

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
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ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2621, S.D. 1

April 1, 2022
1:30 p.m.
Room 308 and Videoconference

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 2621, S.D. 1, appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 23 for the Department of Agriculture to control the spread of bovine tuberculosis among livestock and feral ungulates on Moloka'i. The bill further provides that the appropriation be used for the establishment of 1.00 Veterinary Medical Officer II position and 1.00 Livestock Inspector II position; the procurement of land for the construction of a portable field office; and one new vehicle.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

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
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
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**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE**

**APRIL 1, 2022
1:30 P.M.**

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE & CONFERENCE ROOM 309

**SENATE BILL NO. 2621 SD1
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2621 SD1 that appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture to establish bovine tuberculosis control operations on Molokai, including staff, facility, and equipment.

The Department supports this measure provided it does not adversely impact the Department's priorities in the Executive Supplemental Budget request. The recurrence of bovine Tuberculosis (bTB) in livestock on the island of Molokai after 25 years without detections, requires a focused, concerted effort with facility and personnel on Molokai. In addition to surveillance testing and expanded outbreak response activities, on-island personnel improve monitoring and information gathering activities needed to identify areas of disease risk and effectively mitigate disease spread. Flying in staff from other islands to set up temporary areas for processing cattle and swine and to conduct bTB testing creates significant delays that can be eliminated for timely response and assessment. A facility on island also increases efficiency and safety to process animals for testing for producers as well as staff.



Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important measure.



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

SB2621 SD1
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Friday, April 1, 2022, 1:30 PM
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

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

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 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 over 750 thousand acres of land in Hawaii, or 20% of the State's total land mass. We represent the interests of Hawaii's cattle producers.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **strongly supports SB2987 SD1** to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture to establish bovine tuberculosis control operations on Molokai. It is imperative that we stay ahead of any bovine tuberculosis outbreaks, and the 2021 incident of bovine tuberculosis shows that the Department of Agriculture has the protocols in place to identify cases and prevent the spread. Providing the funding so that there is staff, a facility, and equipment on Molokai is prudent, as this is where bovine tuberculosis needs to be monitored. Our ability to detect and contain any bovine tuberculosis is extremely important to the survival of Hawaii's cattle industry. Permanent staffing and equipment is needed on the island to ensure that there is uninterrupted, focused attention on the issue to contain outbreaks and prevent further spread.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this critical matter for our industry.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director





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e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

April 1, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON SB 2621, SD1
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Room 308 & Videoconference
1:30 PM

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 SB 2621, SD1, which appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture to establish bovine tuberculosis control operations on Molokai, including staff, facility, and equipment.

Across the State, various invasive species are creating havoc in agriculture as well as the ecosystems in which they exist. The axis deer population on Molokai is a good example of nature getting out of control with populations exploding due to abundant forage following rainfall events.

These feral populations can pose a danger, especially as populations grow and their health is put into jeopardy due to inadequate food. Diseases that they normally tolerate will become serious debilitating illnesses that could put our domestic livestock industry in jeopardy. Such fears are not unreasonable, as incidences such as the bovine tuberculosis spread from feral pigs and cattle have been documented in Molokai.

<https://hdoa.Hawai'i.gov/blog/news-releases/news-release-january-26-2006-nr06-01/>

Developing a comprehensive strategy can become an example of how the HDOA and other government agencies, the research community, and the public can jointly work together to solve a problem. We urge that the communities in the various areas be included as strategies are developed.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important matter.

SB-2621-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 11:05:27 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jimmy Gomes	Ulupalakua Ranch	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2621 and stand with Hawaii Cattlemen's Council testimony

SB-2621-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 11:42:03 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert H. Ferreira	Kaupo Ranch Ltd.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Luke, Vice Chair yamashita, and Memberbers of the Committee,

I and many others in the cattle business are very concerned and we must have the ability to detect and contain any bovine tuberculosis within Molokai as well as the State. We have faced this in the past and if not for the deligence of testing and monitoring it could have been devastating for the entire Hawaii Cattle Industry. Please support this important bill SB2621 so there is permanent staffing and the equipment needed to contain outbreaks and prevent further spread of this devastating diseas.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify

Robert Ferreira

Kaupo Ranch, Ltd.

SB-2621-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 11:01:19 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristin Mack Almasin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Support SB 2621.

SB-2621-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 12:57:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randy Cabral	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Gabe Johnson
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

March 30, 2022

TO: Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

DATE: March 30, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF SB 2621, SD1, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture to establish bovine tuberculosis control operations on Molokai, including costs incurred related to staffing, facilities, and equipment.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I **SUPPORT** this measure for the following reasons:

1. The Hawai'i Department of Agriculture reported cow herd infections with bovine tuberculosis on Molokai. This is a contagious, infectious, communicable disease of animals that can also infect humans.
2. Funding is needed to control the spread of the bovine tuberculosis among livestock and feral ungulates on the island of Molokai.
3. This measure would assist with continued efforts to monitor cattle herds and wildlife to contain and eradicate infections through funding for staff, land, and equipment.

For the foregoing reasons, I **SUPPORT** this measure.

SB-2621-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 3:53:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Theresa M Thompson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this Bill.

Theresa Thompson

SB-2621-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 5:39:32 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alex Franco	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Alex Franco and I support SB2621 SD1.

SB-2621-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 12:27:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
J Ashman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support measure.