



STATE OF HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB3320 SD1
RELATING TO THE FOOD AND PRODUCT INNOVATION NETWORK**

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date, Time and Room Number: 02/25/2026, 10:55 am, CR211

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health ("Department") requests that this measure be
2 considered so long as it does not supplant the priorities and requests outlined in the Governor's
3 executive budget request.

4 **Department Position:** The Department supports SB3320 SD1.

5 **Department Testimony:** The Environmental Health Services Division, Food and Drug Branch
6 ("EHSD-FDB") provides the following testimony on behalf of the Department:

7 SB3320 SD1 strengthens the Hawai'i Food and Product Innovation Network ("FPIN")
8 through adopting statutes to refine governance and integration among key state agencies, sets
9 forth key performance indicators, and increases market access, branding alignment, and growth
10 opportunities for Hawai'i businesses. SB3320 SD1 builds upon the framework established by Act
11 237, Session Laws of Hawaii ("SLH") 2025.

12 The mission of the Department is to protect and improve the health and environment
13 for all people in Hawai'i. Investing in the FPIN, which will increase access to local, safe, and
14 nutritious foods, supports the Department's mission. Access to safe and nutritious food is a
15 social determinant of health and the Department notes that both physical and mental health

1 outcomes improve when healthy food options are readily available to the public for
2 consumption.

3 The Department appreciates the continued opportunity to participate in the FPIN,
4 primarily through its food regulatory programs. By working together with sister agencies, the
5 Department has been able to educate local manufacturers on food safety regulations up front.
6 Continued coordination will be critical as the industry evolves and new technologies emerge.

7 The Department defers to the Agribusiness Development Corporation (“ADC”) as to the
8 implementation and substantive matters of this measure. However, the Department is ready
9 and willing to partner with ADC and other agencies identified in this measure to incorporate a
10 coordinated food safety and regulatory framework to ensure that food products developed
11 through the FPIN are safe and comply with the Department’s food safety and food
12 manufacturing regulations.

13 **Offered Amendments:** None.

14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



WENDY GADY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
HUI HO'OUULU AINA MAHIAI

TESTIMONY OF WENDY L. GADY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 25, 2026
10:55 a.m.

Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

SENATE BILL NO. 3320, SD1
RELATING TO THE FOOD AND PRODUCT INNOVATION NETWORK

Chairperson Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The **Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC)** strongly supports **SB3320, SD1**. This bill amends ADC's statutes to strengthen its role in developing a coordinated, performance-driven, and innovation-focused food and product system for Hawai'i. SB3320, SD1, clarifies ADC's authority to support an integrated and coordinated food safety and regulatory framework, establish measurable performance indicators for the Food and Product Innovation Network (FPIN), develop a market access strategy that includes state branding, and improve data reporting to the Legislature.

ADC's statutory mission is to promote diversified agriculture and value-added agricultural enterprises. SB3320, SD1, modernizes this mission by recognizing the growing importance of food processing, innovation facilities, and export-ready products. The bill enhances ADC's ability to coordinate infrastructure, regulatory navigation, and market access, ensuring that local producers can efficiently move products from farm to consumer while maintaining food safety standards.

SB3320, SD1, advances a framework aligned with applicable federal and state food safety laws, regulations, rules, and codes. This coordination is essential for ADC-supported shared-use facilities and innovation hubs serving multiple producers. The bill promotes collaboration with the Department of Health, the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, CTAHR, and other relevant agencies to streamline permitting, inspections, and certification, while ensuring public health protection. Integrating regulatory compliance education into workforce development programs will further strengthen Hawai'i's food workforce and support producers in navigating regulated manufacturing and export markets.

ADC supports the bill's requirement for measurable performance indicators, which should include:

- Number of businesses served and graduated from FPIN facilities.
- Increases in value-added agricultural and food manufacturing output;
- Job creation and business survivorship.
- Time to regulatory approval and product launch; and
- Market penetration into institutional, tourism, and export channels.

These metrics ensure that public investments are accountable, outcomes-driven, and aligned with food system priorities.

SB3320, SD1, recognizes that production and processing must be paired with coordinated logistics and market access strategies, including aggregation, cold storage, distribution, tourism demand, and export infrastructure. Aligning state branding initiatives within this strategy strengthens consumer confidence, enhances market visibility, and increases the value of Hawai'i-grown and Hawai'i-made products.

The bill also strengthens data collection and reporting through surveys, economic data, and automated systems, using key performance indicators

benchmarked against other states and countries. This evidence-based approach supports continuous improvement, informed policymaking, and effective oversight.

By integrating food safety coordination, regulatory compliance, workforce development, market access, branding, and logistics, SB3320, SD1, builds on the objectives of Act 175, enhancing local producers' ability to meet institutional procurement needs, including public school meal programs. The bill is expected to reduce duplicative regulatory processes, improve coordination across agencies, and maximize the effectiveness of public investments in food system infrastructure, while supporting private-sector growth in value-added agriculture and food manufacturing.

For these reasons, the **Agribusiness Development Corporation strongly supports SB3320, SD1.**



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 10:55 a.m.

By

Parwinder Grewal, Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience
and
Vassilis Syrmos, PhD
Interim Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 3320 SD1 – RELATING TO THE FOOD AND PRODUCT INNOVATION NETWORK

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony offering comments on SB 3320 SD1 relating to the Food and Product Innovation Network.

The measure requires the Food and Product Innovation Network (FPIN) to integrate a coordinated food safety and regulatory framework. Requires the Agribusiness Development Corporation to establish performance indicators for the FPIN, develop a market access strategy, align and harmonize state branding initiatives, and report certain data to the Legislature. Requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to evaluate or adopt enterprise zone initiatives to all counties to better support the FPIN.

University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience (CTAHR) faculty have expertise in the fields of food safety, food science, human nutrition, regulatory compliance education and aspects of food innovation. CTAHR supports the State's food security and economic diversification goals and looks forward to its continuous collaboration with Hawai'i Department of Education's Regional Kitchen program and assisting agricultural entrepreneurs grow and create value-added products for local and global consumption.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKAI

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
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SYLVIA LUKE
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JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, February 25, 2026
10:55 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
SB3320, SD1
RELATING TO THE FOOD AND PRODUCT INNOVATION NETWORK.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports SB3320, SD1.

This measure strengthens the statutory framework for the Food and Product Innovation Network (FPIN) and directly advances Hawai'i's long-term economic diversification strategy outlined in Redesigning Hawai'i's Economy for Resilience.

Hawai'i's economy remains highly concentrated and vulnerable to external shocks. DBEDT's statewide strategy calls for a structural shift toward value-added manufacturing, export-oriented growth, workforce alignment, and regional production hubs that reduce import dependence and increase economic resilience.

SB3320, SD1, provides the operational structure needed to move FPIN from a set of facilities into a coordinated statewide economic system.

DBEDT's framework for economic resilience integrates four core pillars:

- 1) Curriculum-to-career pathways
- 2) Infrastructure and facilities
- 3) Policy alignment, and
- 4) Layered incentives.

SB3320, SD1, directly advances all four.

1. Infrastructure & Facilities → From Pilot to Commercial Scale

DBEDT's strategy identifies a major gap between early-stage production and commercial-scale manufacturing, the "valley of death" where businesses fail due to lack of compliant facilities, equipment, and support systems. FPIN sites are designed to bridge this gap.

SB3320, SD1, strengthens this role by requiring:

- Integrated food safety and regulatory frameworks
- Technical assistance for labeling, testing, and certification
- Coordination with DOH, CTAHR, and regulatory agencies

This ensures FPIN facilities are not just kitchens, but industry-ready commercialization platforms.

2. Workforce Alignment - Embedding Compliance and Industry Skills

DBEDT's resilience model connects education, training, and industry through cradle-to-career pathways. SB3320, SD1, embeds regulatory compliance and food safety education into workforce programs offered through the network.

This links FPIN to:

- CTE programs
- Community college pathways
- Industry-recognized credentials, and
- Strengthens workforce readiness in value-added food manufacturing – a priority sector for diversification.

3. Export & Market Access – Shifting Hawai'i Toward Value-Add Growth

DBEDT's strategy emphasizes that future growth must come from export-oriented value-added sectors, not just local consumption.

SB3320, SD1, requires ADC to develop a coordinated market access strategy with:

- Transportation
- Tourism
- Airlines and harbors
- Logistics providers

This connects production to distribution, tourism channels, and international markets – turning Hawai'i-made food products into economic drivers beyond our shores.

4. Policy Alignment & Branding – Maximizing Hawai'i's Competitive Advantage

The bill aligns and harmonizes “Hawai'i Made” and “Hawai'i Grown” branding initiatives. DBEDT's economic framework highlights Hawai'i's brand as a core export advantage; fragmentation weakens its value.

Brand alignment:

- Reduces duplication
- Improves market clarity
- Increases producer returns, and
- Supports the State's mandate to grow value-added production and exports.

5. Performance Accountability – Results-Based Governance

SB3320, SD1, establishes measurable performance indicators including:

- Businesses graduating to commercial operations
- Growth in value-added output
- Export expansion
- Workforce credentials
- Contributions to food security
- Leveraged private and federal funds

This mirrors DBEDT's shift toward data-driven, outcome-based economic development, ensuring FPIN delivers measurable economic impact.

6. Incentives Layering – Enterprise Zones

DBEDT's strategy emphasizes that facilities alone are insufficient; incentives must be layered to support commercialization and growth. By directing evaluation of Enterprise Zone expansion to support FPIN, SB3320, SD1, links infrastructure to tax and incentive tools that help businesses scale.

This bill helps transform FPIN into a statewide food innovation and manufacturing system aligned with Hawai'i's food security goals, export growth, and economic resilience priorities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

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JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

STERLING HIGA
CHAIRPERSON

CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Statement of
CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
Executive Director
Hawai'i Community Development Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, February 25, 2026
10:55 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

In consideration of
SB 3320, SD1
RELATING TO THE FOOD AND PRODUCT INNOVATION NETWORK.

Chairperson Dela Cruz, Vice Chairperson Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee. The Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) **supports** SB 3320, SD1, which requires the Food and Product Innovation Network to implement a coordinated food safety and regulatory framework; directs the Agribusiness Development Corporation to establish performance metrics, develop a market access strategy, align state branding efforts, and report data to the Legislature; and requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to evaluate or expand enterprise zone initiatives statewide.

SB 3320, SD1 clarifies that the Food and Product Innovation Network shall provide technical assistance to ensure compliance with testing, validation, and certification requirements. This includes collaboration with relevant agencies such as the Department of Health and the University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. The network shall facilitate access to resources and expertise for businesses to meet federal and state food safety laws, regulations, and standards. In addition, integrating regulatory compliance education into workforce development and training programs to strengthen understanding and implementation of these requirements.

This is particularly critical for the High-Pressure Processing Facility at the Central Oahu Agriculture and Food Hub, as it serves as a cornerstone for advancing food safety, extending shelf life, and supporting local producers in meeting compliance standards.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 10:55AM

Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

RE: SB3320 SD1 Relating to the Food and Product Innovation Network

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sherry Menor, President and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber"). The Chamber supports Senate Bill 3320 SD1 (SB3320 SD1), which requires the Food and Product Innovation Network to integrate a coordinated food safety and regulatory framework. Requires the Agribusiness Development Corporation to establish key performance indicators for the Food and Product Innovation Network, develop a market access strategy, align and harmonize state branding initiatives, and report certain data to the Legislature. Requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to evaluate or adapt enterprise zone incentives in all counties to better support the Food and Product Innovation Network.

SB3320 SD1 aligns with our 2030 Blueprint for Hawaii: An Economic Action Plan, specifically under the policy pillar for 21st Century Agriculture. This policy pillar prioritizes cross agency coordination that supports business growth and development for Hawaii's farmers, ranchers, and food producers. The Food Product Innovation Network offers a keystone resource to these stakeholders, helping to promote their development, production, and export readiness. The administrative support offered in this bill is a prudent next step in the evolution of the Food Product Innovation Network, one that supports FPIN system performance, safety, and integration. This bill serves as the legislative infrastructure that will incorporate the necessary partner agencies to grow the potential and the impact of FPIN as a powerful resource that brings Hawaii's best food products to market.

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii is the state's leading business advocacy organization, dedicated to improving Hawaii's economy and securing Hawaii's future for growth and opportunity. Our mission is to foster a vibrant economic climate. As such, we support initiatives and policies that align with the 2030 Blueprint for Hawaii that create opportunities to strengthen overall competitiveness, improve the quantity and skills of available workforce, diversify the economy, and build greater local wealth.

We respectfully ask to pass Senate Bill 3320 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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February 25, 2026

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON SB 3320, SD1
RELATING TO THE FOOD AND PRODUCT INNOVATION NETWORK

Conference Room 211 & Videoconference
10:55 AM

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, 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 SB 3320, SD1, which strengthens and expands the Food and Product Innovation Network (FPIN) within the Agribusiness Development Corporation to better support agricultural producers and food businesses through coordinated workforce development, regulatory navigation, value-added processing, market access, and performance accountability.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau has been a strong and consistent supporter of the Food and Product Innovation Network and its role in helping farmers, producers, and food businesses move beyond raw production into value-added processing, manufacturing, and expanded market opportunities. FPIN reflects years of collaborative work among ADC, educational institutions, industry partners, and State agencies to strengthen Hawai'i's food system and diversify the agricultural economy.

SB 3320, SD1 builds on that foundation by improving coordination, accountability, and statewide integration of FPIN activities. The bill's emphasis on workforce development, regulatory navigation, market access, branding alignment, and performance measurement will help ensure that FPIN continues to provide practical, results-oriented support to farmers and food businesses seeking to scale up and enter new markets.

We also support efforts to integrate food safety education and technical assistance into FPIN. Food safety compliance is often one of the most significant barriers preventing farmers and processors from expanding their operations or accessing institutional and

export markets. Providing coordinated guidance and readiness support can help reduce confusion and improve compliance outcomes.

At the same time, it is important to clarify that ADC's role in food safety should remain one of coordination, education, and technical assistance, rather than regulatory oversight or auditing. Regulatory authority and enforcement appropriately reside with existing state, federal, and third-party entities. In addition, food safety requirements vary significantly depending on the type of crop or product, and implementation should remain flexible and risk-based so that small, diversified, and value-added producers are not unintentionally burdened by requirements that do not apply to their operations.

SB 3320, SD1 represents an important opportunity to strengthen FPIN as a statewide resource that connects agricultural production to processing, compliance, branding, and markets. With thoughtful implementation and continued coordination with industry stakeholders, the measure can further support local food production, economic diversification, and food system resilience.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.

Officers

Kaipo Kekona
State President



Christian Zuckerman
Vice-President

Maureen Datta
Secretary

Reba Lopez
Treasurer

Chapter Presidents

Kelii Gannet
Kohala, Hawai'i

East Hawai'i

Puna, Hawai'i

Ka'ū, Hawai'i

Maureen Datta
Kona, Hawai'i

Gina Lind
Hāna, Maui

Mason Scharer
Haleakalā, Maui

Kaiea Medeiros
Mauna Kahālāwai,
Maui

Kaipo Kekona
Lahaina, Maui

Kilia Avelino-Purdy
Moloka'i

Negus Manna
Lāna'i

India Clark
North Shore, O'ahu

Christian Zuckerman
Wai'anae, O'ahu

Rachel LaDrig
Waimānalo, O'ahu

Vincent Kimura
Honolulu, O'ahu

Natalie Urminska
Kaua'i

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee,

The Hawai'i Farmers Union is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawaiian Islands. **HFU supports SB3320.**

SB3320 establishes the Food and Product Innovation Network to bridge the critical gap between harvest and retail, directly advancing local food goals by capturing market share currently lost to imports.

By mandating the Agribusiness Development Corporation to develop active market access strategies, this bill shifts state land use from passive leasing to intentional economic development, helping ensure local farmers profit directly from the value-added "Made in Hawaii" premium.

The integration of a coordinated food safety framework removes the prohibitive costs of independent compliance for individual smallholders, allowing family farms to enter institutional supply chains (DOE, DOH, PSD) that may otherwise be inaccessible due to regulatory barriers.

To ensure the sustained support of small farms, which represent the vast majority of agricultural operations in the islands, we recommend amending SECTION 2 §163D-B(b) to add a seventh performance indicator:

(7) The growth in revenue and market access for small-scale producers through the utilization of shared-use processing, branding, and distribution infrastructure.

This specific metric ensures that the network remains accountable to the broader agricultural community and that its success is measured by the economic empowerment of Hawaii's small-scale producers.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Hunter Heavilin
Advocacy Director
Hawai'i Farmers Union



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February 23, 2026

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

Re: SB3320 SD1, RELATING TO THE FOOD AND PRODUCT INNOVATION NETWORK

On behalf of Agriculture Stewardship Hawai'i, we strongly support **SB3320 SD1**, which enhances the Food and Product Innovation Network (FPIN) within the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) to provide statewide support for farmers, food producers, and value-added businesses.

Through our work, Agriculture Stewardship Hawai'i helps producers **access capital, financing, and grants** to expand into value-added production—transforming raw agricultural products into packaged, market-ready goods by connecting producers with funding opportunities.

SB 3320 strengthens FPIN's statewide coordination, ensuring that support services are **accessible, accountable, and integrated**. By aligning resources, building workforce capacity, and offering targeted assistance in processing, packaging, and marketing, FPIN helps Hawai'i's producers expand their operations, diversify revenue streams, and increase local food availability. We also appreciate the bill's focus on food safety education and technical assistance, and believe it is important that ADC and its established partners continue to emphasize coordination, guidance, and support, rather than regulatory enforcement.

SB 3320 represents a critical step toward helping Hawai'i's agricultural sector innovate, grow, and compete, while supporting local economies, strengthening food systems, and expanding access to locally made products. We respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB 3320.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Shaw".

Dr. Amanda Shaw, PhD, Statewide Food Systems Coordinator
Email: amanda@agstewardshiphawaii.org, Tel: 808 429 5310

SB-3320-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 10:43:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2026 10:55:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Rhoden	Testifying for North Shore EVP	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

North Shore EVP administers Hawai'i GroupGAP a USDA HGAP/+ training and certification program. At present we support 60 farmers across the State of Hawai'i with understanding, implementing, and complying with USDA requirements around on farm food safety. Hawai'i GroupGAP is responsible for 52% of the USDA HGAP/+ certifications held in Hawai'i currently. Food safety compliance is achievable for Hawai'i's farm and value added operations, yet it is not a one size fits all and requires continuous engagement with many stakeholders, including buyers, regulatory agencies, farmers, and food safety professionals. North Shore EVP supports collaborative efforts in which ADC works with active entities to ensure food safety education and technical assistance remain available to all farm and value added producers, without creating additional confusion, regulations, or programs that duplicate existing efforts.

Lisa Rhoden, Executive Director

North Shore EVP-- Hawai'i GroupGAP

SB-3320-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2026 7:05:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2026 10:55:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glen Kagamida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONG SUPPORT!!!

SB-3320-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2026 10:25:38 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2026 10:55:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Support

3320 SB RELATING TO THE FOOD AND PRODUCT INNOVATION NETWORK.



Date of Hearing: February, 25, 2026

To: Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Subject: **SB 3320 SD1**, Relating to the Food and Product Innovation Network

Aloha,

Hawai'i Food+ Policy **supports** SB3320 SD1 to build a more coordinated and strategic statewide food and product innovation network (FPIN).

We acknowledge that Act 237 appropriated funds for FPIN implementation in fiscal years 2025–2026 and 2026–2027, including support for two full-time equivalent positions. International examples show that successful food innovation ecosystems require dedicated and continuous funding, clear governance structures, and cross-sector coordination. As SB3320 SD1 institutionalizes FPIN's role, we respectfully encourage the Legislature to consider how these efforts will be sustained beyond the current appropriation period. In particular, we suggest that SB3320 SD1 include placeholder appropriation for FTE positions going into FY 2027-2028, signaling legislative intent to support continued staffing and implementation capacity in future fiscal years.

We also request clarification regarding implementation details referenced in SB3320 SD1 to develop a “food safety and regulatory framework across all primary and partner members.” Clarifying whether food safety inspections and certifications will be administered directly by the State or coordinated through contracted entities would help ensure efficiency and avoid duplication. Additionally, clarification on whether the framework is intended to meet state regulatory requirements, market-driven standards, or both would support smoother implementation for producers and entrepreneurs.

Finally, SB3320 SD1 presents an opportunity to further align FPIN with existing food and product entrepreneurship cohorts out of the [Wahiawā Value-Added Product Development Center](#). Clarifying how these programs fit within FPIN's coordination and market access strategies could strengthen outcomes for farmers, food businesses, and local supply chains.

For these reasons, Hawai'i Food+ Policy respectfully urges the WAM Committee to pass SB3320 SD1 with amendments that signal clear legislative intent to sustain implementation capacity, clarify food safety and regulatory roles, and support coordination with existing innovation and entrepreneurship programs. Doing so will better position the Food and Product Innovation Network to deliver lasting benefits for Hawai'i's communities and economy.

Mahalo,
Brandon Kinard & 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 2026, the cohort of interns are undergraduate and graduate students and young professionals working in the food 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.