



Local Food Coalition

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Thursday January 31, 2013 9:00 a.m. Room 312

HB 487 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Expands livestock feed subsidies to include sheep, lamb, fish and crustaceans. Appropriates funds.

Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and Members of the Committees:

My name is Alan Gottlieb, and I represent the Local Food Coalition on this matter.

The Local Food Coalition (LFC) brings together farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other leading organizations, who collectively manage more than 1 million acres of land, and produce the majority of food in our state. Solving our challenge of increasing the local food supply — putting more local food on local plates — can best be accomplished by bringing people and organizations together who can work on the entire food value chain in a systematic way.

The Local Food Coalition strongly supports HB 487.

This year is particularly urgent for our Hawaii Livestock Producers due to the devastating drought that has decimated this year's grain harvests in at least four Midwestern states resulting in rapid increases in grain and livestock feed prices, as well as the ongoing drought in Hawaii. In order for Hawaii's livestock producers to meet these much higher-than-normal feed costs, a feed subsidy is needed.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.



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

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Thursday January 31, 2013 9:00 a.m. Room 312

HB 487 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Expands livestock feed subsidies to include sheep, lamb, fish and crustaceans. Appropriates funds.

Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi and Members of the Committees:

My name is Alan Gottlieb, and I am the Government Affairs Chairperson 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 HB 487.

Subsidies are often a dirty word. One might argue that farmers get used to subsidies and then expect them year after year. However, this year is particularly urgent for our Hawaii Livestock Producers. In particular, a devastating drought has decimated this year's grain harvests in at least four Midwestern states resulting in rapid increases in grain and livestock feed prices. Livestock producers dependent on such imported feeds are experiencing significant feed price increases and such increases are projected by the USDA Farm Service Agency to continue for the rest of 2013 until the next successful grain harvest. In the meantime, farmers and ranchers can expect to pay premium prices for imported grains and feeds. In order for Hawaii's livestock producers to meet these much higher-than-normal feed costs, a feed subsidy is needed.

As section 1 of this bills states: "With financial support, the livestock industry will be able to continue to make investments in modern equipment, expand and improve herds and flocks, and develop new markets and products. This financial support will serve a public purpose by enabling the livestock industry to stabilize its operations, thereby contributing to food security and increasing the competitiveness of the local livestock industry with mainland suppliers."

We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 8:06 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: cochonlibre@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB487 on Jan 31, 2013 09:00AM*

HB487

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for AGR on Jan 31, 2013 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

onishi1-Jerry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 8:23 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hawaiiifish@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB487 on Jan 31, 2013 09:00AM

HB487

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for AGR on Jan 31, 2013 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ron Weidenbach	Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association	Support	No

Comments: The HAAA strongly supports this legislation. Feed costs have increased substantially over the past twelve months and are expected to increase further as a result of the major midwest drought which has decimated grain harvest that are the basis of our imported animal feeds. This subsidy is badly needed for farms and ranches to address the resulting feed cost increases, until a local feed industry is established using locally produced ingredients.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov



Waimalu Valley Ranch

Agriculture Livestock: Horses, Cows, Goats, and Reesters

AGRICULTURE

To Hawaii State Legislature,

Please include subsidiaries for goats and for feeding ducks. We sell thousands of island grown grassfed goats and most recently we are giving away free ducks with purchase. However the ducks need to be fed bread and better foods than what we can provide. We are fortunate that we have lots of grass that grows like crazy to feed the goats at our location. And we are fortunate that we have the Waimalu River to keep our ducks happy. But feeding the ducks is always our concern in addition buying powder goat milk to feed the young baby goats that we occasionally get.

We run and operate a goat distribution facility in central Oahu. An ideal location and we are established on privately owned lands distributing thousands of island grown grassfed goats each year. Providing employment to our workers- ranchers- and cowboys and supplying an awesome food source "delicacy" for thousands of Hawaii's people.

However- we dont bother anyone yet out 2 neighboring squakers and stalkers are determined to stop our distribution operation. The Newtown Association have complained that we are in violation of their codes and covenants claiming that we have non-domesticated farm animals in kennels. Yet we have hundreds running around on property because our property is part of a forest and mixed zoning urban/conservation exists surrounded by Agriculture. The association claims we are in violation. This kind of mentality jeopardizes the efforts of new laws and wastes legislatures efforts and times. Perhaps a fine should be implemented to those who contradicts our states efforts in sustaining agriculture.

I support this bill and any other bills that will help to ensure Agriculture Hawaii's food safety and help to utilize our islands resources.

Lani Kaaihue

Lani's Goats Located in Waimalu Valley-Aiea

[Www.waimaluvallleyranch.com](http://www.waimaluvallleyranch.com)

808-852-9663

Yeee- Haw!