

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

APRIL 5, 2022

2:30 P.M.

CONFERENCE ROOM 308 & VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

SENATE BILL NO. 3004 SD1 HD1
RELATING TO COMPOSTING

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 3004 SD1 HD1. The bill establishes and appropriates funds for a compost reimbursement program within the Department of Agriculture and one full-time permanent compost reimbursement program manager position to oversee the program and requires an annual progress report of the program to the legislature prior to each regular session. The Department supports this bill.

The Department successfully administered a similar program in 2019-2021 and would implement the same controls to ensure the proper disbursement of funds for this program. In order to maximize funds available for reimbursement, the program will be administered by existing staff. The previous program was popular with the agriculture sector and would assist farmers and ranchers with compost costs.



Also, the Department would like to comment on the addition of “landscaping operations” to the HD1 version of this bill. The 2019-2021 reimbursement program was interpreted to include only landscapers to those who grew their own products, such as sod or ornamental plants, to magnify the impact on the agriculture industry. The Department suggests that similar clarifying language be included to further define landscaping operations to improve the effectiveness of this bill.

As such, the Department supports this measure provided it does not adversely impact the Department’s priorities in the Executive Supplemental Budget. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3004, S.D. 1, H.D. 1

April 5, 2022
2:30 p.m.
Room 308 and Videoconference

RELATING TO COMPOSTING

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 3004, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, requires the Department of Agriculture to establish a compost reimbursement pilot program to provide reimbursements to farming operations and landscaping operations for up to 50% on purchases of compost from certified vendors, provided that no single farming operation or landscaping operation can receive more than \$50,000 per year. This bill also appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 23 for 1.00 permanent Program Manager position, program administrative costs, and reimbursements.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

SB3004 SD1 HD1
RELATING TO COMPOSTING

Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 2:30 PM
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four 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 SB3004 SD1 HD1** which establishes and appropriates funds for a compost reimbursement program within the Department of Agriculture and for one full-time permanent compost reimbursement program manager position. Compost is an important component of improving soil health and recycling key nutrients, as well as keeping organic waste out of landfills. If we aim to be more food sustainable as a State, incentivizing composting and supporting farmers and ranchers to purchase compost locally is a great step.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director





Officers

Vincent Mina
State President

Anabella Bruch
Vice-President

Maureen Datta
Secretary

Reba Lopez
Treasurer

Chapter Presidents

Dash Kuhr
Kohala, Hawaii'i

Drake Weinert
East Hawaii'i

Steve Lund
Puna, Hawaii'i

Andrea Drayer
Ka'u, Hawaii

Maureen Datta
Kona, Hawaii'i

Robert Boudreaux
Hana, Maui

Reba Lopez
Haleakala, Maui

Bobby Pahia
Mauna Kahalawai, Maui

Kaipo Kekona
Lahaina, Maui

Brynn Foster
North Shore, Oahu

Christian Zuckerman
Wai'anae, Oahu

Vincent Kimura
Waimanalo, Oahu

Anabella Bruch
Kauai

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the House Finance Committee,

The Hawaii Farmers Union United (HFUU) is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawaiian Islands. **HFUU strongly supports SB3004** to provide cost-sharing with farms to purchase compost.

During 2019 and 2020, the compost reimbursement pilot program provided over \$300,000 in funding to farmers large and small, organic and conventional, as well as landscape and turf operations, as cost-share for purchasing compost. HFUU would like a compost reimbursement program re-established and made permanent.

The success of the pilot program is clearly demonstrated by the wide adoption, which would only grow through the establishment of a permanent program.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Vincent Mina President HFUU/HFUF

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 9:03:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair, The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Finance

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

Re: Hearing **SB3004 SD1 HD1 RELATING TO COMPOSTING.**

Hearing: Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 2:30 p.m., CR 308 and by videoconference

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i is a group focused on reversing the climate crisis and encouraging Hawai'i to lead the world towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. The **The Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB3004 SD1!**

This bill would establish permanently a compost reimbursement program within the Department of Agriculture and fund one full-time permanent compost reimbursement program manager position. **This bill will help farmers afford the costs of purchasing compost. Making compost from food waste instead of dumping it in landfills can help farmers enrich soils. Compost is also very important for reducing methane emissions from landfills, since organic material, especially food waste, produces methane in landfills. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, approximately 30 times more harmful to the climate than CO2. Removing organic material from the landfills and instead composting it will help mitigate methane emissions that warm the atmosphere.**

Please pass this bill to help farmers with the costs of compost, reduce methane emissions from landfills, and help enrich soils by encouraging the composting of food waste!

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

Re: **SB 3004 SD 1 HD 1– RELATING TO COMPOSTING**

Hearing: Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 2:30 p.m., Conference Room 308 and
Via Videoconference

Position: **Strong support**

Aloha, Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee on Finance:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i stands in strong support of SB 3004 SD 1 HD1. This measure would establish and appropriate funds for a compost reimbursement program within the Department of Agriculture and for one full-time permanent compost reimbursement program manager position. This measure would require an annual progress report to the Legislature prior to each regular session.

Composting facilitates the production of local organic material that farmers use to improve soil health, increase drought resistance, and reduce the need for supplemental water and fertilizers while increasing crop yields, all of which are very important as we deal with the climate crisis. As per the EPA, the benefits of composting include reducing or eliminating the need for chemical fertilizers; reducing methane emissions that are generated through organic waste in landfills; promoting higher yields of agricultural crops; aiding reforestation, wetland restoration, and habitat revitalization efforts; enhancing water retention in soil; and sequestering carbon. Further, the continuation of this compost reimbursement program would greatly assist farmers in their operational cost relating to the purchase of composting material.

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports SB 3004 SD1 HD 1as it would make the pilot compost reimbursement program permanent which would assist farmers in their operational costs relating to the purchase of composting material. In addition, the production of compost material will assist in mitigating the adverse effects of the climate crisis. Please pass this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Melodie Ateja and Alan Burdick

Co-Chairs, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i



To: The House Committee on Finance
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 2:30pm

In support of SB3004 SD1 HD1

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and members of the Finance committee,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org is in **support of SB3004 SD1 HD1** which establishes and appropriates moneys for a compost reimbursement program within the Department of Agriculture.

Recycling food waste into compost reaps several environmental benefits, including reducing and, in some cases, eliminating the need for chemical fertilizers; reducing methane emissions that are generated through organic waste in landfills; promoting higher yields of agricultural crops; aiding reforestation, wetland restoration, and habitat revitalization efforts; enhancing water retention in soils; and sequestering carbon.

This bill could reduce the cost of production for local farmers by incentivizing, with a 50% match, the use of compost material. The success of the pilot program was clearly demonstrated by the wide adoption, which would only grow through the establishment of a permanent program. It's a win:win as composting will reduce carbon dioxide and human-made methane emissions, which are greenhouse gasses that contribute to climate breakdown. Methane, in particular, is a potent greenhouse gas, approximately 30 times more harmful to the climate than CO₂. Removing food waste from the landfills and instead composting it will help mitigate methane emissions that are destabilizing our climate system. Furthermore, through encouraging composting programs, we have the added benefit of avoiding the costs associated with hauling waste to other locations for recycling or disposal as well as reducing costs of inputs such as fertilizer or compost.

Efforts that promote composting should be supported. This is a great opportunity to divert tons of food waste from landfills while producing quality compost and helping farmers boost local food production. We will all benefit! Please PASS this important bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

April 5, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON SB 3004, SD1, HD1
RELATING TO COMPOSTING

Room 308 & Videoconference
1:30 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

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

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports SB 3004, SD1, HD1, which establishes and appropriates funds for a compost reimbursement program within the Department of Agriculture and for one full-time permanent compost reimbursement program manager position.

HFB strongly supports the concept of building soil structure and nutrient capacity. Caring for the soil is a cornerstone to having multigenerational farms that continue to provide for the people of Hawai'i. Many of our farms add compost made off-site as well as utilize short-term fallow between crop cycles to increase organic content in their soils. HFB recognizes and supports the diversion of discarded food and other useful wastes away from landfills. The benefits of this and of composting are well-known.

Farming is a tough business. High production costs are a major driver of narrow profit margins for Hawai'i's farmers. Land, water, labor, taxes, transportation, utilities, inputs, invasive species, and food safety regulations are all costs of doing business that often results in our farmers just being able to break even. HFB supports this initiative that could reduce the cost of production for local farmers by incentivizing, with a 50% match, the use of compost material. This is another mechanism that can help locally produced goods compete with imported products, strengthening our local economy.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important subject.



House Committee on Finance

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: SB3004 SD1 HD1

Tuesday, April 5th 2022, at 2:30pm in Conference Room 308

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee,

HAPA supports SB3004 SD1 HD1, which establishes and appropriates funds for a compost reimbursement program within the department of agriculture and one full-time permanent compost reimbursement program manager position to oversee the program. Requires an annual progress report of the program to the legislature prior to each regular session.

HAPA supports efforts to expand composting, which can divert up to 54% of household waste from the landfill and create garden gold for healthy, nutritious plants.

Through encouraging composting programs, we have the added benefit of avoiding the costs associated with hauling waste to other locations for recycling or disposal as well as reducing costs of inputs such as fertilizer or compost.

Composting will reduce carbon dioxide and human-made methane emissions, which are greenhouse gasses that contribute to climate change and are also a critically important part of regenerative agriculture.

Please support SB3004 SD1 HD1.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', written in a cursive style.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 10:15:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Helmut Klauer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 10:17:30 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James Stolte	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support HB3004. The establishment of locally produced compost and a compost reimbursement program would greatly benefit local farmers and local food production. Moving toward a more sustainable food production model. We need to think ahead and set up a more robust local food system. HB3004 is one step in the right direction

Mahalo,

James Stolte

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 12:04:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill.

Mahalo

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 12:42:40 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Boudreaux	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To maximize crop production the element of composting is essential. However, many small farmers lack the financial resources to practice beneficial composting techniques. By providing financial assistance, the state would provide the impetus for many farmers to increase the amount of composting exponentially. This will greatly enhance Hawaii's agricultural sector.

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 1:08:01 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
mary drayer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i support all efforts to care for our fragile environment

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 2:30:26 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Seikai Darcy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB 3004 SD1 HD1 is soooo long over due.

Please support for the health and safety of the `āina.

In partnership,

Lisa Darcy

Maui County food growing resident

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 4:32:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Theresa M Thompson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this Bill.

Theresa Thompson

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 5:35:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill.

- Efforts to expand composting can divert up to 54% of household waste from landfills and create garden gold for healthy, nutritious plants.
- Through encouraging composting programs, we have the added benefit of avoiding the costs associated with hauling waste to other locations for recycling or disposal. This would also help local farmers by reimbursing some of the cost of compost. Healthy soil also reduces dependence on other inputs.
- Composting will reduce carbon dioxide and human-made methane emissions, which are greenhouse gasses that contribute to climate change by capturing carbon in the soil.
- Composting is a critical part of regenerative agriculture.
- Thank you for your consideration.

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 5:39:01 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
cindy freitas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Cindy Freitas and I'm a Native Hawaiian descended of the native inhabitants of Hawai'i prior to 1778 and born and raised in Hawai'i.

I am also a practitioner who still practice the cultural traditional customary practices that was instill in me by my grandparents at a young age from mauka (MOUNTAIN TO SEA) to makai in many areas.

I'm in support of SB3004.....Mahalo

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 5:45:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
De Austin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Respected Rep. s Sylvia Luke, Chair, and Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair, and other members of the Finance Committee,

Please support this bill SB3004 SD1 HD1.

We have a waste to landfill problem on Maui, if not all of Hawaii. How can we continue to abuse the aina that provides for us? We must malama the aina and take of the source of our food and water.

- Through encouraging composting programs, we have the added benefit of avoiding the costs associated with hauling waste to other locations for recycling or disposal. This would also help local farmers by reimbursing some of the cost of compost. Healthy soil also reduces dependence on other inputs.
- Composting will reduce carbon dioxide and human-made methane emissions, which are greenhouse gasses that contribute to climate change by capturing carbon in the soil.
- Composting is a critical part of regenerative agriculture.

Please support this bill SB3004 SD1 HD1.

Sincerely,

D Austin

Kihei, Hawaii

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 7:57:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chelle Galarza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. I believe composting is super important for the entire ecosystem. It is very valuable to create a compost reimbursement program within the Department of Agriculture. I also see huge value in hiring one qualified full-time permanent compost reimbursement program manager to oversee the operation. Mahalo, Chelle Galarza

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 8:29:07 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Micha'el Leventhal	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I'm writing in support of the proposed Compost Reimbursement Program, designed to remove food waste from the landfills and thereby help mitigate methane emissions that threaten to destabilize our climate system.

As you may be aware, efforts to expand composting can divert up to 54% of household waste from landfills and create garden gold for healthy, nutritious plants. Composting will also reduce carbon dioxide and human-made methane emissions, which are greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change by capturing carbon in the soil. Through encouraging composting programs, we have the added benefit of avoiding the costs associated with hauling waste to other locations for recycling or disposal as well as reducing costs of inputs such as fertilizer or compost.

Mahalo nui for your time and support of this and other equally forward-thinking initiatives!

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 10:48:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and Committee on Finance,

I strongly support SB3004 SD1 HD1. Please support this bill.

Efforts to expand composting can divert up to 54% of household waste from landfills and create garden gold for healthy, nutritious plants.

Composting will reduce carbon dioxide and human-made methane emissions, which are greenhouse gasses that contribute to climate change by capturing carbon in the soil.

Through encouraging composting programs, we have the added benefit of avoiding the costs associated with hauling waste to other locations for recycling or disposal as well as reducing costs of inputs such as fertilizer or compost.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB3004 SD1 HD1. Thank you for your taking the time to review this issue.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 8:15:40 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge strong support for this bill.

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 8:47:35 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Stayton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing as a Kauai family farmer in strong support of SB3004 SD1 HD2. Compost is the living food that makes our soil productive for growing. Support from the DoA will help all farmers create more and better compost and thus more and better produce.

Thanks for your consideration,

Susan

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 6:28:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
laurel brier	Kauai women's caucus	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Removing food waste from the landfill helps mitigate methane emissions, the main source of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. Compost is a valuable commodity for enriching our soils that can actually sequester carbon. It's a business opportunity. A wonderful resource for farmers and home gardeners.

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 6:54:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lindsey A Drayer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this. Thank you, Lindsey Drayer

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 7:35:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Hansen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha - We need to remove food waste from the landfills and instead composting it will help mitigate methane emissions that are deestablizing our climate system.

Mahalo,
Elizabeth Hansen
registered voter,
Hakalau HI 96710

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 7:36:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tammy Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support this bill to provide us with resources for municiple composting. This is going to save so much space in the landfills, and help provide fertility to the land. It must be done and soon.

Thank you,

Tammy Davis

147 Royal Dr.

Kapaa HI 96746

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 8:01:12 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo. I come from Papakōlea, O‘ahu. I'm a Kanaka Maoli born and raised in the Hawaiian Kingdom. I'm writing in full support of SB3004 SD1 HD1.

This bill establishes and appropriates money for a compost reimbursement program within the Department of Agriculture and for one full-time permanent compost reimbursement program manager position.

Support SB3004 SD1 HD1.

me ke aloha ‘āina,

Nanea Lo

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 8:01:59 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rodger Hansen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha - We need to remove food waste from the landfills and instead composting it will help mitigate methane emissions that are deestablizing our climate system.

Mahalo,
Rodger Hansen
registered voter,
Hakalau HI 96710

SB 3004 SD 1 TESTIMONY

To: House Committee on Finance
Hearing on April 5, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.

From: John Kawamoto

Position: Support

This bill encourages carbon sequestration by establishing a compost reimbursement program. Composting sequesters carbon, which complements efforts to reduce carbon emissions to mitigate climate change. We need to do both – sequester carbon and reduce carbon emissions -- if we are to avoid a global climate catastrophe. In mitigating climate change, this bill will have beneficial impacts for generations

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 11:48:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Brandt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support!

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 7:18:58 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maki Morinoue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

I support SB3004 SD1 HD1 for composting. This is a vital step in revitalising and lowering our carbon footprint in a major way. Especially with the inondation for visitors, we acquire much more food waste then we would normally and without proper composting and commercial composting abilities moving away from junk plastic to compostable alternative plastics is not possible without this step in our system. We can be the poster child of sustainability. Let's make this happen for our next generation and the windows for protecting aina closes upon us.

Mahalo

Maki Morinoue

Holualoa

96725

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 8:01:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I strongly support this bill. I compost at home but most people do not and it is trucked all over the island to rot with other trash and chemicals creating a methane mess.

- Efforts to expand composting can divert up to 54% of household waste from landfills and create garden gold for healthy, nutritious plants.
- Through encouraging composting programs, we have the added benefit of avoiding the costs associated with hauling waste to other locations for recycling or disposal. This would also help local farmers by reimbursing some of the cost of compost. Healthy soil also reduces dependence on other inputs.
- Composting will reduce carbon dioxide and human-made methane emissions, which are greenhouse gasses that contribute to climate change by capturing carbon in the soil.
- Composting is a critical part of regenerative agriculture.

Respectfully ,

Diane Ware, 99-7815 Kapoha Pl, Volcano Hi 96785

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 8:32:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Max Towey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this.

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 10:15:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesse Kealiinohomoku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in support of SB3004

Me ke aloha,

#Fixourfoodsystem

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 10:40:34 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cara Oba	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

More state infrastructure/support can make composting an option for more of our waste streams. I am in support of facilitating more composting in this state!

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 10:50:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of SB3004 SD1 HD1, a composting bill which establishes and appropriates money for a compost reimbursement program within the Department of Agriculture. It also will set aside enough funds for one full-time permanent compost reimbursement program manager position.

I believe that composting should really be implemented throughout the state in a municipal manner, in not only agricultural areas but in residential and tourist mecca sections. States such as California have made it mandatory to have residential composting. Those like myself who live in condominium establishments could use the municipal process to help us with diverting waste away from the landfills through composting, and people who live in remote districts but not completely rural, such as the downtown districts in villages, could use the municipal process as well.

Some businesses have taken to utilizing ‘compostable products’, many times still utilizing a kind of plastic. However, while these products are compostable in theory, it is necessary for them to be shredded and added to existing compost piles for the biodegradable process to truly take hold. Just discarding these products in the garbage does nothing, as is true even of many food scraps. In fact, food scraps, even most natural ones such as fruit and vegetables, only add to our methane issue if not composted correctly.

However, effective composting will mitigate all of these issues, and a good program to implement efficient composting will help recycle food that would only go to waste and increase climate change effects, utilizing biodegradable processes for plastic and paper waste that could possibly only lead to plastic debris in our waterways. Efforts to expand composting can divert up to 54% of household waste from landfills and create garden gold for healthy, nutritious plants.

Through encouraging composting programs, we have the added benefit of avoiding the costs associated with hauling waste to other locations for recycling or disposal. This would also help local farmers by reimbursing some of the cost of compost. Healthy soil also reduces dependence on other inputs.

Composting is a critical part of regenerative agriculture. It will add to soil health and regenerate the nutrients that have been depleted due to unsustainable agriculture, urban processes such as chemical runoffs, and invasive species.

Please do what you can to pass this most important bill.

Mahalo for your time to this issue and for your hard work.

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 11:00:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tlaloc tokuda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha FIN Chair, Vice Chair & Committee,

I super support **SB3004 SD1 HD1** because composting food waste from the landfills is capturing this gold resource and will help mitigate methane emissions from our dumps. Composting can divert up to 54% of household waste from landfills and create Climate Change mitigation strategies (sequester carbon into the soil: see the YEARS Project 1

1 *Carbon Farming: Harnessing The Power of The Soil* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z91QsZA1l_w

The Years Project uses compost to capture huge sums of CO2 in the soil

Efforts towards composting should be supported. Making compost from food waste instead of dumping it in landfills not only can be used to help farmers by enriching soils, it is also very important for reducing methane emissions from landfills. Food waste produces methane in landfills. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, approximately 30 times more harmful to the climate than CO2. Removing food waste from the landfills and composting it will help mitigate methane emissions that warm the atmosphere.

Mahalo for your consideration

Tlaloc Tokuda

Kailua Kona, HI 96740

SB-3004-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 4:42:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/5/2022 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janet L Pappas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear FIN Chair Luke and committee members,

I strongly support SB3004 which will reimburse farmers for certain farming practices beneficial to the soil and to mitigate climate change. Hawaii needs to strongly encourage composting programs to divert green waste from landfills to farmlands where this waste can be used to reduce CO2 and methane emissions (greenhouse gases). Additionally, compost reduces farmers' costs for fertilizer and pesticides by producing healthier soil and thus healthier plants. Finally, support for composting encourages the creation of small local businesses who transform what was previously considered "waste" into "black gold", i.e., the mineral-rich compost that plants love.

Please support all the composting bills this session.

Sincerely,

Jan Pappas

Aiea, Hawaii 96701