



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
April 5, 2022 at 10:15 a.m.

by
Jan Gouveia
Vice President for Administration
University of Hawai'i System

HB 1568 HD2 SD1 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1568 HD2 SD1. The University supports HB 1568 HD2 SD1, which amends Act 176, SLH 2021, to ensure that a certain percentage of food purchased directly by the University of Hawai'i for use in its academic programs consists of fresh, local agricultural products or local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products.

The University wholeheartedly supports the growth of local agriculture in our state in an effort to reduce our dependence on importing food and contribute to the State's economy. Excluding the University's concession agreements from the local food purchasing requirement sufficiently addresses our concerns that such a requirement would increase costs for students and be unachievable due to the many challenges we already face purchasing local food.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1568 HD2 SD1.