



**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM**

**‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII**

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Monday, March 20, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

By

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HB 313 HD1 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairs Kim and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Kidani and Richards, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of HB 313 HD1, however, the scope of the bill goes beyond the mission of the university, which is to educate a workforce to meet the needs of the state. As written, HB 313 HD1 proposes to identify and purchase foreign agricultural technology, including small equipment tractors, and retrofit engines to comply with the EPA's emission standards for small engines rather than developing a curriculum and establishing a learning center to teach students how to retrofit small equipment.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of HB 313 HD1, on the condition its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 313 HD1.