



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
And  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 1:18 pm  
By  
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And  
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University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### SB 2075 – RELATING TO THE SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Chairs Kahele and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Kim and Riviere, and members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 2075.

Section 1. We fully support the idea that certified organic agriculture or some version of is a valuable option in the diverse agricultural system portfolio that should exist in the state of Hawai'i. The three challenges identified also outlines the three legs of the stool that define a sustainable system. Field research conducted by CTAHR using scientific experimentation, design, and statistical analysis will provide science-based information on these farming practices that will be communicated back to the farming community via extension agents across the state.

Section 2. We support this section and provide more detail on the budget that may be helpful.

- 1) Junior Researcher at Mānoa
- 2) Junior Researcher on Maui
- 3) A Research Support APT, to assist the Junior Researchers

Costs:

Junior Researcher = ~\$70,000 x 2 positions = \$140,000  
Research Support APT = approx. \$42,000 + 52% Fringe benefits \$21,840 = \$63,840  
Total Personnel = \$203,840  
Operations = \$60,000  
Grand Total =\$263,840

We fully support SB 2075 with the caveat that it does not affect, and is in addition to, the UH budget request.