



**HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED  
2018 CONVENTION RESOLUTION NO. 002  
PROPOSING POLICIES  
AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, The Hawaii Farmers Union United (HFUU) is a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation organized under Section 501(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code and the laws of Hawai'i whose purpose is to advocate for the sovereign right of farmers to create and sustain vibrant and prosperous agricultural communities for the benefit of all Hawai'i through cooperation, education and legislation, and

**WHEREAS**, HFUU has met for its Eighth Annual Convention on Oko'a Farms in upcountry Maui to consider and vote on the adoption of HFUU Policies, and

**WHEREAS**, At its Regular Meeting on October 17, 2018 the HFUU Board of Directors authorized the release and publication on the HFUU website of the "HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED (HFUU) 2018 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY REPPORT" (Dated October 8, 2018), and

**WHEREAS**, The "2018 Survey" was professionally, designed, conducted and analyzed by HFUU and Waianae Chapter Member and HFUU Policy Committee Chair, Saleh Azizi, in consultation with HFUU leadership and representatives, and

**WHEREAS**, As provided in the 2018 Annual Convention Notice (Dated September 26, 2018) and Section 6.2C of the HFUU Bylaws, the HFUU Legislative Committee with assistance from the Policy Committee "shall draft resolutions and policy proposals expressing the wishes or sentiments of the members on any matters of general concern to them and to submit to the Convention for consideration."

**WHEREAS**, At their 2016 Annual Convention, HFUU Members adopted the "2016 Policy Statement of the Hawai'i Farmers Union United (HFUU)" consisting of thirteen (13) separate Policy Articles, and

**WHEREAS**, HFUU is first and foremost an organization for Hawai'i's existing and future family farmers. Between 1073 and 1291 of HFUU members grow food in some capacity; between 707 and 978 of HFUU members operate on a little less than 4 acres on average. When combined, members have anywhere between 2,778 and 3,844 acres in food production, hire between 1,059 and 1,794 people for their operations, and average \$89,465 in annual revenue. HFUU members make a significant contribution Hawai'i's local food system at least 24% (\$20 million) of local food sales in Hawai'i and possibly up to 64%- \$54 million<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS,** The 2018 Survey Report documents three (3) matters of general concern to HFUU member food growers. HFUU is first and foremost an organization for Hawai'i's existing and future family farmers.

**NOW THEREFORE, BASED ON THE FINDINGS OF THE 2018 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY, THE MEMBERS OF THE HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED IN CONVENTION ASSEMBLED RESOLVES THAT THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL ARTICLES BE ADOPTED AS AMENDMENTS TO THE 2016 POLICY STATEMENT, WHICH IS TO BE RETITLED THE "HFUU POLICY STATEMENT":**

**ARTICLE XVIII: Labor Retention and Marketing as a Strategic Priority for HFUU farmers**

As reported at page 3 of the 2018 Survey, labor retention and marketing are the main challenges HFUU farmers are facing in the field. Between 258 and 476 HFUU members need additional labor help in order to sell additional produce or product; additional labor (skilled, full-time and part-time) is especially needed to assist with marketing and sales. As reported at page 17 of the 2018 Survey, 4 to 26% of membership need food hub and marketing assistance. As reported on page 19, 15 to 33% of members would currently like marketing assistance.

1. The State Division and the Legislative Committee shall develop or support suitable bills, programs, and/or projects for the Hawaii State Legislature on behalf of members to ease these challenges.
2. The State Division shall solicit the membership for solutions and pursue funding to help ease these challenges for members

**ARTICLE XIX: Living on Farms a Strategic Priority for HFUU farmers**

As reported at page 16 of the 2018 Survey, 13 to 35% of HFUU Members believe that *Living on Farms* should be a strategic priority partly because farming is very hands on and requires an intense time commitment; farmers can attract and help train true farm workers; and it helps with on-farm security and protection from stealing. The challenge has to do on the one hand, with state and county zoning to enable farmers and workers to be productive and funding, on the other hand, to afford additional housing for labor.

1. The State Division and the Legislative Committee shall develop or support suitable bills, programs, and/or projects for the Hawaii State Legislature on behalf of members to ease these challenges.
2. The State Division shall solicit the membership for solutions and pursue funding to help ease the challenge of funding farm dwelling housing for members.

**ADOPTED THIS 27<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER 2018 BY A VOTE OF \_\_\_ FOR AND \_\_\_ AGAINST AT THE EIGHTH ANNUAL HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED CONVENTION HELD ON OKO'A FARMS IN UPCOUNTRY MAUI, HAWAII.**

**HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED**

**ATTESTED:**

**Vincent Mina, President**

**David Case, Secretary**