

**SB 1337**



Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawaii State Legislature

E-mail: [WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov)

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

On behalf of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) and our hundreds of members in Hawaii, thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide our comments in opposition to bill SB1337. WSPA respectfully requests that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

**1. Past financial records indicate that the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative (HLC) slaughterhouse on Oahu is not an economically-viable facility.**

The HLC slaughterhouse located at Campbell Industrial Park in Oahu has been in financial difficulty for the past several years.

The Farmers Livestock Cooperative and Palama Meat Company jointly approached the legislature in 1995 for a \$10 million loan (\$2 million of which was for constructing a slaughterhouse). The legislature approved this amount (see table below). In 2001, the Farmers Livestock Cooperative slaughterhouse in Ewa closed and the slaughterhouse moved to its current location in Campbell Industrial Park. The Farmers Livestock Cooperative became the HLC, and Palama Meat Company continued to be the guarantor for the \$10 million loan. Then, in 2003, Palama Meat Company filed for bankruptcy. It is unclear how much they still owed on that bond or who currently owns the slaughterhouse facilities. It is known, however, that the State of Hawaii owns the land on which the slaughterhouse stands.

The slaughterhouse has been bailed out multiple times using taxpayer money, as follows:

Year	Loan Amount	Result
1995	\$10 million (\$2 million for slaughterhouse)	Palama Meat Company filed for bankruptcy in 2003; amount owed on the loan is unknown
2003	\$2 million	Rural Economic Transition Assistance Hawai'i (RETA-H) grant
Unknown	\$1.6 million	Rural Development Agency loan; U.S. Department of Agriculture paid off the loan when HLC defaulted
2003	\$600,000	Two loans from Hawaii Department of Agriculture for this total amount; HLC is currently delinquent in the amount of \$116,000
2009	\$600,000	2-year state grant to pay for pig feed and shipping

Despite all these bailouts, this facility is yet again approaching the Committee for financial support using taxpayer dollars. It is unrealistic to believe that this latest appropriation will ensure that the facility will become self-sustaining. Past financial records show that this is not an economically-viable facility and, therefore, this bailout will not be a responsible use of taxpayer money.

**2. Meat can be transported safely if chilled fresh or frozen.**

SB1337 implies that only fresh meat provides for nutritional needs of consumers in Hawaii.<sup>1</sup> The bill fails to acknowledge that fresh chilled and frozen meat is a safe alternative that can also satisfy this need. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulates the trade in chilled and frozen meat to ensure that it is safe for human consumption. In fact, WSPA's research shows that the majority of retailers in Hawaii currently transport USDA certified fresh chilled and frozen meat for sale to consumers.

**3. Long-distance transport of live animals could result in foodborne illnesses.**

SB1337 fails to recognize that many foodborne illnesses such as *Salmonella* and Swine Flu have been linked to the long-distance transport of live farm animals.<sup>2</sup>

Most animals slaughtered at the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative facility are not locally-raised in Hawaii, but are transported live from mainland U.S. These animals travel for a week or longer from as far away as Iowa, South Dakota and Montana. WSPA has conducted detailed studies on the potential impacts of long-distance transport of live animals on human health, the environment, consumers, local

<sup>1</sup> Text of SB1337 [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/bills/SB1337\\_SD1\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/bills/SB1337_SD1_.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> References available upon request.

businesses and animal health, concluding that the trade in fresh chilled and frozen meat is a safe alternative to transporting live animals. If required, WSPA would be happy to provide additional testimony to the Committee in this regard.

**4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.**

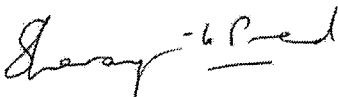
SB1337 claims that the HLC facility currently slaughters and processes 800 hogs per month.<sup>3</sup> As stated before, publicly-available government records show that most of these animals are not Hawaii-raised and are instead imported from mainland U.S. In addition, the number of locally-raised animals that are currently slaughtered at this facility – and will be slaughtered at this facility in the future – is very small due to the lack of farms on Oahu. These numbers would never be large enough to make this facility self-reliant – a situation that is not likely to change as a result of a bailout.

A bailout of this facility will not help increase Hawaii's food self-sufficiency and overall sustainability. Instead, it will continue to provide direct competition – in the form of meat from imported livestock that are slaughtered in Hawaii – to local farmers. . If this facility were to close, publicly-available records show that there are many other slaughterhouses on the islands that can meet local production needs.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,



Sharanya Krishna Prasad  
U.S. Programs Manager

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<sup>3</sup> Text of SB1337 [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/bills/SB1337\\_SD1\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/bills/SB1337_SD1_.pdf)

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 5:22 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** uncas@riseup.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1337 on 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM SB1337

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Cathy Goeggel  
Organization: Animal Rights Hawai'i  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [uncas@riseup.net](mailto:uncas@riseup.net)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2011

Comments:  
ANIMAL RIGHTS HAWAI'I  
Advocates for animals since 1975  
PO BOX 10845 HONOLULU. HI 96816  
[animalrightshawaii.org](http://animalrightshawaii.org)

Testimony on SB1337 SD1  
Position: oppose

February 24, 2011

House Committee on Ways and Means  
Conference Room 211

Chair Ige and Vice Chair Kidani:

I am Cathy Goeggel, President of Animal Rights Hawai'i and I wish to express our opposition to these and any other attempts to provide financial defibrillation to the moribund livestock industry in Hawai'i.

I also feel that this egregious wastage of taxpayer monies demands a public hearing that provides the public with FULL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE regarding the Hawai'i Livestock Cooperative, Palama Meat, Wong's Meat Market and Hawai'i Food Products and any other financial disbursements from the state and any others involved in government support of the livestock industry. Those who come constantly to government for financial handouts should not hide behind "privacy issues"

We urge you, the Chair and Vice Chair of the WAM Committee, to postpone decision making until the public has the opportunity to participate in a full public hearing.

Remember the taxpayers' monies that built Moloka'i slaughterhouse, the sweetheart lease deal given Hamakua slaughterhouse, the attempt by the legislature to spend \$65,000 of taxpayer monies for cowntainers, the \$million bond to Palama Meat and the Hawai'i Livestock Cooperative

(HLC) abattoir in Campbell Industrial Park (CIP), the state support of feed and shipping for pigs and chickens from just two years ago, and the scandal surrounding the land swap with Hawai'i Raceway Park some years earlier.

Well, Palama Meat went bankrupt and the HLC is \$100,000 in arrears in paying back two loans totalling \$600,000 from the State Dept. of Agriculture. In fact, it was only immediately after our inquiry in November of last year, that HLC made any payments since 2008. I have not been able to ascertain if HLC has been paying lease rent to the State either.

I remember well hearing that the HLC killing plant would provide many new jobs and provide "hot" pork for the local markets as well as provide killing for spent dairy cows. O'ahu has only one tiny boutique dairy left whose market is limited; the numbers of pigs imported for slaughter has decreased significantly; Local meat remains more expensive and is found only at a few stores--and is totally missing from Costco, Safeway and other large purveyors of meat. So now that the reasons for building the plant in the first place have disintegrated, the State now wants to enlarge and embellish the Kalaeloa property and then hope that they will have been right. If the cattlemen want to gamble (if you build it, they will come ?), let it be with their own money, not ours.

When I read the introduction to this bill, I thought it might be a bit of an inside joke- as I am sure you know, there is only one slaughterhouse in CIP--so why not name it?

The majority of Hawai'i cattle are on the Big Island, where there already are slaughterhouses. There are killing plants on Maui and Kaua'i as well. If the State is determined to squander money on cattle, why not do it where the cows are, and build a rendering plant there. If the idea is to finish the cows on O'ahu, allow me to remind you of the rusting fences of the defunct feed lot on state land, abutting the HLC.

The gorgeous green pastures that are currently home to cows could be used for biofuel production or other agricultural enterprises, and can remain green, whilst actually helping Hawai'i to self sufficiency.

It is obvious that livestock agriculture in Hawai'i cannot contribute to our economy--rather it is a drain on our already dwindling coffers. I do not want any more money spent to provide a rural lifestyle for a very few large landowners.

Please hold SB1337 SD1 until the public can be heard on this very contentious issue.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cathy Goeggel

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 7:43 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** laurelee@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1337 on 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM SB1337

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Laurelee Blanchard  
Organization: Leilani Farm Sanctuary  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [laurelee@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:laurelee@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2011

**Comments:**

Leilani Farm Sanctuary and its many supporters in Hawaii strongly oppose this bill.

The slaughterhouse is already in arrears in money owed to the State of Hawaii. The taxpayers should not have to bail out this operation any further.

Please vote "No" on this wasteful legislation.

Sincerely,  
Laurelee Blanchard, Director  
Leilani Farm Sanctuary  
260 E. Kuiaha Road  
Haiku, HI 96708

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 10:38 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** ejnuuanu@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1337 on 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM SB1337

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: elaine Johnson  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [ejnuuanu@hotmail.com](mailto:ejnuuanu@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2011

**Comments:**

Dear Chair and Members:

Please do not spend any more tax monies propping up the dying meat industry here. Tax revenues are badly needed in other places, like human services, teachers; salaries, etc.



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**From:** Brenda [buffettbunny@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 3:43 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Comments in Opposition to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

1. Past financial records indicate that the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative (HLC) slaughterhouse on Oahu is not an economically-viable facility.
2. Meat can be transported safely if chilled fresh or frozen.
3. Long-distance transport of live animals could result in foodborne illnesses.
4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

B.

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**From:** Kacey Kogachi [kkogachi08@punahou.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 4:04 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Comments in Opposition to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

1. Past financial records indicate that the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative (HLC) slaughterhouse on Oahu is not an economically-viable facility.
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At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Kacey Kogachi

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**From:** SWEINRICH7@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 4:03 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Sandra M. Weinrich

Kailua, Kona, Hawaii

808-329-4379

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**From:** Lorraine Barrie [lbarrie@mac.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 4:33 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I've copied a letter from WSPA below, every word of which I completely agree with. I am adamantly opposed to subjecting any living creature to the torturous conditions of a 6 week sea voyage in a cramped crate or stall. It is financially impractical as well. If the animals are to be slaughtered it is financially unsound to increase costs with the added transport and feed requirements of hauling them across the Pacific.

Respectfully,

Rev. Lorraine Barrie

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

[Rev. Lorraine Barrie]

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**From:** Barbara Steinberg [h2ocolor@webtv.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:08 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB1337 i oppose this bill

to Chair and Vice Chair :

I oppose SB1337

transporting livestock like pigs long distance is wrong and pigs should be raised on Hawaii as more economically feasible option than this .

I also feel tax dollars should be spent in better ways . I also feel that when you say island pork you mean island raised pigs not raised on mainland and transported to Hawaii to be slaughtered.

The trips over can cause diseases on the pigs in the way of bacteria.

please oppose this bill .

Barbara Steinberg Kihei Maui

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**From:** bonnie morgan [artsyoceanic@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 2:19 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** RE SB1337 from Bonnie Morgan constituent

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

1. Past financial records indicate that the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative (HLC) slaughterhouse on Oahu is not an economically-viable facility.
2. Meat can be transported safely if chilled fresh or frozen.
3. Long-distance transport of live animals could result in foodborne illnesses.
4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Morgan 4435 Lower Honoapiilani Rd #226 Lahaina Hi 96761 808 669 1612

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**From:** hilary Peters [hilarybpeters@me.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 12:55 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Comments in Opposition to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Hilary Peters

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**From:** Pacific Rim Financial [pacificrim.hawaii@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 12:55 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Comments in Opposition to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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3. Long-distance transport of live animals could result in foodborne illnesses.
4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Nathan Peters

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Pacific Rim Financial  
1164 Bishop Street  
Suite 124-1  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
[pacificrim.hawaii@gmail.com](mailto:pacificrim.hawaii@gmail.com)  
Phone: 808-543-6000  
Fax: 866-641-7439

PLEASE NOTE OUR NUMBER HAS CHANGED TO 808-543-6000



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**From:** INSPIREVISION@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 2:01 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** islevegan@gmail.com; puaa@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** re:SB1337

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, Members of Senate Ways and Means Committee:

I oppose SB 1337:

Fresh chilled and frozen meats are a safe alternative regulated by USDA, and long journeys have been known to cause hardship on animals.

Let us do all we can to help future generations live in a liveable world, because livestock agriculture is a huge contributor to global warming, as many UN studies have published.

<http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/farm/hsus-the-impact-of-animal-agriculture-on-global-warming-and-climate-change.pdf>

Jane Shiraki  
Honolulu

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**From:** Emily Bersin [EBersin@wspausa.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 12:42 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Comments in Opposition to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

1. Past financial records indicate that the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative (HLC) slaughterhouse on Oahu is not an economically-viable facility.
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4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Emily

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:49 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** justpuckett@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1337 on 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM SB1337

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Puckett  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [justpuckett@gmail.com](mailto:justpuckett@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2011

Comments:  
Please vote NO on SB 1337. I feel very strongly about this issue.

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**From:** STEPHANIE M. [aloharunner@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:51 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** OPPOSE SB 1337

Dear Senate Committee Members,

I oppose SB 1337 that would use taxpayer money to subsidize a pig-killing slaughterhouse on Oahu. I do not want my hard-earned taxpayer dollars to be used to support a pig slaughterhouse on Oahu. I am a public school teacher who was furloughed for 17 days last school year and for 6 days this school year. The money would be better spent by supporting education on Oahu. Also, it is discriminatory for the state to bail-out this pig-killing company that has filed for bankruptcy. You don't bail out other companies that are going bankrupt. Furthermore, it is not necessary to transport live pigs to Hawaii. Meat can be transported safely if it has been chilled fresh or frozen. Also, long-distance transport of live animals can result in foodborne illnesses. I also object to this kind of pig meat being sold in local supermarkets labeled as "Island Fresh" when this is not true. The pigs have not been raised from birth in Hawaii. This company is deceiving the public in believing the pork being sold is island fresh. It is not. It should be correctly labeled as "Fresh Island Killed Pork" because that is what it is. If this company has been going broke for so many years, that should tell you something. People are eating less meat for health reasons and there is no longer a market in Hawaii for this kind of product. Don't try to resurrect this "dead pig" of a company. The consumer has spoken by not spending his or her money on this product. Sincerely, Stephanie McLaughlin, 95-310 Haakualiki Place, Mililani, Hawaii, 96789, phone (808) 384-4764



*Aloha from ...*

**Stephanie McLaughlin**

*"Be the change you wish to see in the world"*

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**From:** Rowena Aki [rowenaaki@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:47 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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2. Meat can be transported safely if chilled fresh or frozen.
3. Long-distance transport of live animals could result in foodborne illnesses.
4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments. "Buy Local"!

Mahalo,  
Rowena Hanks

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**From:** Jim Bernaert [jimnruthie@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:37 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Oppositon to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,  
Ruthie Bernaert

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**From:** Sandy Ma [sandyma@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:36 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB 1337

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB 1337. As a concerned Hawaii citizen, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB 1337 for the following reasons:

1. Past financial records indicate that the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative ("HLC") slaughterhouse on Oahu is not an economically-viable facility.
2. Meat can be transported safely if chilled fresh or frozen.
3. Long-distance transport of live animals may result in foodborne illnesses.
4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when Hawaii is undergoing furloughs to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue should be better spent in other sectors to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB 1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Sandy Ma

2101 Nuuanu Ave., #2401

Honolulu, HI 96817

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**From:** Tom Tizard [tizard8@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:35 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Comments in Opposition to SB1337

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

1. Past financial records indicate that the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative (HLC) slaughterhouse on Oahu is not an economically-viable facility.
2. Meat can be transported safely if chilled fresh or frozen.
3. Long-distance transport of live animals could result in foodborne illnesses.
4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Thomas Tizard

Kailua



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**From:** oceanwndows2@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:08 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Comments in Opposition to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

1. Past financial records indicate that the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative (HLC) slaughterhouse on Oahu is not an economically-viable facility.
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At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Luci Price

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**From:** Trisha Moyen [trishamoyen96@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 12:54 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Trisha Moyen

95-169 Lelewalo St

Mililani Hawaii 96789

(808) 838-9725

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**From:** natalie kubo [kubo.nat@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:26 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Opposition to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Natalie Kubo

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**From:** Ginger Westerman [kailuaangel@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:20 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** S.B. 1337

I AM OPPOSED TO S.B. 1337

PLEASE VOTE NO ON S.B. 1337

THERE ARE HUMANE WAYS TO APPROACH THIS AND SAVE MONEY FOR HAWAII, WHILE  
BEING HUMANE TO THE ANIMALS

RESPECTFULLY,

GINGER WESTERMAN

---

**From:** Marie Cooper-Martinez [mcoopermartinez@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:13 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB 1337

Aloha and thank you for allowing me to submit comments regarding SB 1337.

First of all, I am against using taxpayer money to bail out HLC. It has not proven itself to be a financially viable company and as they will be importing animals for slaughter from outside the state, they will not be keeping the money "local". We should be focusing on ways to generate income for our local population instead of paying non-residents to supply our meat.

Secondly, the animals brought overseas will be subjected to horrifically cruel and filthy conditions. I fear airborne illness will taint the meat and cause bacterial related illnesses in humans who consume it. I, for one, have boycotted certain stores which sell pork that is labelled "locally produced" because it is deceptive in being that the pigs were imported from the mainland and only slaughtered here. That, to me, is deceptive advertising. To be locally produced, it needs to be raised or grown in the islands. Besides, do you know how the animals are raised or treated before being shipped here? Can you guarantee your seal of approval before passing the meat on to us?

Finally, I cannot openly support a company that allows animals to suffer in inhumane conditions just for the sake of food. I am upset that my tax dollars will be used to support something that I am totally against. If you have no idea what I am talking about, please take a moment or two to research the the long distance transport of animals. May I suggest WSPA, the World Society for the Protection of Animals, as a highly informative site for information on this. The Humane Society of the United States also has information on how animals suffer during transport, and that the stresses put upon them release certain chemicals into their flesh. I will not eat this meat from these animals. I will not support local stores that carry it either.

Please take my comments in opposition to SB 1337, and those with similar views, into consideration before you sign SB 1337.

Mahalo for your time.

**Aloha!**  
Marie Cooper-Martinez  
Honolulu, HI

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**From:** Kari Wilson [karilynwilson@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:16 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Comments in Opposition to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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2. Meat can be transported safely if chilled fresh or frozen.
3. Long-distance transport of live animals could result in foodborne illnesses.
4. The HLC slaughterhouse primarily slaughters imported pigs, which directly competes with local production.

At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Kari Wilson, M.D.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:14 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** ebarker@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1337 on 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM SB1337

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Eric Barker  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [ebarker@hawaii.edu](mailto:ebarker@hawaii.edu)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2011

Comments:

There is no such thing as an economically or environmentally sustainable slaughter house. It will always take more inputs than it provides outputs. Additionally, the suggestion that this project provides "essential nutritional needs" is totally dishonest - I have been a vegetarian for 20 yrs and I'm very active.

Considering that this bill has at least two totally wrong and misleading statements in its opening paragraph, what might the rest be like?

This bill begins with the sentence:

"Fresh pork and beef provide essential nutritional needs to consumers." To start out a bill with dishonest and then to end the same paragraph with, "The development of a sustainable meat processing facility is vital to Hawaii's consumers and visitors" is incredible. There is no such thing as an economically and environmentally sustainable meat processing facility - it will always take more inputs than it provides.

If a bill's first sentence and thesis statement is centered around misleading ideas then it cannot be rightly supported.

Please stop this immediately.

**From:** Susan Shimabukuro [equinemaui001@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:22 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB1337

to: [WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov)

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

1. Past financial records indicate that the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative (HLC) slaughterhouse on Oahu is not an economically-viable facility.
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At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Susan Shimabukuro

PO Box 502

Makawao, HI 96768





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

2343 Rose Street, Honolulu, HI 96819  
PH: (808)848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921  
E-mail [info@hfbf.org](mailto:info@hfbf.org)  
[www.hfbf.org](http://www.hfbf.org)

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Thursday, February 24, 2011  
9 a.m.  
Conference Room 211

**SB 1337 SD1 Relating to Livestock**

Aloha Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, representing farmers and ranchers throughout the islands, **supports** this bill because it will help assure that the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative facility is available to address the needs of the islands.

- For food sustainability and food security reasons, the Oahu facility should remain open to supply meat to the population.
- Even if mainland meat shipments are available to the islands, this facility supports local livestock farmers/ranchers.
- Proximity to market--most of the population of the islands reside on Oahu.
- Many in the community prefer fresh meat to that coming in from the mainland.
- Most residents and island visitors are not vegetarians; they do eat meat.
- Our understanding is that at the present time, the facility is used mainly for pork processing but that it may in the future, it could be used for beef processing.

Thank you very much for your continued support of local farmers and ranchers.

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**From:** eric messbauer [ericmessbauer@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 3:30 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Comments in Opposition to SB1337

February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Mahalo nui loa.

Sincerely,

Eric J Messbauer  
691C Hana Highway  
Pa'ia, HI 96779

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**From:** Jim Smith [healthysolutions6@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 3:40 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Slaughterhouse



February 23, 2011

Dear Chairman Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**Subject: Comments in Opposition to SB1337**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to bill SB1337. As a resident of Hawaii, I respectfully request that Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means oppose bill SB1337 for the following reasons:

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At a time when the State of Hawaii is undergoing furloughs in order to conserve taxpayer money, the State's revenue from taxpayer money could be better spent in other sectors in order to keep essential industries functioning during these hard times.

I respectfully request that the Committee reject SB1337. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

James N. Smith