



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

LATE

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, March 29, 2018
TIME: 10:50 A.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 211

HB 1971, HD2, SD1- RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO KUNOA CATTLE COMPANY, LLC.

Authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Kunoa Cattle Company, LLC, to fund the construction of a multi-species livestock farm, expansion of the slaughter and processing infrastructure, development of distribution assets and agritourism services, and expansion of renewable energy assets. (SD1)

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dale Sandlin, and I am 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 **supports** HB 1971, HD2, SD1 as this measure will provide funding to improve the processing infrastructure for livestock in Hawaii.

As the cattle industry in Hawaii is undergoing a renaissance with more cattle being produced for local consumption, the weakest link in our chain is processing capacity. This SPRB would provide funding to improve the processing capacity for livestock in our state, as well as other potential plans for agro-tourism and energy production.

With the mandate to doubling food production, the cattle industry is poised to meet this challenge. High demand, consumer interest and expanding markets are promising signs for our industry's success. Anything we can do to provide an increase in processing capacity is a step in the right direction.

We respectfully ask this committee to pass this measure and we appreciate the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

