Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
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By
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And
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SCR 37 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ESTABLISH
THE AGRICULTURE 2030 INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND A FARM TO
PLATE PROGRAM IN HAWAII

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the Senate Committee on
Agriculture and Environment:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SCR 37. The state of Hawai‘i
imports a majority of the food for residents and tourists, although historically, the state
was once home to major sugar cane and pineapple plantations, dairy farms, beef cattle
ranches, diversified and specialty niche farms. Revitalization of the agricultural sector is
an important part of Hawai‘i’s economy and it’s imperative that more jobs be created in
the food and farm economy which also provides sustainability for rural residents. It is
also an effective way to improve access to healthy local foods and nutritional education
for better health and communities. The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human
Resources supports this concurrent resolution and it is important to note that the
agriculture education, research and extension programs are important for food
production, crop improvement, livestock farming and our island lifestyle.

Thank you again for allowing us to testify in support of SCR 37.