



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2014
ROOM 329
8:45 A.M.

HOUSE BILL NO. 1987 HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Belatti and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 1987 HD1, which proposes to permit the acquisition, distribution, and consumption of raw milk and raw milk products by owners of cows, goats, and sheep and owners of cow shares, goat shares and sheep shares. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) believes that permitting of raw milk does not fall under our purview.

Despite advances in animal health, milking hygiene, and processing technology, milk borne disease outbreaks continue to occur. Since milk is derived from animals, it carries an inherent risk of being contaminated with pathogens from its source (cattle, goats, sheep, and the farm environment). A key factor in the prevention of milk borne disease is the avoidance of raw milk consumption. The consumption of raw milk and raw milk products is a public health and milk safety issue. As such, the placement of this bill under Chapter 157, Hawaii Revised Statutes is not appropriate. HDOA respectfully defers to the Hawaii State Department of Health.

Thank you, again, for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



morikawa2-Joanna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 8:18 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: rich@kauaifreshfarms.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1987 on Feb 7, 2014 08:45AM

HB1987

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for HLT on Feb 7, 2014 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Olsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe it should be up to a person to choose what he or she consumes. Especially with concern to a traditional food that our ancestors built our blood lines upon. Pasteurization only came about because cows moved to the city and were fed an unnatural food source. Naturally the bacteria in the milk is beneficial as long as the cows are eating what nature intended..grass, and basic sanitary practices are followed. I feel like small herdshare dairies fits into sustainability concepts our state so desperately needs. Please absolve the state of any liability with regard to raw milk and let a herdshare owner take responsibility for his or her own health.

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morikawa2-Joanna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 1:25 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: lynhowe1946@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1987 on Feb 7, 2014 08:45AM

HB1987

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for HLT on Feb 7, 2014 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyn Howe	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I agree with the basic concept of this bill but I do not believe that farmers offering cow or goat shares should be required to register.

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LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Committee on Health

HB 1987, HD1 , RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

**Testimony of Gary L. Gill
Acting Director of Health**

**February 7, 2014
8:45 a.m.**

1 **Department's Position:** The department opposes this bill.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** This bill has significant fiscal implications for the department. Passage of this bill
3 will require new administrative rules and additional staffing for inspection and enforcement.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The State of Hawaii currently prohibits the sale of raw milk in any form.
5 Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 15, "Milk", Section 11-15-45, Milk and Milk Products
6 which may be sold. , states in part that "Only Grade "A" pasteurized milk and milk products shall be
7 sold to the final consumer..."

8 The prohibition also includes sale or distribution of raw milk through cow sharing or any other
9 means. This requirement is consistent with the United States Food and Administration's (FDA) position
10 on the sale of raw milk due to the public health concerns surrounding the consumption and distribution
11 of raw milk.

12 The FDA and other federal and state health agencies have documented a long history of the risks
13 to human health associated with the consumption of raw milk. Clinical and epidemiological studies from
14 FDA, state health agencies, and others have established a direct link between gastrointestinal disease and
15 tuberculosis to the consumption of raw milk. The microbial flora of raw milk may include human

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1 pathogens present on the cow's udder and teats. Further, the intrinsic properties of milk, including its pH
2 and nutrient content, make it an excellent media for the survival and growth of bacteria.

3 On August 10, 1987, FDA published in 21 CFR Part 1240.61, a final regulation mandating the
4 pasteurization of all milk and milk products in final package form for direct human consumption. This
5 regulation addresses milk shipped in interstate commerce and became effective September 9, 1987.

6 In this Federal Register notification for the final rule to 21 CFR Part 1240.61, FDA made a number of
7 findings including the following:

8 "Raw milk, no matter how carefully produced, may be unsafe."

9 "It has not been shown to be feasible to perform routine bacteriological tests on the raw milk
10 itself to determine the presence or absence of all pathogens and thereby ensure that it is free of
11 infectious organisms."

12 "Opportunities for the introduction and persistence of *Salmonella* on dairy premises are
13 numerous and varied, and technology does not exist to eliminate *Salmonella* infection from dairy
14 herds or to preclude re-introduction of *Salmonella* organisms."

15 The American Academy of Pediatrics also strongly recommends that raw milk should not be
16 consumed, especially by children who are inherently more susceptible to communicable diseases.
17 The FDA has determined that pasteurization is the only means to assure the destruction of pathogenic
18 microorganisms that might be present. This decision is science-based involving epidemiological
19 evidence. FDA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta have documented
20 illnesses associated with the consumption of raw milk, including "certified raw milk" and have stated
21 that the risks of consuming raw milk far outweigh any benefits.

22 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

morikawa2-Joanna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 3:15 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: planetpeaceis37@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1987 on Feb 7, 2014 08:45AM*



HB1987

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for HLT on Feb 7, 2014 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joyce A Folena	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 3:18 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: planetlovepeace@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1987 on Feb 7, 2014 08:45AM*



HB1987

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for HLT on Feb 7, 2014 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gregory T Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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morikawa2-Joanna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 9:30 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: jonikamiya@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1987 on Feb 7, 2014 08:45AM



HB1987

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for HLT on Feb 7, 2014 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joni Kamiya	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is a potential public health concern that has a proven record of deaths and disability as a result. Our guide should be what the research and evidence shows us as far as what should be public policy. This is will give many people, who are not aware of the dangers of it, a false sense of safety. It's dangerous and not worth the risk of promoting something that has shown is indeed a danger and risk to health and life. Let's not put this kind of law on the books that indeed will harm. <http://realrawmilkfacts.com/real-life-stories>

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