

LINDA LINGLE  
Governor



State of Hawaii  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DUANE K. OKAMOTO  
Deputy to the Chairperson

TESTIMONY OF SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2010  
8:30 A.M.  
ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 2729  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill No. 2729 relating to agriculture. The department supports this bill and offers suggestions.

This bill proposes to include cattle, horses, sheep, goats, pigs bison or llamas and their carcasses or meat as an agricultural commodity. The department suggests the bill be amended to also include milk or eggs which have been produced in the State.



**Hawaii Farm Bureau**  
F E D E R A T I O N

2343 Rose Street, Honolulu, HI 96819

Phone: (808) 848-2074; Neighbor Islands: 1-800-482-1272

Fax: (808) 848-1921; e-mail: [info@hfbf.org](mailto:info@hfbf.org)

## TESTIMONY

### HB 2729 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chair Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation on behalf of our farmer and ranch families and organizations support HB 2729, expanding the definition of agricultural commodities to include livestock.

This measure will bring parity within the agricultural industry. One of uses of this definition is to qualify for a GET exemption at Young Bros. Livestock found themselves not qualifying for the discount as they were not included in the definition.

HFBF strongly requests your support of this measure to bring parity within the agricultural industry. If there are any questions, please contact Luella Costales at 848 2074. Thank you

# MAUI CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

**Maui Cattlemen's  
Association**

**PO Box 473**

**Kula, HI 96790**

**Board of Directors  
and Officers**

**Brendan Baltazar**

**Harry Cambra**

**Alex Franco**

**Greg Freil**

**Jimmy Gomes**

**William G. Jacintho**

**John Kim**

**Mike Murakami**

**Amber Starr**

**Toni Thompson**

**Sustaining  
ranching  
communities in  
Hawaii**

## TESTIMONY

January 30, 2010

Submitted via email: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/emailtestimony>

FROM: Maui Cattlemen's Association

TO: House Committee on Agriculture

HEARING DATE: Wednesday February 3, 2010

HEARING TIME: 8:30 am. Conference Room 312 State Capitol

MEASURE #: HB 2729

Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair  
Rep. Jessica Wooley, Vice Chair  
Committee on Agriculture,

The Maui Cattlemen's Association is a non-profit organization representing small and large Livestock producers in Maui County.

We **SUPPORT HB 2729 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**, to include to the definition of "agricultural commodity", and any animal included in section 142-49 or its carcass or meat, whether produced in the State or imported"

At the same time, we ask to amend the "**Island Ag Product**" definition, to include livestock of the bovine, swine, sheep, or goat species or carcasses or meat of those species, that are produced in the State. These have not been included in the Island Ag Product (IAP) definition, and are produced by local livestock producers in the State, and shipped within the islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this House Bill.  
You may reach Maui Cattlemen's Association through the address provided above.

Sincerely,

William Jacintho, President

Amber Starr, Vice President



## **Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.**

P O Box 437199 Kamuela HI 96743  
Phone (808) 885-5599 • Fax (808) 887-1607  
e-mail: [HCattlemens@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:HCattlemens@hawaii.rr.com)

### **HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

Wednesday, February 3, 2010 8:30 a.m. Room 312

### **HB 2729 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chair Tsuji and Members of the Committees:

My name is Alan Gottlieb, and I am the President of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 130+ member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council supports HB 2729 to include to the definition of "agricultural commodity", and any animal included in section 142-49 or its carcass or meat, whether produced in the State or imported".

Over the years we have come across definitions of agriculture commodities which have not included livestock, or the meat from livestock agriculture, and have sought to have those corrected so they do include that definition. The problem is that there are so many different places where there are definitions, we seem to need to deal with them one by one as they come to our attention. In the past the legislature has always been very supportive on this very common sense issue.

At the same time, we ask to amend the "**Island Ag Product**" definition, to include livestock of the bovine, swine, sheep, or goat species or carcasses or meat of those species, that are produced in the State. These have not been included in the Island Ag Product (IAP) definition, and are produced by local livestock producers in the State, and shipped within the islands.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

## Arlina Agbayani

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2010 4:07 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** selkie@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2729 on 2/3/2010 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for AGR 2/3/2010 8:30:00 AM HB2729

Conference room: 312  
Testifier position: comments only  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Cathy Goeggel  
Organization: Animal Rights Hawai'i  
Address: PO Box 10845 Honolulu  
Phone: 808.721.4211  
E-mail: [selkie@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:selkie@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 1/31/2010

**Comments:**

Animal Rights Hawai'i has concerns regarding this bill. We wonder why the designation of dead animals as "Agricultural Commodities";

We also question the inclusion of equines- is the state planning to legalize the sale of horsemeat?

Please hold this bill pending explanation by the DoA why they support these changes.

Mahalo,  
Cathy Goeggel  
Animal Rights Hawai'i