



March 29, 2022

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
Committee on Education

RE: Testimony in support of SCR 29/SR 23, Requesting the Department of Health to work in partnership with the Hawai'i Foodbank to develop and implement a vitamin supplement distribution program for public school students

Dear Chairs Keohokalole and Kidani, Vice Chairs Baker and Kim, and Committee Members,

On behalf of Hawai'i Foodbank, I am writing in support of SCR 29/SR 23, which would support a partnership between Hawai'i Foodbank and the State to develop and implement a vitamin supplement distribution program for public school students. Hunger is a critical issue for Hawai'i's keiki. Currently, 82,000 children in our State are at risk of food insecurity and lack comprehensive access to healthy, nutritious food. Hawai'i has the second highest rate of child food insecurity in the country.

Hawai'i Foodbank is committed to working together with the State and our network of partners to support all efforts to address gaps in child nutrition, and ensure all our keiki have the nutrition they need to grow and thrive. We stand ready to work together with the Department of Education, Department of Health, and others to discuss supplemental nutrition options for our keiki and how we can distribute them throughout our network.

Mahalo for your consideration.

With aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Marvin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Amy Marvin
President and CEO, Hawaii Foodbank

SCR-29

Submitted on: 3/25/2022 1:08:08 PM

Testimony for HTH on 3/30/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Azuma Chrupalyk	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It might be advisable to ensure that schools have are equipped with a nurse who is there 5 days/week, and not just twice/month. You can make that position an intern position to reduce costs and help college students.

My reason for this suggestion is that between allergies to th eingredients, or if the kid has a prior health condition/medication, they could have an adverse reaction to the vitamins. For example, you should *never* give a kid vitamin B and a Redondo's red Hawaiian hot dog. Did you know that? The ingredients in red and yellow food dye have internal adverse reactions and are responsible for a lot of ADHD behavior and cognitive malfunctions. Vitamin B is pure energy. What this means is that kids will be all over the place, un-governable, and basically out of control. This creates a masterpiece of disaster for the teachers and administration, and at 5pm for the student and parent. This creates conditions where kids end up in foster care over lengths of time with this behavior. This creates all of the societal problems that we are trying to avoid.

Separately, students who are in chemo, or other radioactive medical treatments, should *never* be subject to the metallic elements of the vitamin as it relates to conducting the radioactive energy throughout the body. Things like fish, and the elements of a good source of Omega-3's can kill a kid in chemo. Other elements found in some vitamins, such as cinnamon - have a negative reaction with diabetic meds and can do severe damage to a student on any diabetic med. There are a lot more of these things and it would be good to have that researchd for consultation, prior to moving forward with this.

LATE

Honorable Senators,

My name is Kendrick Settsu.

As a member of New Hope Church at Leeward Community College years ago, we were privileged to collect pastries from Safeway and distribute them to anyone who stopped by after the service so they could have something to eat. As a pre-diabetic today, I would pause handing out so much sugar and carbohydrates.

When my grandmother was alive, she was the epitome of health. She would start her day with eating a grapefruit, a hard-boiled egg, a glass of orange juice, and a yellow one-a-day vitamin. Her weight never changed and her energy and health allowed her to live to 94 years old until dementia kicked in.

The scenes of food distribution during Covid were so heart-warming. I was sad when my family and friends said they waited in line at the Soccer Fields but the food ran out. My family and friends even noted the number of Mercedes, new SUVs, etc. that received food when others did not.

My grandmother's one-a-day vitamins could provide a lot of nutrition to increase the quality of health and quality of life of those in the food lines, in schools, among the homeless, etc. We could have at least passed out vitamins for those who didn't receive the perishable goods at the soccer fields.

My wife is a retired teacher and my daughter is a teacher. Some children would bring home lunch consisting of bread and butter. I'm not sure how long the federal government is committed to provide lunches to all public school children, but if a gummy bear, flintstones, one a day, etc. vitamin is optional for the children to take at lunch, that should help their quality of health and quality of life, going forward.

According to many doctors, vitamins could be taken safely up to two years past their expiration date and taking too many vitamins would not be harmful. Recently expired vitamins could be another source for the vitamins.

Thank you for your careful consideration of including vitamins to our students, food lines, homeless, or anywhere else vitamins could help the quality of health and the quality of life of the people of Hawaii and even the World (especially Ukraine).

Warmest Regards,
Kendrick Settsu

LATE

SCR-29

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 11:16:01 AM

Testimony for HTH on 3/30/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frances Tapiz-Andrian	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly believe that the children that attend public schools should be eating a Nutritional meal then taking supplements. I would recommend that a Audit be done on the Nutritional Services in the Department of Education. There are many meals that are Served in the Public Schools that look questionable to even be eaten by a Child.

There may be Staffing issues of less Cafeteria workers and the procurement process to get Fresh and Locally Sourced ingredients. An audit would show also the number if students enrolled in each complex areas and show how much is spent on these nutrient meals that serve the students in public schools.