



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

Date: 03/20/2023
Time: 03:16 PM
Location: CR 229 & Videoconference
Committee: Senate Agriculture and
Environment
Senate Education
Senate Higher Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0247, HD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

Purpose of Bill: Increases the percentages of local agricultural products that certain departments are required to purchase by certain deadlines. Expands annual reporting requirements to include the total spending by certain market channels. Requires the University of Hawaii system to include a corrective action plan in its respective report to the legislature, should it not meet its benchmark. Repeals the separate benchmark for the department of education that requires thirty per cent of food served in public schools to consist of locally sourced products by 2030. Appropriates funds for the establishment of a farm-to-state liaison within the office of the governor. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) respectfully opposes this measure. The Department supports the overall concept of HB 247, HD1, but finds that the percentage increases in local agricultural products in the given timeline are unattainable.

We support a reasonable, gradual increase in the rate of local products purchased by the Department that takes into account economic feasibility. If we are unable to procure an item at an acceptable price point it would increase the difficulty of meeting the required percentages.

In addition, the Department finds that the current local supply is unable to meet the needs of the school meal program. The Department will continue to work with food suppliers, which includes local farmers, to build capacity and guarantees of delivery.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
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 COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT,
AND EDUCATION, AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

**MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023
ROOM 229
3:16 P.M.**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 247, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairpersons Gabbard, Kidani, and Kim and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 247, HD1 that increases the percentages of local agricultural products that certain state departments and the University of Hawaii system are required to purchase by certain deadlines, specifies other requirements, and establishes a Farm-to-State liaison position within the Office of the Governor.

The Department of Agriculture offers the comment that we are supportive of the State's goal of increasing local food self-sufficiency, however we defer to the State departments and the University of Hawaii system whose food purchases will be affected by this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





HAWAII APPLESEED
CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Testimony of the Hawai‘i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
H.B. 247 – Relating to Agriculture
Senate Committees on Education, Higher Education, and Agriculture and Environment
Monday, March 20, 2023, at 3:16PM

Dear Chair Gabbard, Chair Kidani, Chair Kim, and members of the Committees:

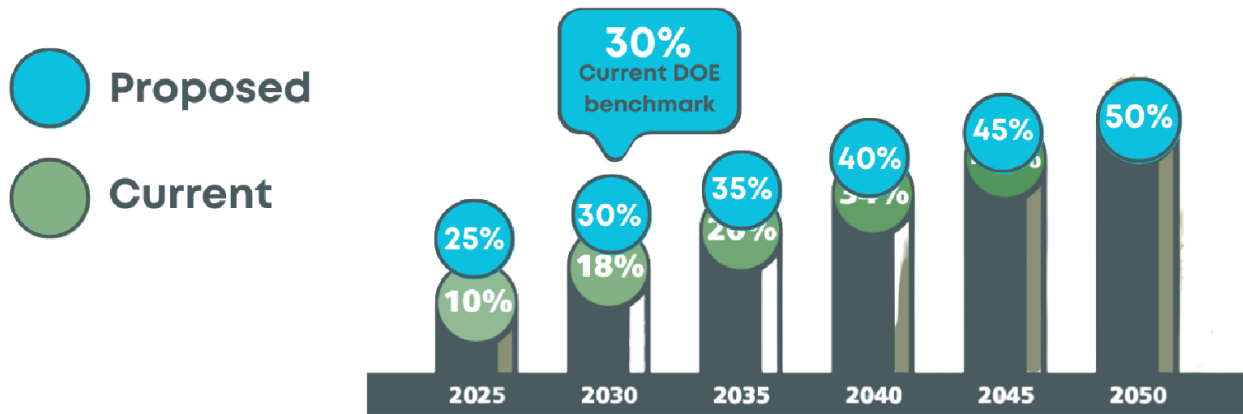
Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of **H.B. 247**, which would align the “farm to state” benchmarks passed into law in 2021 with the farm to school goal of 30 percent local by 2030 (“30 by 30”), expand the “30 by 30” goal to match the benchmarks of the other state departments, expand reporting requirements, and establish a “farm to state liaison” position within the office of the governor.

Hawai‘i Appleseed is one of several organizations that has been working with SFSB for over a decade on a wide variety of initiatives to help more children access nutritious food at school. We understand that the 30 by 30 farm to school goal will not only help local farmers, but will also improve the quality of school meals and drive higher school meal participation rates. Adequate nutrition is essential for children’s health, learning, and long-term development. Unfortunately, for too many families in Hawai‘i, school breakfast and lunch are the only balanced, nutritious meals they get in a day.

We have included a graphic that shows how this bill aligns the farm to state benchmarks with the 30 by 30 goal. We think this alignment will be a productive way to streamline the efforts across multiple agencies.

While we agree that the centralized kitchen model currently proposed by HIDOE could be a constructive component of a farm to school plan, we want to emphasize that farm to school (even more than other institutional food purchasing initiatives) requires much more planning and coordination than just centralizing purchasing and production. Getting the ingredients from farm to central kitchen is just the first step. Getting the ingredients from the central kitchen to schools, then into recipes, onto students’ plates, and finally into bellies will require much more planning and coordination within HIDOE. We are therefore highly supportive of the bill’s inclusion of a farm to state liaison position in the office of the governor. This position will provide critical support for aligning the metrics of the various state departments, standing up systems for data collection, and providing support to ensure benchmarks are met. We also appreciate the inclusion of a “corrective action plan” clause.

Thank you for considering these comments in your deliberation of H.B. 247. We understand that this is not a silver bullet solution, but we do think that—combined with some other reforms the legislature is considering this session—it will go a long way toward improving the way we deliver school meals to Hawai‘i’s public school children. Our child nutrition programs are one of the best safety nets available to ensure Hawai‘i children have access to the nutrition they need in order to learn and grow. We sincerely believe that this legislation will help us achieve this outcome.



HB-247-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2023 11:26:31 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/20/2023 3:16:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Megan Fox	Testifying for Malama Kaua'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need to start taking action on this instead of continually saying we want to see it happen - and this is another pathway to do so.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION, AND HIGHER
EDUCATION

Monday, March 20, 2023 — 3:16 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports HB 247 HD1, Relating to Agriculture.

Dear Chair Gabbard, Chair Kidani, Chair Kim, and Members of the Committees:

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

Ulupono supports HB 247 HD1, which increases the percentages of local agricultural products that certain departments are required to purchase by certain deadlines; expands annual reporting requirements to include the total spending by certain market channels; requires each relevant state department and the University of Hawai'i system to include a corrective action plan in its respective report to the legislature, should it not meet its benchmark; repeals the separate benchmark for the Department of Education that requires thirty per cent of food served in public schools to consist of locally sourced products by 2030; and, appropriates funds for the establishment of a farm to state liaison within the Office of the Governor.

Ulupono supports the efforts to increase locally produced food into state institutional meal programs. This bill seeks to clarify benchmarks and expand Act 176, SLH 2021, reporting requirements, while also creating dedicated coordination resources in the Office of the Governor.

The Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) constitutes the majority of meals served across all state departments and agencies, producing approximately 120,000 meals per day with a \$50-\$60 million annual food budget and an estimated \$100 million total annual School Food Services Program budget.¹ This requires close attention, and we hope that the DOE will begin more robust reporting on the efforts to meet its local food purchasing goals. The DOE's most recent Farm to School report to the Legislature, submitted in December 2022, provided general terms and basic statistics. Equally important, there is no action plan or strategy outlining how the department will improve to meet its 30% by 2030 goal.

¹ "State of Hawaii Department of Education Financial Report, July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018." School Food Services Program, Pg. 16.

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



The 2.5-page report would not be sufficient for a \$100 million private restaurant company, and certainly should not be considered sufficient for the DOE school meal system.

We understand that the task to implement local products into our keiki's meals is complex, so we commend those within the DOE who are enthusiastic and willing to champion the State's worthy farm to school goals. However, the DOE stated in back-to-back annual reports to the Legislature that the department could not do the necessary reporting accurately due to the lack of information technology (IT) system functionality. Furthermore, for more than 3 years now, the Farm to School Coordinator position within the DOE has remained vacant. The DOE and the State must find ways to support the School Food Services Branch in meeting its farm to school goals, including the development of a local food procurement strategic plan, the development of efficient and effective data gathering IT systems to support that plan, and the hiring of Farm to School positions to provide necessary labor resources. Ulupono and many others remain very open and willing to support the DOE in meeting these needs.

We ask that the Legislature consider adding in a requirement for the DOE to develop a strategic business plan to meet its local food goals established in this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs



To: The Honorable Chairs Mike Gabbard, Michelle Kidani , and Donna Mercado Kim, the Honorable Vice Chair Tim Richards, III, and Members of the Committees on Agriculture and Environment, Education, and Higher Education

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

Re Hearing: **HB247 HD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Hearing: Monday March 20, 2023, 3:16 p.m., room 229

Aloha Chairs Gabbard, Kidani , and Kim, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committees:

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i seeks to educate and engage the local community in climate change action, to help Hawai'i show the world the way back to a safe and stable climate.

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB247 HD1!

This bill would support local farmers and students by requiring clear target goals for purchase of locally grown food by certain State agencies. Serving more local food at schools, the University of Hawaii, and other State facilities would make our students and others healthier, support local farmers, community-based jobs, and the State's economy, and improve food security.

Growing more food locally would also help mitigate the climate crisis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and packaging waste related to shipping food from distant continents.

Please pass this bill! Mahalo!



Climate Future Forum

March 19, 2023

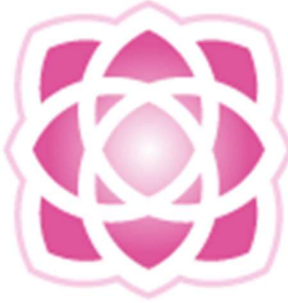
Position: **Support** of HB247 HD1

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Chair Kidani, Chair Kim, and committee members of AEN, EDU, and HRE:

On behalf of the Climate Future Forum, I'm testifying in **support** of HB247 HD1. This bill supports farm to school and hence Hawai'i agriculture. Enacting measures such as HB247 HD1 is crucial if Hawai'i is to become more sustainable and resilient.

Given that the Farm to School Coordinator position within the DOE has remained vacant for three years, we support Ulupono's request that the "Legislature consider adding in a requirement for the DOE to develop a strategic business plan to meet its local food goals established in this measure."

Respectfully,
Paul Bernstein
Climate Future Forum – Founding Member



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

**HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION, and HIGHER EDUCATION
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, SENATE CONFERENCE ROOM 229
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023 AT 3:16 P.M.**

To The Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
The Honorable Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment
To The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
The Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Education
To The Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Higher Education

SUPPORT HB247 HD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

The Maui Chamber of Commerce **supports HB247 HD1** which increases the percentages of local agricultural products that certain departments are required to purchase by certain deadlines; expands annual reporting requirements to include the total spending by certain market channels; requires the University of Hawai'i system to include a corrective action plan in its respective report to the legislature, should it not meet its benchmark; repeals the separate benchmark for the department of education that requires thirty per cent of food served in public schools to consist of locally sourced products by 2030; and appropriates funds for the establishment of a farm-to-state liaison within the office of the governor.

The Chamber wholeheartedly supports the intent of this bill and believe this is an effort toward a more sustainable Hawaii. We encourage Hawaii residents to buy local first and need our major institutions to do the same. We understand that many of our local produce and products come at a higher price point because of the higher price of doing business in Hawaii and recognize the challenge of cost brought up by the Department of Education. These agencies are on an operating budget and we must look at this holistically, so the budget afforded to these agencies should correlate with the higher expenditures. An added benefit is that local agricultural jobs are more likely to be preserved.

For these reasons, we **support HB247 HD1**.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

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

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

HB247 HD1

RELATING TO EDUCATION

Wednesday, February 1, 2023, 9:45 AM
Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

Chair Gates, Vice Chair Kahaloa, 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 HB247 HD1** which increases the percentages of local agricultural products that certain departments are required to purchase by certain deadlines. It expands annual reporting requirements to include the total spending by certain market channels. It requires the University of Hawaii system to include a corrective action plan in its respective report to the legislature, should it not meet its benchmark. It repeals the separate benchmark for the department of education that requires thirty per cent of food served in public schools to consist of locally sourced products by 2030 and appropriates funds for the establishment of a farm-to-state liaison within the office of the governor.

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. We support clarifying reporting and requiring corrective action if benchmarks are not met. More robust reporting will ensure that we can actually track the progress of local food purchasing.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director





Food+ Policy Internship 2023

food@purplemaia.org

March 19, 2023

To: Chair Gabbard, Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Richards, Vice Chair Kim, and legislators of the Senate Committees on Agriculture and the Environment, Education, and Higher Education

Subject: **HB247, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Aloha mai kākou,

Food+ Policy **SUPPORTS HB247**, which aligns farm to school goals with procurement goals for other state departments. We love that this bill sets further goals to incrementally make gains in farm to state procurement, with a final goal of 50% locally sourced by 2050.

The passage of this bill would be an act of needed leadership to put state dollars to work supporting local farmers and the local food system. Greater local procurement means putting fresh, healthy, culturally aligned foods on the plates of our children, young adults, and all those served by state institutions.

Please pass HB247.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Kelsey Amos
& the 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 2023, the cohort of interns are undergraduate 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.



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Mauna Kahalawai,
Maui

Kaipo Kekona
Lahaina, Maui

Rufina Kaauwai
Molokai

Negus Manna
Lana'i

Brynn Foster
North Shore, O'ahu

Christian Zuckerman
Wai'anae, O'ahu

Ted Radovich
Waimanalo, O'ahu

Vincent Kimura
Honolulu, O'ahu

Ray Maki
Kauai

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Senate Agriculture and Environment 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 supports HB247.**

The bill aims to increase the percentage of local agricultural products that certain state departments and the University of Hawaii system purchase by certain deadlines. This act will also repeal the separate benchmark for the Department of Education, requiring 30% of food served in public schools to consist of locally sourced products by 2030. HFUU agrees that setting clear and ambitious target goals for the purchase of locally grown food ensures that the state plays its role in supporting local farmers, keeps revenue from local produce in Hawaii, and feeds local people.

By clarifying annual reporting requirements to include total spending by certain market channels and requiring corrective action plans if benchmarks are not met, this legislation will ensure that the manifold benefits to Hawaii's economy, environment, culture, and public health are realized.

HFUU believes that the goals to provide locally-sourced food should be consistent across all relevant state departments to avoid any confusion between departments. Furthermore, the establishment of a farm-to-state liaison within the office of the governor will provide critical support to state departments in meeting purchasing goals.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Kaipo Kekona, President HFUU/HFUF



HIPHI Board

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Camonia Graham - Tutt, PhD
University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu

Carissa Holley, MEd
Hale Makua Health Services

Dina Shek, JD
Medical-Legal Partnership
For Children in Hawai'i

Garret Sugai
HMSA

Kathleen Roche, MS, RN, CENP
Kaiser Permanente

May Okihiro, MD, MS
John A. Burns School of Medicine,
Department of Pediatrics

Titimahea Ta'ase, JD
State of Hawai'i, Deputy Public
Defender

HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community Health
Worker Initiative

COVID-19 Response

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol Free
Coalitions

Hawai'i Farm to School Hui

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Collective

Date: March 19, 2023

To: Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards III, Vice Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

Re: Strong Support for HB 247 HD1 Relating to Agriculture

Hrg: Monday, March 20, 2023, at 3:16 PM, Conf Rm 229

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 Hui,ⁱⁱ which collectively represent over 60 organizations from across the islands.

Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) appreciates the opportunity to provide Strong Support for HB 247, which increases the percentage of local agricultural products that certain departments need to purchase by a specific date. It also expands annual reporting requirements to include the total spending by certain designees. It requires reports to the legislature to ensure the benchmarks are met, and creates a Farm-to-State Liaison within the Governor's office to coordinate efforts between the 5 departments affected by the bill. Finally it streamlines meeting the Department of Education benchmark of 30% locally sourced products served by 2030.

This bill aligns Farm to School (Act 175) and Farm to State (Act 176) procurement goals and expands annual reporting requirements. The requirements of goal setting, benchmarks, and reporting will strengthen the efforts to reach the statewide food system goals. Critically, this bill creates a Farm to State liaison in the Governor's Office, which will help the various state departments coordinate local food procurement rather than competing with each other

The bill supports an increase in local procurement by creating a continuum of incremental goals through 2050. Every year the locally sourced food goals increase by 5%, culminating in a 50% locally sourced goal by 2050. Increased procurement of locally grown and raised foods for consumption by Hawai'i's students will positively impact the health of our keiki and the development of Hawai'i sustainable food systems.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of HB247.

Mahalo,



Dennis Chase
Hawai'i Farm to School Hui Program Manager
Hawai'i Public Health Institute

ⁱ Created by the legislature in 2012, the **Obesity Prevention Task Force** is composed of over 40 statewide organizations, and it works to make recommendations to reshape Hawaii's school, work, community, and healthcare 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.



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

March 20, 2023

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

**TESTIMONY ON HB 247, HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
3:16 PM

Aloha Chairs Gabbard, Kidani, and Kim, Vice-Chairs Richards, Kim, and Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

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

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports HB 247, HD1, which increases the percentages of local agricultural products that certain departments are required to purchase by certain deadlines, expands annual reporting requirements to include the total spending by certain market channels, requires each relevant state departments and the University of Hawai'i system to include a corrective action plan in its respective report to the legislature, should it not meet its benchmark, and repeals the separate benchmark for the department of education that requires thirty per cent of food served in public schools to consist of locally sourced products by 2030.

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 Farm to State and Farm to School Acts 175 and 176 (SLH 2021).

HB 247, HD1 provides additional guidance and updates the reporting obligations for state departments, including the department of education, pursuant to Acts 175 and 176 (SLH 2021), which established programmatic goals for the purchase and procurement of locally sourced products.

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.

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

HB-247-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2023 3:53:22 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/20/2023 3:16:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support this Bill. My hope is that this produce is grown with as few, if any pesticides as possible. Organic produce is best!

Mahalo,

HB-247-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2023 8:00:48 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/20/2023 3:16:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debbie Millikan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Date: March 18, 2023

To: AEN/EDU/HRE

From: Debbie Millikan

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for HB247 HD1 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Hearing: March 20, 2023, 3:16pm

Dear Chairs

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of HB247 which increases the percentage of local agricultural products that certain departments need to purchase by a specific date. It also expands annual reporting requirements to include the total spending by certain designees. It requires reporting to the legislature to ensure the benchmarks are met. It establishes a Farm to State Liaison in the Governor's Office. Finally, it streamlines meeting the Department of Education benchmark of 30% locally sourced products served by 2030.

As an educator, scientist, mother and advocate for children's health and education, I care about the future for our children. This bill supports local food production, suppliers, and sustainable food systems in Hawai'i and it aligns with Farm to School (Act 175) and Farm to State (Act 176) procurement goals and expands annual reporting requirements. We need this bill as the road map to 30% local food procurement in schools by 2030.

This bill supports local farmers AND supports our keiki- a win-win for everyone!.

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo,

Debbie Millikan, Ph.D.

HB-247-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 8:59:07 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/20/2023 3:16:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dexter Kishida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I appreciate that this bill seems to align Act 175 and 176. The reports to legislature are helpful to identify roadblocks and supply sector needs to help fulfil the benchmarks in the bill.

HB-247-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 2:06:04 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/20/2023 3:16:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marian Huff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e AG and Envir. Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair, Senator Michellel Kidani, Chair, and Senator Kim, Chair:

Mahalo Nui also to introducers: Reps Perruso, Cockran, Kapela, Kila, Marten, Poepoe, Tarnas and the committee on FIN.

HB247 HD1 will move forward the Farm to School (Act 175) and the Farm to State (Act 176) that have resulted in the uniting of AGR, EDU, and procurement of various state entites into a coalition that, with this bill, creates a clear, viable, continuum for sourcing food locally within our state entities from Farm to School through Farm to State over the next 27 years with a Farm to State Liaison in the governor’s office. By doing so, the responsibilities for supporting the public entities stated in the bill assures that the five year goals are met by 2050.

A lot of time and public input has brought our state to this point and we must honor that fact by staying true to those who have worked so hard to make it happen. IMUA!

Ms. (Marian) Lehn Huff

Hawaii Farm to School Hui Member Emeritus

Maui County Farm Bureau Member

Hawaii Farmers Union United Member

Maui Farm to School Network Founder K-12