

THE SENATE
KA 'AHA KENEKOA

THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

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

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, February 3, 2025
TIME: 1:02 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE TO THE STATE CAPITOL
BUILDING HOURS: 7AM TO 5PM, MONDAY - FRIDAY

The Legislature is accepting written, videoconference, and in-person testimony at public hearings.
A live stream of all Senate Standing Committee meetings will be available on the [Senate YouTube Channel](#).

A G E N D A

<u>SB 1171</u> Status & Testimony	RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES. Requires the Department of Agriculture to establish a program to provide certain monofilament netting free of charge to the public through local hardware stores to slow the growth and spread of coconut rhinoceros beetles in the State. Requires the DOA to establish rules allowing the sale and distribution of certain monofilament netting in the State. Appropriates funds.	AEN, WAM
<u>SB 1186</u> Status & Testimony	RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS. Establishes the Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and the Interagency Food Systems Working Group within the Department of Agriculture. Requires reports to the Legislature. Establishes positions. Appropriates funds.	AEN, WAM
<u>SB 1250</u> Status & Testimony	RELATING TO FARM TO FAMILIES. Establishes the Hawaii Farm to Families Program to alleviate food shortages in the State. Requires reports to the Legislature prior to the Regular Sessions of 2026 and 2027. Appropriates funds.	AEN, WAM
<u>SB 1303</u> Status & Testimony	RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LOANS. Updates the agricultural loan program by lowering interest rates, increasing and standardizing loan limits, and reducing the number of credit denials. Authorizes the agricultural loan program to issue lines of credit. Creates a new class of loans to encourage large scale agriculture of import replacement crops grown for the farm to state program. Appropriates funds.	AEN, WAM

<u>SB 1395</u> <u>Status & Testimony</u>	RELATING TO STATE FUNDS. Establishes the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund. Mandates the allocation of all earned interest from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to the newly established special fund. Appropriates funds.	AEN, WAM
<u>SB 504</u> <u>Status & Testimony</u>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURE. Establishes a Local Agriculture Transportation Cost Reimbursement Program within the Department of Agriculture to reimburse eligible ranchers and farmers a portion of their costs to transport livestock, livestock products, agricultural commodities, and certain supplies, under certain conditions. Establishes a position to administer the Program. Makes appropriations.	AEN, WAM
<u>SB 1185</u> <u>Status & Testimony</u>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURE. Establishes within the Department of Agriculture a working group to review and make recommendations on amending or repealing unnecessary or obsolete laws pertaining to agriculture. Appropriates funds.	AEN, WAM
<u>SB 1187</u> <u>Status & Testimony</u>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL BIOSECURITY. Appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for permanent positions in agricultural biosecurity established by Act 231, SLH 2024.	AEN, WAM
<u>SB 1111</u> <u>Status & Testimony</u>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS. Establishes the agricultural statistics program in statute. Appropriates funds for the program.	AEN, WAM

Decision Making to follow, if time permits.

All testimony received by the Hawai'i Senate is posted on the Hawai'i Legislature's website, which is accessible to the public. Please do not include private information that you do not want disclosed to the public.

Please go to the Legislature's website, <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>, to submit **written testimony** at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. Create a free account on the website, or sign in to an existing account, then click on the "Participate" drop down menu and select the "Submit Testimony" option to get started. While submitting your written testimony, you will be prompted to indicate if you would also like to testify at the hearing in-person or remotely via videoconference.

Please note the following:

- The number of oral testifiers and/or time allotted to each testifier may be limited by the Chair when necessary to adhere to the committee hearing schedule. We may not be able to accommodate everyone who requests to testify orally.
- Testifiers for this hearing will be limited to **2 minutes** each.

If you wish to **testify via videoconference** during the hearing, please review the detailed step-by-step instructions for testimony procedures before you submit your written testimony. Here's a direct link to the instructions: <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/docs/testimonyinstructions.pdf>

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov. You can also visit their website at <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/>.

For special assistance: The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please call the committee clerk at the telephone number listed below or email AENcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

For amended notices: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are underscored. If a measure is both underscored and stricken through, that measure has been deleted from the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT (808) 586-6830.

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair