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STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621
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Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND

Wednesday, March 22, 2023
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 430

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 775, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO HUNTING GUIDES

Senate Bill 775, Senate Draft 1 proposes to require hunting guides who take their clients to hunt on private lands to first obtain written permission from the owner of the private land, or occupier or holder, where appropriate. This bill also proposes to require hunting guides provide copies of the written permissions obtained to hunt on private lands as part of their annual reports to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department). **The Department supports this measure.**

Section 183D-26(a), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, states that no person shall enter upon any land or premises belonging to, held, or occupied by another, for the purpose of hunting or to take any kind of wildlife including game without first having obtained permission from the owner or a duly appointed agent, if the owner is the occupier or holder, or if the owner has let another occupy or hold the same, without having first obtained the permission of the occupier or holder thereof, or the duly appointed agent of the occupier or holder.

Hunting guides are currently required to submit an annual report to the Department within 30 days of their guide license expiration. The State can require a written permission form to be submitted with the annual report for hunts guided on private lands, but it could be a burden for hunting guides and may curtail public hunting access in some instances if the current landowner or agent is reluctant to provide written permission. Reports and written permission forms can be archived at the Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife Administrative Office.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
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Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair

Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

SB775 SD1

RELATING TO HUNTING GUIDES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023, 9:30 AM
Conference Room 430 & Videoconference

Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four 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 **supports SB775 SD1** which requires hunting guides who take their clients to hunt on private lands to first obtain written permission from the owner of the private land, or occupier or holder, where appropriate.

Hunting access is important as a food source, recreation, and to remove unmanaged ungulates from the land. However, proper management of hunting is paramount. While this bill requires written permission of the hunting guide, all hunters should also be required to obtain written permission before hunting on lands. It is already a requirement to have permission to hunt on lands, and this is outlined in the DLNR Hunter's Education Course and required by law, but broadening this proposed bill to extend written permission to all hunters is prudent. This requirement will help farmers and ranchers to manage responsible access on the lands that they produce on.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director



SB-775-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 10:23:59 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/22/2023 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Strong support.