

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

FEBRUARY 10, 2023
10:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

HOUSE BILL NO. 972
RELATING TO THE ANIMAL INDUSTRY SPECIAL FUND

Chairperson Gates and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 972 relating to the Animal Industry Special Fund. House Bill 972 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 help fund the operations of the animal industry division.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

HB-972

Submitted on: 2/9/2023 12:56:45 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/10/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Miyamoto	Hawaii Farm Bureau	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Farm Strong