

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
Governor

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
Lt. Governor



**SHARON HURD**  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

**DEAN M. MATSUKAWA**  
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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025**  
**2:00 P.M.**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM 308**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 110, H.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 110, H.D. 1. This bill proposes adjustments to certain benchmark goals and a timeline for the Department of Education to provide locally sourced agricultural and food products.

The Department of Agriculture supports the intent of this bill to align and address discrepancies in local food procurement benchmarks across various state agencies. We believe that establishing a standardized timeline and consistent targets provide an advantageous planning framework and enhance executive decision-making for all stakeholders involved in the *farm-to-state* purchasing supply chain for locally grown and raised food products.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





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

**Date:** 02/20/2025

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 308 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

**Committee:** House Finance

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Bill Title:** HB 0110, HD1 RELATING TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Modifies certain benchmark goals and timeline for the Department of Education to provide locally-sourced agricultural and food products. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) would like to provide comments on HB 110 HD1.

This bill will help the School Food Services Branch streamline and standardize reporting obligations, which provides the Legislature and the public the status of the Department's progress in meeting the local farm-to-school goals.

The Department appreciates this bill's intent to separate its local food purchase goals from other state departments by clarifying that its specific percentage goal targets shall be:

30% by year 2030

34% by year 2040

42% by year 2045

50% by year 2050

The most efficient and consistent pathway to purchase more local food is a multi-pronged strategy utilizing distributor-to-farmer partnerships, augmented by increasing direct procurement from farms and food hubs. The Department's menu planners, procurement team, and farm to school coordinator communicate closely with our network of qualified distributors for both local value-added processed and agricultural food products, and interface with local farmers about what crop ingredients our school meals will need six to twelve months in advance.

Additionally, the Department is assessing opportunities for more direct local procurement from farms, processors, and food hubs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mel Rapozo, Chair  
KipuKai Kualii, Vice Chair  
Addison Bulosan  
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.  
Felicia Cowden  
Fern Holland  
Arryl Kaneshiro



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk  
Lyndon M. Yoshioka, Deputy County Clerk

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**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu'e, Kauai, Hawaii 96766

February 18, 2025

**TESTIMONY OF ADDISON BULOSAN  
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON  
HB 110, HD 1, RELATING TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS  
AND  
HB 428, HD 1, RELATING TO FARM TO FAMILIES  
House Committee on Finance  
Thursday, February 20, 2025  
2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 308  
Via Videoconference**

Dear Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of HB 110, HD 1, Relating to Local Agricultural Products and HB 428, HD 1, Relating to Farm to Families. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Kauai County Council.

I wholeheartedly support the intent of HB 110, HD 1 and HB 428, HD 1, which would greatly affect the Kauai community.

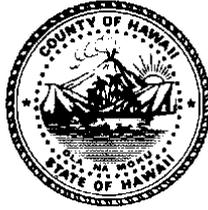
Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 110, HD 1 and HB 428, HD 1. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via email to [cokcouncil@kauai.gov](mailto:cokcouncil@kauai.gov).

Sincerely,

**ADDISON BULOSAN**  
Councilmember, Kauai County Council

AAO:ss

**C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.**  
*Mayor*



**William V. Brillhante, Jr.**  
*Managing Director*

**Merrick Nishimoto**  
*Deputy Managing Director*

## *County of Hawai'i ~ Office of the Mayor*

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • Phone (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740  
Phone (808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

TO: Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
Rep. Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair  
Committee on Finance

FROM: C. Kimo Alameda, PhD. Mayor

DATE: February 19, 2025

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF HB110, HD1, RELATING TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and esteemed members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer my **strong support** for House Bill 110 H.D.1. This measure modifies timelines for incorporating locally sourced agriculture in public schools and is an important step toward achieving a sustainable and resilient food system in Hawai'i.

This bill helps to strengthen our economy by establishing a more coordinated and consistent demand for locally grown agriculture products. It provides farmers and food producers with greater confidence that state institutions will purchase their goods, enabling them to better plan and invest in their operations.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.



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

February 20, 2025

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**TESTIMONY ON HB 110, HD1**  
RELATING TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Conference Room 308 & Videoconference  
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice-Chair Takenouchi, 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 HB 110, HD1**, which modifies certain benchmark goals and timeline for the Department of Education to provide locally-sourced agricultural and food products.

HFB strongly supports the increased use of locally grown agricultural products, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, poultry, and value-added products in our schools and state facilities. We support the State's Farm-to-School goal of 30% by 2030, in accordance with Act 175, SLH 2021 as well as the Farm-to-State goals established in Act 176, SLH 2021.

Increased purchasing by DOE and other state departments will help address food security and food sustainability by creating demand for local farm products which will result in farmers and ranchers growing more. It will also help provide more of Hawai'i's fresh and nutritious foods to our students and residents.

HFB is committed to working with the Department of Education and the other state entities to implement a procurement program that will allow Hawai'i farmers and ranchers to source more local products for Hawai'i's Farm to School and Farm to State programs.

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



**Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.**

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
Rep. Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

**HB110 HD1**  
RELATING TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Thursday, February 20 2025, 2:00PM  
Conference Room 308 & Videoconference

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

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports HB110 HD1** which modifies certain benchmark goals and timeline for the Department of Education to provide locally-sourced agricultural and food products.

We appreciate this bill's intent to align and clarify the local food purchasing benchmarks across state departments. 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. Hawaii's locally grown beef provides 10 essential nutrients in a single 3 oz. serving. This includes high-quality protein, iron, zinc and B vitamins. These nutrients are especially important for the development of young, active growing children, and beef currently provides 3% of the 6% of locally purchased food the DOE purchases, and we can grow that contribution. This will help the students, the state, and agriculture.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure. 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 2025

[food@purplemaia.org](mailto:food@purplemaia.org)

February 6, 2025

Subject: HB110 HD1 (Local Food Procurement Benchmarks)

To: House Committee on Finance (FIN)

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

Hawaii Food+ Policy is in support of HB110 HD1, which maintains benchmarks for locally sourced food procurement in state institutions, aligning with initiatives started under Act 175 (2021). However, we would like to offer comments on the nature of this bill.

HB110 HD1 redefines the goals we have set for the Department of Education (DOE) to fall in-line with the 5-year goals expressed in Act 176 (2021) and Act 144 (2022). In aligning these goals, we want to ensure that the percentages put forth are goals that the state is committing to and goals which will be maintained by the state which had previous conflicts with the goals set by Act 175 (2021).

We also want to provide comments on the exemption of the DOE for the year 2025 from the law's minimums established by both Acts 176 and Act 144 which we are seeking to align with this legislation. There need to be appropriate measures put in place to ensure that we are sincere and serious about achieving the goals set and there needs to be methods to initiate corrective action when departments do not meet such goals or regress from such goals.

We thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB110 HD1 with our comments.

Mahalo,  
The Hawaii Food+ Policy Team

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**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 2025, 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.

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:58:25 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Amy Brinker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support