

**HB 611**

**HD1**

**EDT**

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

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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Monday March 23, 2009 1:15 pm

**HB 611 HD 1, Proposed SD1 RELATING TO TAXATION**

Chair Fukunaga and Members of the Committee:

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 strongly supports the provisions of HB 611 HD1, Proposed SD1 which would exempt Hawaii livestock from General Excise taxes on interisland shipping costs.

The law currently exempts agricultural commodities from G.E.T., and livestock are not included in the chapter's definition of an "agricultural commodity". The language in this bill would rectify this problem.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in favor of this very important issue.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Monday March 23, 2009 1:15 pm

**HB 611 HD 1 Proposed SD1 RELATING TO TAXATION**

Chair Fukunaga and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keith Unger, and I am the manager of McCandless Ranch, South Kona, Hawaii. I strongly support the provisions of HB 611 HD1 Proposed SD1 which would exempt Hawaii livestock from General Excise taxes on interisland shipping costs.

The law currently exempts agricultural commodities from G.E.T., and livestock are not included in the chapter's definition of an "agricultural commodity". The language in this bill would rectify this problem.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in favor of this very important issue.