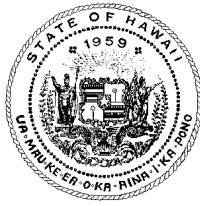


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
AND REHABILITATION**
*Ka 'Oihana Ho'omalu Kalaima
a Ho'oponopono Ola*
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii'i 96813

TOMMY JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Melanie Martin
Deputy Director
Administration

Vacant
Deputy Director
Correctional Institutions

Sanna Muñoz
Deputy Director
Rehabilitation Services
and
Programs

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3260
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

by

Tommy Johnson, Director
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Senate Committee on Government Operations
Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 13, 2024; 3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 225 & via Videoconference

Chairs McKelvey and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Richards, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) strongly opposes Senate Bill (SB) 3260, which requires fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products shall constitute one hundred per cent of the total food purchased during each calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost in its state correctional facilities.

The department's Food Service Branch provides approximately 13,000 meals to facility staff and inmates daily and is required to follow state procurement law's formal bid process in the purchase of all food products. Unfortunately, our issue with local farmers continues to be the higher price per pound and lack of availability. Competitive bids are usually awarded to the lowest bidder as we are mandated to stay within our annual budget.

Senate Bill 3260 Relating to Agriculture
Senate Committee on Government Operations
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
February 13, 2024
Page 2

Specifically, SB 3260's benchmark is unattainable as the following items necessary is either not available or its quantity is not available in Hawai'i: 1) Wheat products such as flour needed to bake; 2) Milk and cheese; 3) Bread; 4) Rice (white and brown); 5) Sugar, spices; 6) Meat (pork, beef, chicken); and 7) Vegetables (potato, carrots, onions, celery).

The department has been in ongoing discussions with the Department of Agriculture as they assist local farmers to be competitive in quality and quantity.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong opposition to SB 3260.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DEXTER KISHIDA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

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

**FEBRUARY 13, 2024
3:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 225 & VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**SENATE BILL NO. 3260
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairs McKelvey and Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 3260 which requires that, by a certain date, 100% of the food purchased by certain state departments consist of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products.

The Department offers comments on this bill.

The Department supports the intent of increasing the purchasing of locally produced food but defer to the affected agencies as there are budgetary and programmatic constraints. HDOA commits to working with all departments to assist them in achieving their local purchasing goals while meeting their fiscal and dietary requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



WENDY L. GADY
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
235 S. Beretania Street, Suite 205
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

**TESTIMONY OF WENDY L. GADY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
& AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Tuesday, February 13, 2024
3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225 & Videoconferencing

**SENATE BILL NO. 3260
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairpersons McKelvey and Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the joint Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 3260, which requires that, by a certain date, 100% of the food purchased by certain state departments consist of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products.

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) supports the intent of this bill because it focuses on creating new markets and revenue stream for our local producers, which helps them maintain and create jobs and expand and invest in their agribusinesses by securing large institutional contracts.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/13/2024

Time: 03:00 PM

Location: CR 225 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Government
Operations

Senate Agriculture and Environment

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 3260 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

Purpose of Bill: Requires that, by a certain date, 100% of the food purchased by certain state departments consist of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) provides comments on SB 3260.

This measure's section (7) intends to ensure that the Department achieves one hundred percent of the food purchased is fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products by an unspecified year in the future.

The Department has concerns after assessing the full basket of food items that it currently procures both locally and imported. The Department questions the challenges of Hawaii's domestic capacity to harvest produce like rice, apples, or potatoes; or to manufacture goods like butter, sugar, and chicken thighs to sufficiently supply students at all of its schools. The Department is willing to replace imported food items with locally harvested or locally processed items. However, to be fiscally responsible, the Department must consider if qualified vendors are available in-state, or if the cost of purchasing the local item is within the budget when compared to imports.

The Department is open to collaborating with the Legislature, local farmers, and

manufacturers to assess additional local food products that could be purchased for school meals. The Department is proactively assessing opportunities for more direct local procurement from farms, processors, and food hubs including collaborating with distributors, agriculture trade associations, cooperatives, and food hubs to assess vendors' capacities to comply with and supply more local food under state procurement regulations.

The Department welcomes future offers of produce and products from capable local vendors, who appreciate the Department's need to comply with the USDA's National School Lunch Program requirements and Hawaii state procurement laws.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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

February 13, 2024

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

TESTIMONY ON SB 3260
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Conference Room 225 & Videoconference
3:00 PM

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and Gabbard, Vice-Chair Richards, and Members of the Committees:

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

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports the intent of SB 3260, which requires that, by a certain date, 100% of the food purchased by certain state departments consist of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products.

HFB strongly supports the increased use of locally grown agricultural products, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, and poultry products in our state institutions and appreciates the Legislature's support of the Farm to State program within Act 176 (SLH 2021).

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

We appreciate the optimism of SB 3260, but we are unsure if we will ever be able to realistically achieve 100%.

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



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

SB3260

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 3:00 PM
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

Chairs McKelvey and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Richards, and Members of the Committees,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports SB3260** which requires that, by a certain date, 100% of the food purchased by certain state departments consist of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council supports the purchasing of locally sourced food, and Hawaii's ranchers are ready to contribute to that by providing local beef, a nutritious protein. When state departments commit to purchasing local beef, our local ranchers benefit by knowing there will be a reliable market for their cattle. This confidence will help their confidence to grow their business so that local beef is available for the community.

The phased approach will help the industry to scale up in a manner that meets the demand of the state departments, while allowing the producer to make the prudent changes needed to increase over time.

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

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director





Food+ Policy Internship 2024

food@purplemaia.org

February 13, 2024

Subject: *SB3260 - Relating to Agriculture*

Aloha Chair Angus McKelvey, Chair/Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair Herbert Richards III, the Senate Committee of Government Operations, and Senate committee Agriculture and Environment

Mahalo distinguished legislators for taking the time to review this testimony being submitted **IN SUPPORT** of **SB3260** which mandates that, by a specified date, certain state departments must procure 100% of their food from fresh local agricultural produce and locally processed value-added agricultural or food products.

With the clear need for our state to become more sustainable, the path to making that a reality needs to be established at a government level. Having this bill in place will create the framework and expectations for the identified entities, which not only sets an example for the community but also assists farmers and value-added processed producers in generating revenue and forming partnerships that can help them thrive. Supporting small businesses in Hawaii and keeping revenues within the state contributes to building stronger economic justice for prosperity. Additionally, the benefits of tax revenues and meaningful work opportunities within the systems will have a positive domino effect.

We urge the committees to pass SB3260. We would like to thank Chair Angus McKelvey, Chair/Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair Herbert Richards III, the Senate Committee of Government Operations, and Senate committee Agriculture and Environment

Mahalo,
Janine Mariano & Hawaii Food+ Policy Team
#fixourfoodsystem

The Food+ Policy internship develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawai'i communities.

In 2024, the cohort of interns are undergrads and graduate students from throughout the UH System. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, public health, nutrition, and Hawaiian culture.

SB-3260

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 4:22:26 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

In support of SB 3260. Thank you.

SB-3260

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 10:01:55 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

Requires that, by a certain date, 100% of the food purchased by certain state departments consist of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products

SB-3260

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 3:46:24 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of this bill. This sets the standard and support that we need to become more sustainable within our state. With the government leading and providing revenue it can give local grown and value added products the help they need and the exposure can help grow their business.