contrast, electric school buses provide potential benefits to the quality of student health, the environment, utility infrastructure, and cost savings. Additionally, electric buses have lower operational, maintenance, and labor costs than comparable buses powered by internal combustion engines.

SB 1311 SD2 aligns with the State's efforts to expand strategies and mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the reduction of energy use, adoption of renewable energy, and control of air pollution among all agencies, departments, industries, and sectors, including transportation. Emissions from ground transportation account for the largest share of energy sector emissions in the state accounting for over 4 million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents per the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Inventory. For Hawai'i to meet its statutory target "to sequester more greenhouse gases than emitted as soon as practicable but no later than 2045", policies that support the adoption of cleaner transportation options are necessary and tremendously important. Conversion of school buses to electronic powered transportation also aligns with Hawai'i's established goals of achieving a carbon-negative economy by 2045. This measure will engage students in sustainable living through establishing the goals of locally sourcing sixty percent of school food and providing students with zero-emission transportation in the future.

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i strongly urge passage of SB1311 SD2! Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2021 1:10:16 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Committee,

On behalf of Our Revolution Hawaii's 7,000 members and supporters statewide, we stand in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB1311 SD2 to increase the amount of locally grown food provided to our school students and switch their transport to electric buses. More specifically our youth members and supporters are enthusiastically in support of this legislation. These are not only smart ideas, they are also inline with the states goals to address Climate Change.

Providing locally grown food will increase the amount of produce our local farmers can sell, which will greatly improve our economy, and make our island food sources more sustainable. Currently about 90% of our food is brought in from the continent, greatly increasing Hawaii's carbon footprint.

Switching to electric buses, is just good common sense. The only way to cut carbon emissions is to cut the use of fossil fuels, and switching the transport of our children from fossil fuel vehicles to electric vehicles is the best way forward to cut our emissions.

It is important that the legislature take the lead on this initiative, because there is no other entity with the specific mandate to protect the health and safety of our people and aina. Businesses have lobbyists to look out for their best interests. Our students only have our Representatives to look out for their best interest.

Please vote in support of SB1311.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Dave Mulinix

Community Organizer

Our Revolution Hawaii



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Kaiser Permanente*

Date: March 17, 2021

To: Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

Representative Nicole Lowen, Chair
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: Lydi Bernal, Hawai'i Farm to School Hui Coordinator

Re: SUPPORT for SB1311 SD2, Relating to Sustainable Schools

Hearing: March 18, 2021 at 2:00pm Via Videoconference

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of SB1311 SD2**, which requires the department of education to source 60% of the animal protein and produce for school meals locally by 2035, to establish zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the sustainable schools initiative, and to report annually to the legislature.

Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) works to advance policy and systems change to reduce disparities and improve the health of Hawai'i residents. HIPHI is home to and testifies here on behalf of the Obesity Prevention Task Forceⁱ and the Hawai'i Farm to School Huiⁱⁱ, which **collectively represent over 60 organizations from across the islands.**

Increased procurement of locally-grown foods for consumption by Hawaii's students will have a positive impact on the health of children and youth and the development of sustainable food systems in Hawai'i. We appreciate the addition of local food procurement as part of the vision and plan for sustainable schools.

We also affirm the **critical importance of curricular integration** of 'āina-based sustainability concepts and practices, as a foundation for Hawaii's social, economic, and environmental recovery and resiliency.

Thank you for your strong support of sustainable schools through farm to school!

Me Ke Aloha,
Lydi Bernal
Hawai'i Farm to School Hui Coordinator

ⁱ Created by the legislature in 2012, the **Obesity Prevention Task Force** comprises of over 40 statewide organizations, and works to make recommendations to reshape Hawaii's school, work, community, and health care environments, making healthier lifestyles obtainable for all Hawai'i residents.

ⁱⁱ Founded in 2010, the **Hawai'i Farm to School Hui** is a statewide network comprising five island-level networks, community organizations, schools, state agencies, and other food systems stakeholders with a collective mission to strengthen Hawaii's farm to school movement. The three pillars of successful farm to school programs are: 1) school gardens and on-campus farms, 2) education, and 3) school food improvements through local procurement.

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Submitted on: 3/18/2021 11:58:50 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Ha	Sustainable Energy Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairs Woodson and Lowen, Vice-Chairs Kapela and Marten, and members of the Committees on Education and Energy and Environmental Protection,

I am Richard Ha, Chair of Sustainable Energy Hawai'i, a coalition of concerned citizens dedicated to improving the quality of life of Hawaii residents through affordable renewable energy.

We are in SUPPORT of SB 1311 SD2.

Mahalo,

Richard Ha

Chair - Sustainable Energy Hawai'i

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2021 12:44:43 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tristan S Bassingthwaighte	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I wish to express support for this bill; Hawaii has a wealth of local resources that aren't being used as effectively as they could, and this bill would not only ensure that we're less wasteful, but would be good for the local economy as well, to say nothing of childrens health. Hawai'i is deeply sensitive to environmental changes, it's time we were a leader in resource and electric vehicle use.

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2021 5:48:56 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheyenne tilford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am an elementary school teacher in Waianae, and for many of my students, breakfast and lunch provided at school are their only meals of the day. The families rely on these meals to give their children the nutrients they need to grow and be healthy. Unfortunately, what breaks my heart, is that these meals often end up in the trash can. As a second grade teacher, I see most of my students throw cartons of milk in the trash that are unopened or barely touched, they often ask "what is this?", "this looks weird., I don't want to eat this," about most of the items on their plates, and most, if not all, of their whole breakfast or lunch ends up in the trash. Then, because the children are still hungry, I see them eating bags of Takis, Cheetohs, or candy that they found at home and bring to school with them. Thus, in a whole school day, and for some even in a whole day, children are consuming bits of food from their lunches and are getting most of their calories from candy and chips. Why is it that our children are given the same menu as schools on the mainland? These students don't want or have a desire to eat most of the food they are provided? Why, then, can we not provide them with LOCAL, HEALTHY food that looks FAMILIAR to them, food that they will actually eat, not throw away, food that will give them the energy they need to learn, grow, and stay focused the rest of the school day, not make them crash and feel sluggish. These kids RELY on this food, so let's give them food that they will actually eat, and will actually make them feel good and be healthy, because for some, these meals are their only meals of the whole day. We owe this to our keiki.

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2021 9:35:08 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie Hall Morin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Electric buses will eliminate engine noise as well as carbon emissions. The stress level for the students and driver will decrease as the noise levels decrease.

Much food is wasted as many kids don't want the milk or whatnot. Giving them choices to eliminate waste is needed.

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2021 11:43:24 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this important bill!

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2021 11:47:16 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, Chairs and committee members. I would like to submit my support for this important bill. I work as a Waste Reduction Coordinator for KĀ• kua Hawai'i Foundation, and we have conducted the largest assesment of school lunch waste to date and found compelling results to support food waste reduction goals, in particular. Though many schools across the state have agreements with local piggeries and farmers to divert the wasted school food, the fact there there is an average 57% (by weight) of served food wasted in elementary schools, and 25% (by weight) in middle and high schools, is a clear indicator that more efforts are needed to increase consumption prior to disposal and rescue any excess food scraps from the dumpsters for on or off-site composting. That degree of wasted food represents a moral as well as fiscal obligation for the state to act, as tens of millions of dollars are spent on food service as well as daily school dumpster hauling specifically because of the putrescible food and milk waste thrown in. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony. I am available for questions, if desired.

Jennifer Milholen

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2021 12:36:55 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lucy Fagan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Lucy Fagan and I am a 17 year old public school student living in Kaimuki. I would like to voice my support for SB1311 SD2 that would help make our schools more sustainable through more locally sourced food and electric transportation.

School is a large part of my life, and almost any other youths. We have a limited control over where we go for it, and how the school is ran, though. Many of us must eat the lunches provided no matter what, and rely on the schools transportation to get there. This bill ensures that those are sustainable practices we can feel good about.

Climate change is going to be and already is a huge problem for the islands. Choosing to make school's more sustainable would be a huge step in progressing Hawaii towards a future ready to mitigate, handle, and thrive in the face of these problems. By relying on imports to feed the islands we are vulnerable if our ports are damaged or there are global events that impact importation. If COVID-19 has taught us anything, it is that we need to be prepared and ready for anything to come. By focusing on supporting local agriculture we are also supporting our local economy, something that is going to be majorly important when youth grow up and decide where they want to live.

Thank you for looking out for me and my peers future.

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2021 5:19:50 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Pappas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear EDN, EEP and JHA Chairs, Vice Chairs and Committee Members,

I strongly support the first two goals of SB1311 SD2 and have suggested a modification for the third goal:

Goals of this bill:

1 - Becoming net-zero with respect to energy use, i.e., producing as much renewable energy as the department consumes across all public school facilities by January 1, 2035

2 - Transitioning to zero-emission vehicles for all school-related transportation, including any contracts for transportation by January 1, 2035

And the third goal as modified:

3 - Locally sourcing 60% of all animal proteins and 60% of all produce purchased for meals offered in public schools, as measured by the percentage of funds spent on each annually by January 1, 2035*.

* Include the protein amount from all foods served—not just the meats. Cutting back on meat, cheese, eggs and cow’s milk by substituting other forms of protein (nuts, beans, lentils, seeds: hemp, chia, flax, tofu, tempeh (Indian soy product), oats, quinoa, and soy/almond/oat milk) is beneficial for the climate and offer new, healthy food choices to our keiki.

There are at least three “wins” in this bill:

- Keiki learn about renewable vs fossil fuel energy sources and will see it in action by the adults around them; they will also experience new and healthy local foods
- Less air pollution from school buses and other DOE vehicles means healthier children
- Keiki learn that food waste can be turned into “black gold” (aka, compost) that can be sold for a profit or used in their school or backyard gardens.

Please support this important bill (SB1311 SD2).

Thank you for listening and for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jan Pappas – Aiea, Hawaii

Charley Ice
98-633 Kilinoe Street, Waimalu, Puuloa

17 March 2021

Hearing on SB1311 – RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS: Establishing food waste and zero-emission vehicle goals as part of the Sustainable Schools Initiative.

House Committees on Education and on Energy and Environmental Protection

Testimony in Support

Me ke Aloha, Chairs Justin Woodson and Nicole Lowen, Vice Chairs Jeanne Kapela and Lisa Marten, and Committee Members:

SB 1311 provides a example of the nature of combined adaptation measures that society in general need to undertake, and it is fitting that it arises in the context of education.

First, it intends to boost demand for local food production. Establishing a resilient food production base to substitute for imports is a key survival adaptation.

Second, it proposes to make good use of food waste in composting, a key activity in regenerating soil to sequester greenhouse gases, and a key element in food production to teach our next generation.

Third, it shifts the vehicular fleet serving schools from internal combustion engines to electric vehicles, which contribute to vehicular service savings and to less polluting air breathed by students, parents, teachers, and staff.

Mahalo for hearing and passing this adaptive step in recovery from our pandemic and our climate emergency.

/s/ Charley Ice, lifelong public servant (retired from public employ)

SB-1311-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2021 12:34:39 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/18/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Brinker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support