

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

FEBRUARY 28, 2022
11:00 A.M.
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

HOUSE BILL NO. 2061 HD1
RELATING TO THE ANIMAL INDUSTRY SPECIAL FUND

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2061, HD 1 relating to the Animal Industry Special Fund. House Bill 2061 proposes to amend section 142-3.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to allow the animal industry division to deposit fees from work by the veterinary laboratory and animal disease control into the fund to assist with its operations.

The animal industry special fund was established to receive moneys from the use or rental of under-utilized animal industry division property to assist with division operation expenditures. The relocation of OCCC to the animal quarantine station in Halawa will eliminate the original funding mechanism for the special fund.

The state veterinary laboratory is in the animal industry division of the department of agriculture. The veterinary laboratory conducts laboratory services, diagnostic support and disease surveillance projects in poultry, swine, dairy, other livestock and aquaculture industries. The state veterinary laboratory assists these industries, practicing veterinarians, the state animal quarantine branch and other governmental animal health agencies by providing a variety of testing services,



including pathology, histopathology, parasitology, and serology. The division intends to continue expanding veterinary laboratory capabilities and services.

House Bill 2061, HD 1 will provide some resources to support the state veterinary laboratory by providing stakeholders veterinary diagnostic services in-state, reducing delays in obtaining results from veterinary laboratories located outside of Hawaii, and may eventually generate revenue to fund the operations of the animal industry division.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

HB-2061-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 9:40:54 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/28/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
isaac maeda	Department of Agriculture	Comments	Yes

Comments:

Available for questions



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February 28, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 2061, HD1
RELATING TO THE ANIMAL INDUSTRY SPECIAL FUND

Conference Room 309 & Videoconference
11:00 AM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports HB 2061, HD1, which adds new sources of revenues generated by the State Veterinary Laboratory and Animal Disease Control Branch as sources for the Animal Industry Special Fund.

HDOA's Animal Industry Division has a wide range of responsibilities in support of Hawai'i's farmers and ranchers. They are charged with safeguarding the State's livestock and poultry industries by controlling and preventing the entry and spread of pests and diseases, operating the rabies quarantine program and the airport holding facility, conducting investigations into violations of animal quarantine/importation statutes, and providing veterinary laboratory support for diagnosing animal diseases. Hawai'i's \$74,000,00 aquaculture industry is also supported with planning and coordination, business counseling, and information dissemination efforts through the Aquaculture and Livestock Support Services, a branch of the Animal Industry Division.

HFB believes that the HDOA needs to be adequately funded so that the Animal Industry Division can effectively carry out the many responsibilities they are charged with. The new sources of revenue generated by the State Veterinary Laboratory and Animal Disease Control Branch will improve the Animal Industry Division's operational capacity in support of Hawai'i's farming community.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

HB2061

Relating to the Animal Industry Special Fund

Monday, February 28, 2022, 11:00 AM
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council supports HB2061 HD1 which adds new sources of revenue generated by the State Veterinary Laboratory and Animal Disease Control Branch that can be deposited into the animal Industry Special Fund. We understand the importance of ensuring there is revenue to continue providing services by the animal industry division veterinary laboratory and animal disease control branch. A user fee system such as the one proposed in this bill is common in other states, and is a way to bring funding in for the state veterinary laboratory. This branch should be adequately funded to properly carry out their duties.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this issue.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director



HB-2061-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 7:00:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/28/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strong support.

Thank you.