



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Agriculture
Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

By

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And

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SB 1313 SD1 – RELATING TO HAWAII FOOD RESILIENCY

Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1313 SD1, which makes various appropriations to implement the recommendations of the increased food security and food self-sufficiency strategy; and requires the Department of Agriculture to establish a strategy and goals for increased food security and self-sufficiency in Hawai'i.

The University of Hawai'i fully supports the goal of doubling local food production. In October 2012, the Office of Planning issued the "Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy," part of a three-volume report by a multi-agency steering committee for food security and self-sufficiency. The strategy included specific recommendations to move Hawai'i forward in food security, and away from providing only 11% of our own food. SB 1313 would provide funding to act on recommendations that were made in this report, which is both the logical outcome of a legislatively-requested task force effort, and a strong step forward to actually achieving this important agricultural goal for the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1313 SD1.