

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

**MARCH 30, 2017
1:40 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211**

**HOUSE BILL NO 1389 HD1
RELATED TO LIVESTOCK HARVEST FACILITIES**

Chairperson Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

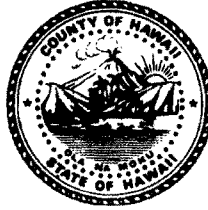
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1389 HD1. The bill requests funds for the planning and design of scalable livestock harvest facilities. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture supports this measure provided it does not impact the Department's priorities listed in the Executive Budget.

The Department recognizes that efficient harvest facilities are a critical component in the protein production chain and is a limiting factor in the consistent availability of locally produced meat products. Properly designed harvest facilities work towards producing safe products efficiently by giving equal attention to employee safety, pre-harvest animal health, product processing regulations and environmental impact.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i
Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy., Bldg. C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

March 29, 2017

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Tokuda and Committee Members:

**RE: HB 1389, HD 1
Relating to Livestock Harvest Facilities**

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of the intent and purpose of HB 1389, HD1.

Most everyone agrees that it is a desirable goal for Hawaii to be more self-reliant with respect to its food supply. The livestock facility envisioned by HB 1389, HD1 would be another step in the right direction, and therefore I would urge this Legislature to provide reasonable funding for the planning and design of such a facility.

Respectfully submitted,

for Harry Kim
Mayor



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON HB 1389, HD1
RELATING TO LIVESTOCK HARVEST FACILITIES

Room 211
1:40 PM

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB supports HB 1389, HD1, which makes an appropriation for the planning and design of scalable livestock harvest facilities to be expended by DOA.

This bill is designed to provide not only needed capacity but also allow a new plant to incorporate new technologies to enhance energy and waste management, food safety and animal welfare. This also provides the potential for new certifications required by retailers and for export certification, which would open foreign markets for Hawaii beef.

The proposed bills would provide a set of architectural plans of a scalable plant that any third-party (investor/group of producers) could adapt to any specific parcel in any county for the purpose of building a processing facility. This plan would:

- a. reduce construction time and cost by having these plans readily available
- b. take into account the projected growth of the industry per island
- c. safeguard against oversupply while offering adaptability for an undersupply of cattle
- d. incorporate best practices for energy efficiency and waste disposal, improved processing flow, and new designs to update food safety and animal welfare.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, March 30, 2017
TIME: 1:40 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 211

HB 1389 HD1 – RELATING TO LIVESTOCK HARVEST FACILITIES.

Makes an appropriation for the planning and design of scalable livestock harvest facilities to be expended by DOA.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dale Sandlin, Managing Director of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 150+ 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 1389 HD1 as this measure provides funds for the planning and design of a scalable livestock harvest facility.

Of the large agrarian enterprises that have been undertaken in Hawaii, only cattle remain. The beef industry represents economic, environmental and cultural sustainability for our state. According to University of Hawaii figures, Hawaii supplies only 6% of the beef consumed in the state. We have great capacity to grow our local market and support Hawaii's economic base. Ranchers are essentially "grass farmers," providing open space, reducing fuel load for wildfires, maintaining our watersheds and utilizing lands that are otherwise unproductive and inaccessible. Lastly, the ability to provide our own food source is an inherent strength in any community, but particularly so in an island state that is so dependent upon imports to feed its population. The increased demand for "farm to fork" products strongly supports agriculture that is locally sourced.

In a recent series of community meetings held across the state, producers identified processing as the major bottleneck for marketing of local beef. The current processing plants have played a vital role in maintaining avenues for our market animals, but they are aging and with the expanding demand for locally raised beef, our current facilities have not been able to accommodate the increased numbers. In keeping with HCC's mission to be an advocate for Hawaii's ranchers, HCC has been working to address specific long and short-term needs. While short-term needs are at a critical stage in some counties, specific issues



are being addressed separately. Our long-term success and resilience depends upon our ability to address both needs.

This bill is designed to provide not only needed capacity but also allow a new plant to incorporate new technologies to enhance energy and waste management, food safety and animal welfare. This also provides the potential for new certifications required by retailers and for export certification, which would open foreign markets for Hawaii beef.

The proposed bill would provide a set of architectural plans of a scalable plant that any third-party (investor/group of producers) could adapt to any specific parcel in any county for the purpose of building a processing facility. This plan would:

- a. reduce construction time and cost by having these plans readily available
- b. take into account the projected growth of the industry per island
- c. safeguard against oversupply while offering adaptability for an undersupply of cattle
- d. incorporate best practices for energy efficiency and waste disposal, improved processing flow, and new designs to update food safety and animal welfare.

Hawaii's cattle industry is committed to a robust future and opportunities for continued growth. By supporting this bill, Hawaii's legislators vote to support Hawaii's agriculture and grow a more food-secure community.

We respectfully ask this committee to support this measure and we appreciate the opportunity to testify on this critical matter for our industry.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:50 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: alan@prloffice.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1389 on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM

HB1389

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments: Please support 1389. The Testimony of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council is on record, so I won't repeat that here. What I would like to point out here, as I did in oral testimony in front of Chair Gabbard, is whether one eats beef or not, local or otherwise, the Hawaii Cattle Industry is very important to Hawaii. Hawaii Ranchers are stewards of over 25% of the State's land mass, lands that generally cannot be used for any other types of agriculture as they are too steep, too rocky, too wet or too dry. DLNR has its hands full with the other lands it owns and struggles to manage. Ranchers provide ecosystem services to every resident and visitor to Hawaii, that they are often not even aware of, including open green space, watershed, carbon sequestration, recreation and preservation from development. If the Cattle Industry does not plan now for slaughter and processing facilities for the long term, the Cattle Industry will cease to exist, much like the local dairy industry.

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 11:05 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: mgalimba@kuahiwiranch.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1389 on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM

HB1389

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Galimba	Kuahiji Ranch Natural Beef	Support	No

Comments: Please support this measure as it will provide the first steps towards expansion of beef processing infrastructure statewide, and increasing the availability of locally grown beef.

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



Barbed S Ranch, LLC

86-412C Luaualei Homestead Road

Waianae, HI 96792

(808) 696-8048 FAX (808) 696-7837 e-mail Henrysequ001@hawaii.rr.com

March 29, 2017

RE: HB 1389 HD1

Sirs,

We are a small Oahu rancher who are members of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council Inc. During the past several years it has become increasingly difficult to market our beef to local families due to the lack of proper slaughter facilities and the absence of any butchers/meat markets with the capabilities to cut/wrap locally-sourced carcasses.

We have also been a staunch supporter and Club Leader of the Hawaii State 4-H Livestock program, administered by the University of Hawaii CTAHR program, for several decades. This youth program educates our young people on the raising, husbandry and marketing of market livestock, culminating in the selling at auction of their project animals at the annual Hawaii State Farm Fair. 20 years ago there were a dozen or so places that auction buyers could access to have their purchases cut and wrapped for them. Today there are only two on Oahu that are willing, on a very limited basis, to provide this service on a "favor" basis. Many of today's butchers are not proficient in cutting carcasses as the only meat they see arrives in boxes from the mainland. They also no longer have the chiller hooks/rails necessary to process carcasses.

We are consistently approached by people who want to purchase locally raised steers to provide meat for their families, but without any proper facility to process their purchases most are turned away.

As a believer in the self-sustainability of Hawaii's food supply and a supporter of our local farmers and ranchers, we ask that you seriously consider passing this Bill as a step towards Hawaii's food independence.

Aloha,



Frances Kama-Silva

Barbed S Ranch/Poamoho Ranch
Leeward Paniolos 4-H Livestock Club

Senate Committee on Agriculture and the Environment
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair and Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
State Capitol
HB1389 – Relating to Livestock Harvest Facilities

My name is Lisa Wood and I currently serve as president of Hawaii Cattlemen’s Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen’s Council is the statewide umbrella group comprised of the four county level Cattlemen’s Associations. I am writing in **strong support** of HB 1389. These bills provide funds for the planning and design of a scalable livestock harvest facility.

The people of Hawaii have been stewarding cattle for over 200 years. Kamehameha the Great was the first; upon receiving the animals as a gift, he ordered them protected to allow them to acclimate to their new environment and grow in number. Kamehameha III recognized the economic and nutritional value that cattle represented. He recruited the vaqueros that were brought to Hawaii to train the people in management of the animals. Our producers represent families that have been ranching for generations.

Of the large agrarian enterprises that have been undertaken in Hawaii, only cattle remain. The beef industry represents economic, environmental and cultural sustainability for our state.

According to University of Hawaii figures, Hawaii supplies only 6% of the beef consumed in the state. We have great capacity to grow our local market and support Hawaii’s economic base.

Ranchers are essentially “grass farmers”. They provide open space, reduce fuel load for wildfires, maintain our watersheds and utilize lands that are otherwise unproductive and inaccessible.

Lastly, the ability to provide our own food source is an inherent strength in any community but particularly so in an island state that is so dependent upon imports to feed its population. The increased demand for “farm to fork” products strongly supports agriculture that is locally sourced.

In a recent series of community meetings held across the state, producers identified processing as the major bottleneck for marketing of local beef. The current processing plants have played a vital role in maintaining avenues for our market animals, but they are aging and with the expanding demand for locally raised beef, our current facilities have not been able to accommodate the increased numbers. HB 1389 is designed to provide not only needed capacity but also allow a new plant to incorporate new technologies to enhance energy and waste management, food safety and animal welfare. This plant would allow us to expand our marketing options as well.

The proposed bill would provide for a generic, scalable template which could be modified for use in multiple venues. It would include a feasibility plan that would allow the plant to be tailored to the area’s specific needs and identify optimal throughput for each individual plant. The plans would incorporate many of the new technologies previously mentioned and also provide an option for multi-species use.

Hawaii’s cattle industry is committed to a robust future and opportunities for continued growth. By supporting this bill, Hawaii’s legislators vote to support Hawaii’s agriculture and grow a more food secure community.

I respectfully ask for your support of HB 1389.

Sincerely,

Lisa B Wood, DVM
Hawaii Cattlemen’s Council, President

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 4:46 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: djr@teamdeluz.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1389 on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM*

HB1389

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David S. De Luz, Jr.	Kukaiiau Ranch LLC/Hawaii Beeef Producers LLC	Support	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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 11:19 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: bcraven@lanihau.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1389 on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM*

HB1389

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
britt craven	Individual	Support	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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 11:46 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: gregf@haleakalaranch.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1389 on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM*

HB1389

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gregory Friel	Individual	Support	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