

**TESTIMONY**  
**SB 2527**

**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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2010  
2:45 PM  
ROOM 229**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2527  
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Hee and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 2597 relating to agriculture. The Department of Agriculture supports the proposed bill with the following suggested amendments:

This bill proposes to amend the definition of agricultural commodity to include livestock animals or its carcass or meat whether produced in the State or imported. We suggest that the definition be amended to also include milk and eggs produced in the State.



## **Hawaii Agriculture Research Center**

*Administration: P.O. Box 100, Kunia, HI 96759*

*Ph: 808-621-1350/Fax: 808-621-1359*

### **TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**SENATE BILL 2527**

**RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

**February 5, 2010**

Chairman Hee and Members of the Committee:

My name is Stephanie Whalen. I am Executive Director of the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center (HARC). I am testifying today on behalf of the center and our research and support staff.

**HARC supports Senate Bill 2527 Relating to Agriculture which expands agricultural commodity to include more animals under the livestock category.**

As the industry diversifies and specializes this expansion provides equivalent control and protection to these other agricultural businesses.

We urge you to support **Senate Bill 2527** and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

# 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

February 3, 2010

Submitted via email: [WTLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WTLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov)

FROM: Maui Cattlemen's Association

TO: Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs

HEARING DATE: Friday February 5, 2010

HEARING TIME: 2:45 pm. Conference Room 229 State Capitol

MEASURE #: SB 2527

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair  
Committee Members,

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

We **SUPPORT SB 2527 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE, with additional suggested language**, 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 language in 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 Senate Bill.  
You may reach Maui Cattlemen's Association through the address provided above.

Sincerely,

William Jacintho, President

Amber Starr, Vice President



**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**

**SB 2527 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation on behalf of our farmer and ranch families and organizations support SB2527, 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

NOBRIGA'S RANCH, INC  
P.O. BOX 1170  
WAILUKU, HI 96793

February 4, 2010

Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

VIA EMAIL TO WTLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senator Clayton Hee:

My few remarks as to Hearing on Friday, February 5, 2010 at 2:45pm

~~SB2522-Relating to Landowner Liability~~

~~Bill sounds good, but posted with signs is lost cause, since the Trespasser will tear it up. Faster than we can upkeep.~~

~~SB2527-Relating to Agriculture~~

~~When the Farm Bureau got "agricultural commodity" in they neglected to add livestock of the bovine, equine, swine, sheep, or goat species and the carcasses or meat of those species. We need to be added.~~

~~SB2951-Relating to Agriculture~~

~~Good bill but compensation of what? Fencing-pastoral improvements-sale of livestock on fair market price must be taken into consideration.~~

~~SB2930-Stink Bill~~

~~This can wipe out all livestock operation if passed. We are already contacted by DOH on Clean Water Act and EPA regulations. Any time it rains and livestock are in a confined area, there will be smell. The municipal sewer system creates smell. Our airport has that smell when wind blows the wrong way, will we close that too?~~

~~SB2115-Trespassing Law~~

~~Don't have the written Bill but SB2522 could be a duplicate. Posting signs to comply is a problem. The Trespassers know it's private lands.~~

Respectively Submitted,



BUDDY NOBRIGA  
Nobriga's Ranch, Inc.



## **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)

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Friday February 5, 2010 2:45 pm Room 229

### **SB 2527 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chair Hee and Members of the Committees:

My name is Alan G. Otlieb, and I am the President of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCCI) 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 SB 2527 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 are included. 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 will seek to amend the "Island Ag Product" definition with the Public Utilities Commission, to include livestock of the bovine, swine, sheep, or goats 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 therefore are not automatically eligible for discounts on Young Brothers for these products shipped within the islands.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 04, 2010 12:31 PM  
**To:** WTLTestimony  
**Cc:** jdmoniz@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2527 on 2/5/2010 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for WTL 2/5/2010 2:45:00 PM SB2527

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Jason D. Moniz  
Organization: Individual  
Address: P.O. Box 428 Paauilo, HI 96776  
Phone: 8089608409  
E-mail: [jdmoniz@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:jdmoniz@hawaiiantel.net)  
Submitted on: 2/4/2010

Comments:  
Supports Hawaii Cattlemen's Concil's testimony and position on this Bill.



**TESTIMONY**

**SB 2527**

**(END)**