

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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**FEBRUARY 15, 2023
1:30 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**SENATE BILL NO. 1585
RELATING TO ANIMAL AGRICULTURE**

Chairpersons Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 1585. The bill prohibits new operations and renewal of existing licenses or permits to operate large, concentrated animal feeding operations in the State, under certain conditions and by an unspecified date. Phases out all existing large, concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO) by 7/1/2028. The department offers comments.

Senate Bill 1585 uses title 40 CFR section 122.23(b)(4) definition of large, concentrated animal feeding operations. The department is not sure if that definition would affect current animal agriculture operations. Although the total number of various species of animals is listed to define a CAFO, there are provisions in 40 CFR 122.23 that include situations where any water passing over or through a property with animals may render an operation a CAFO.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. BOX 3378
HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY
ONLY

In reply, please refer to:
File:

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB1585
RELATING TO ANIMAL AGRICULTURE**

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Hearing Date: 2/15/2023

Room Number: 224

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department submits the following comments to provide
3 clarification on the proposed measure. The Hawaii National Pollutant Discharge Elimination
4 System (NPDES) permitting program is a regulatory mechanism to control water pollution
5 through the issuance of permits. NPDES permits are for the management, regulation, and
6 authorization of point source discharges to surface waters only as allowed under federal and
7 State water pollution control laws, regulations, rules, and the Clean Water Act. Rules controlling
8 point source discharges are adopted under Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) Chapter 11-55.
9 NPDES permits do not convey property rights or any exclusive privilege. Otherwise
10 stated, an NPDES permit grants permission to discharge a specified amount of pollutants into a
11 receiving water but it does not grant or deny an objectionable activity or project to occur or exist.
12 Specifically, NPDES permits cannot be used to authorize or deny the existence or modification
13 of any existing livestock operation or concentrated animal feeding operation. The NPDES
14 permit may be used to control the pollutant discharge(s) to surface waters.

15 If the legislature's intention is to prohibit new operations and renewal of existing licenses
16 or permits to operate concentrated animal feeding operations in the State, the proposed
17 amendments below will achieve the desired outcome and prevent misunderstandings regarding
18 the privileges granted under an NPDES permit.

19 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

20

1 **Offered Amendments:** The Department respectfully suggests the following revisions to the
2 proposed Hawaii Revised Statutes amendments. Additions appear as underlined and deletions
3 appear as bracketed strikeouts.

4 § —2 **Prohibition on large concentrated animal feeding operations.** (a)
5 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, beginning , , [~~no~~] new large
6 concentrated animal feeding operations shall be [~~permitted, licensed, constructed, or operated in~~
7 ~~the State~~] prohibited.

8 (b) Beginning , , [~~the department of health shall not issue or renew a license or~~
9 ~~permit to allow~~] the modification, construction, addition, or expansion of any existing livestock
10 operation or concentrated animal feeding operation of any size that would thereafter become a
11 large concentrated animal feeding operation as a result of such modification, construction,
12 addition, or expansion shall be prohibited.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:53:15 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cathy Goeggel	Testifying for Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Animal Rights Hawai'i strongly supports SB1585. In the scramble for "self sufficiency" I hope that the irreparable enviromental impacts of allowing CAFOs to continue in Hawai'i will cause you, the Committee, to not lose sight of your duty to protect the aina.

Thousands of dead spent hens, pig and dairy manure lagoons full of both excement and pharaceuticals that overflow in heavy rains...consider this, please and pass SB1585



Testimony in Support of SB1585

Senate AEN Committee | Wednesday 2/15 at 1:30pm

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Sylvia Wu and I am a Senior Attorney for the Center for Food Safety. We are writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy on the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in the last 5 years alone.

This bill would put the interest of our community before those of large CAFOs by putting a stop to these dangerous operations, instead of trying to shut down and address pollution after it has occurred. It would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Center for Food Safety's support of SB1585.

Mahalo,
Sylvia Wu

WASHINGTON D.C. OFFICE: 518 C Street, NE, Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20002, T (202) 547-9359, F (202) 547-9429

CALIFORNIA OFFICE: 303 Sacramento St, 2nd floor, San Francisco, CA 94111, T (415) 826-2770, F (415) 826-0507

PACIFIC NORTHWEST OFFICE: 2009 NE Alberta St, Suite 207, Portland, OR 97211, T (971) 271-7372

www.centerforfoodsafety.org

office@centerforfoodsafety.org

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

SB 1585 - Oppose

Relating to Animal Agriculture

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

1:30 PM

Conference Room 224

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Scott Enright, on behalf of Villa Rose and "Waialua Fresh" I strongly oppose SB1585. Villa Rose owns and operates an active chicken egg farm in Waialua, Hawaii. Its egg producing chickens are housed in a state of the art solar powered egg farm where they are packed and sold locally under the "Waialua Fresh" brand name. Villa Rose is one of the largest new agricultural projects in the state of Hawaii and has made a substantial local investment to bring locally grown, fresh eggs to the local market. The demand for fresh Waialua eggs has been so great that it has caused an acceleration in growth thus increasing local food production and decreasing the dependance on imported mainland eggs. SB1585 is a detriment to that growth and a major boost to the State's dependency on imported mainland eggs.

At a time when the consensus opinion in Hawaii is in full support of growing our local diversified economy, SB1585 looks to outlaw an important agricultural sector, egg production at scale, with a poorly thought out and poorly written bill.

Additionally, SB1585 proposed phasing out of existing "CAFOs" would potentially constitute a regulatory taking necessitating due compensation of existing "CAFOs" at fair market value for their loss. Again, Villa Rose is in strong opposition to SB1585.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sincerely,

Scott Enright

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:23:30 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bridget Hammerquist	Testifying for Friends of Mahaulepu	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

We will be submitting testimony via zoom and a written testimony in support of SB1585



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

AEN-02-15-23

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

Concerning: SB1585 Relating to Animal Agriculture

Position: Support

The Environmental Caucus Supports this bill.

We believe that the inhumane practice of huge and concentrated animal feeding operations are a breeding ground for diseases and for poorer quality results in all aspects of animal agriculture. The inevitable issue for people who buy the resulting products is a poorer quality product or even a dangerous product.

It is less expensive of course as are all similar practices used by commercial animal product industries. However more customers are looking for quality in consumables and are also concerned when what they buy shows evidence of animal cruelty.

Please pass this bill

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:09:19 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Serena Stefanic-Phillip	Testifying for Hawaiian Humane Society	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Bill SB1585.



Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

2700 Waiialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
808.356.2200 • HawaiianHumane.org

Date: Feb. 13, 2023

To: Chair Sen. Mike Gabbard
Vice Chair Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III
and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Submitted By: Stephanie Kendrick, Director of Community Engagement
Hawaiian Humane Society, 808-356-2217

RE: Testimony in support of SB 1585:
Relating to Animal Agriculture
Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023, 1:30 p.m., Room 224 & Videoconference

On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society, thank you for considering our support for Senate Bill 1585, which prohibits new operations and renewal of existing licenses or permits to operate large concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) in the State, under certain conditions and by an unspecified date. It phases out all existing large concentrated animal feeding operations by 7/1/2028.

The Hawaiian Humane Society supports the enforcement and strengthening of laws and the implementation of humane standards for animals in every phase of animal-based food production. We oppose "factory farming" and any other practice that does not treat the welfare of animals as a priority.

We would note that this measure does not apply to grazing operations as federal law defines an "animal feeding operation," in part, as a facility where crops, vegetation, forage growth, or post-harvest residues are not sustained in the normal growing season over any portion of the lot or facility.

In addition to animal welfare concerns, CAFOs are detrimental from a One Health perspective, which recognizes the relationships between threats to people, domestic animals, wildlife, and their shared environment. These facilities are already rare in Hawai'i. Please pass SB 1585 and clarify that this kind of inhumane, high-intensity animal agriculture is unwelcome in our state.



Food+ Policy Internship 2023

food@purplemaia.org

February 13, 2023

To: Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee

RE: SB1585, RELATING TO ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

Aloha mai kākou,

I am writing in **strong support of SB1585**, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in the last 5 years alone.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

I urge the senate AEN committee to **SUPPORT SB1585**.

Thank you for your consideration,
Kahealani Acosta & the Food+ Policy Team
#fixourfoodsystem

The Food+ Policy internship develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawai'i communities.

In 2023, the cohort of interns are undergraduate and graduate students from throughout the UH System. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, public health, nutrition, and Hawaiian culture.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT
Wednesday, February 15, 2023 — 1:30 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative opposes SB 1585, Relating to Animal Agriculture.

Dear Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investing firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono opposes SB 1585, which prohibits new operations and renewal of existing licenses or permits to operate large concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO) in the State, under certain conditions and by an unspecified date, and phases out all existing large concentrated animal feeding operations by 7/1/2028.

Ulupono supports the State's efforts to increase food import replacements while building towards the goal to double local food production. This bill seeks to prohibit any new CAFO, or renewal of existing CAFOs, from operating in Hawai'i. It is important to note that there are extensive environmental regulations that exist in order to operate at a CAFO level, including Environmental Assessments (EA) and Environmental Impact Statements (EIS). We believe that animal agriculture operations should each be judged on their own merits rather than effectively outlawing an entire class of operations that could help feed Hawai'i. Furthermore, it is strikingly inconsistent to outlaw CAFOs in Hawai'i at the same time our state imports nearly all its meat, dairy, and eggs from CAFOs on the mainland.

In addition, we are aware of at least one CAFO, as per the definition within this measure, that has invested tens of millions of dollars into state-of-the-art infrastructure to support local production efforts in our state. A bill such as this would essentially shut down this business and undoubtedly lead to a lengthy legal process over a legislative taking.

Our state continues to import nearly 90% of our food. We must consider the ramifications to our food production and self-sufficiency goals, when prohibiting any food production operation that abides by our current laws.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:14:37 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marian Hussenbux	Testifying for Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We refer to the news that The Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee will hear **SB1585 Relating to Animal Agriculture.**

This measure prohibits new operations and renewal of existing licenses or permits to operate large concentrated animal feeding operations in the State, under certain conditions and by an unspecified date. It phases out all existing large concentrated animal feeding operations by 7/1/2028.

We are very conscious in Europe of the cruelty and environmental degradation caused by these operations and we do our best to oppose them here as planning applications are made.

We join with *The Hawaiian Humane Society* in supporting the enforcement and strengthening of laws and the implementation of humane standards for animals in every phase of animal-based food production.

AIA also opposes intensive animal agriculture in principle and any other practice that treats animals as inanimate commodities.

We are relieved to be informed that they are in fact rare in Hawai'i. This measure would clarify that this kind of high-intensity animal agriculture is unwelcome in your state.

In addition to the animal welfare concerns, these facilities are detrimental from a One Health perspective, which recognizes the relationships between threats to people, domestic animals, wildlife, and their shared environment.

We have much persuasive evidence now of the havoc wrought by zoonotic diseases worldwide and it would be reckless to facilitate the operations which favour these.

AIA begs to strongly support this very reasonable and important Bill.

February 12 , 2023,

TO: Committee on Agriculture

FROM: Joseph Realdine (JR)
USDA-FSIS CSO/FLS/RIFS with the Office of Field Operations/Office of
International Affairs - RETIRED

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB1585

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Joseph Realdine. I am a retired USDA-FSIS CSO/FLS/RIFS with the Office of Field Operations and the Office of International Affairs.

Several months ago, I was asked to consult a local food producer who was interested in the culled hens from the Villa Rose CAFO operations in Wahiawa.

During my visit to Villa Rose, I was greeted by Mr. Michael Sencer, the Senior Vice President for Villa Rose. Having been around farms my entire career, I am aware of the waste generated by Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations. Having read the brochure that Villa Rose marketed, I was originally optimistic about how they said they were handling their manure and other waste streams in Hawaii's environment. I was hopeful that Villa Rose was different than the mainland CAFOs that I am familiar with.

When I arrived for the walk through, I asked about the bio-char and was informed by Mr. Sencer, that Villa Rose didn't use the biochar because the manure was too wet and too plentiful to use bio-char. I asked Mr. Sencer if there were EPA regulations for the use of the biochar and was informed that the EPA has no oversight since the biochar unit is a "mobile" unit. When I asked Mr. Sencer about what happens with the wastewater, Mr. Sencer informed me that the wastewater from operations along with the human waste from the toilets across the operations are sent to a tank and pumped on to a 14-acre field on the property. Overall, Mr. Sencer seemed to treat these issues waste stream issues as unimportant. I was shocked to learn that there was no state or county oversight or monitoring of the waste that was being generated by their CAFO operations.

Having lived and worked in Hawaii for many years, I know how the importance of taking care of our Aina and our ocean. It is hard to believe that a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation can open up in our fragile environment without any overview or environmental impact study.

I would also like to bring to the attention of this committee a dangerous risk posed by bio-char.

Bio-char in itself is not the cure for the waste products produced by this CAFO. The fine ash associated with Bio-char is the perfect source for dust, posing a risk for respiratory diseases.

Everything that I have done in my 30 plus years in food safety and working with ranchers must be based on supporting documentation.

I was trained by the Federal Government to always review supporting documentation in order to form an agency supportable position. In this case, while retired from Federal service, I have not come across any supporting documentation provided by this CAFO with respect to their operation. I would like to submit the document written by Danielle L. Gelardi, Chongyang Li, Sanjai J. Parikh * University of California Davis, Land, Air and Water Resources, One Shields Ave., Davis, CA 95616, United States of America, to the committee. In part it states the following:

"PM10 exposure is a public safety concern as it can bypass the body's particulate interception mechanisms and penetrate deep into the airways. PM10 inhalation has been associated with increased chronic respiratory symptoms and the worsening of lung and heart disease (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2017). Exposure to both the organic and inorganic components from agricultural PM10 have been linked with these adverse health effects in farmworkers (Schenker, 2000; Schenker et al. 2009, 2005). While there are chemical, physical, and end-use distinctions between biochar and other carbonaceous materials such as coal, there are many chemical and physical similarities (Lehmann and Joseph 2015). These similarities, and what is well known about the linkages between coal inhalation and chronic heart, kidney, and respiratory disease (Castranova and Vallyathan 2000; Graber et al. 2014; Hendryx 2009; Hendryx and Zullig 2009; Santo Tomas 2011), call for further investigation into airborne emissions from biochar-amended soils. With the growing interest in biochar as a soil amendment comes an imperative to better understand potential consequences for air quality, and how these might affect agricultural workers and neighboring farm communities. While the physical size of biochar-related PM10 is itself a serious concern, the organic and inorganic chemical constituents of biochar may also present a human health risk. The primary aim of this review is to highlight the emerging environmental concern of biochar-induced dust emissions by evaluating the limited literature currently available. In addition, solutions to minimize potential harm during biochar production and application are synthesized, and areas for future investigation are suggested".

As someone who suffers from Kidney disease as mentioned in the above article, is this what I expect to have here in Hawaii? Having a CAFO producing PM 10 unnecessary risks to not only the human population, but to the environment as well.

If you remove Bio-char from the solution to the waste, you are left with what? Basically, a big mess.

The public must be protected at all times.

I live on the North Shore and am also aware of how runoff from this CAFO could impact our North Shore and the communities that call this side of the island home.

Hawaii we can do better here. With the above in mind, **I am in full support of SB1585 to ensure that our communities and environment are protected at all times.**

TASTY SAFETY[®]
FOOD SAFETY CONNOISSEUR

808-563-0715
Jr@tastysafety.com
Tastysafety.com
Haleiwa, Hawaii 96712

Mahalo,

Joseph Realdine

Joseph Realdine

66-133 Keahipaka Lane, Haleiwa, HI 96712



Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: SB 1585

Wednesday, February 15th, 2023 1:30 p.m.

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) in Hawai'i.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy on the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in the last 5 years alone.

Some common concerns around CAFO's include, but are not limited to: ^{1 2 3}

CAFOs produce huge amounts of animal sewage and other pollutants:

- The amount of urine and feces produced by the smallest CAFO is equivalent to the quantity of urine and feces produced by 16,000 humans.
- CAFO waste is usually not treated to reduce disease-causing pathogens, nor to remove chemicals, pharmaceuticals, heavy metals, or other pollutants.
- Over 168 gases are emitted from CAFO waste, including hazardous chemicals such as ammonia, hydrogen sulfide, and methane.
- Airborne particulate matter is found near CAFOs and can carry disease-causing bacteria, fungus, or other pathogens.
- Animals frequently die in CAFOs. Their carcasses, often in large numbers, must be dealt with.
- Infestations of flies, rats, and other vermin are commonplace around CAFOs and therefore around CAFO neighbors.

Water pollution is possible at virtually any point in a CAFO's operation:

- In the production area, spills, overflows, and tracking of wastes on tractor and truck tires can cause surface runoff of contaminants.
- [Stormwater](#) that mixes with manure wastes, silage leachate, or milkhouse wastes can flow into drains.
- Pipes or hoses carrying wastes can break or become unattached. Waste storage structures can overflow or burst.

¹ <https://www.sierraclub.org/michigan/why-are-cafos-bad>

² <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/valerie-baron/factory-farms-what-we-dont-know-hurting-communities>

³ <https://www.nrdc.org/resources/cafos-what-we-dont-know-hurting-us?nrdocpreviewlink=wPB0ypqH6Z8Pz oC4d3SUFqF0Ry8y-UVd8544WFcQOt8>

- [Field tiles](#) or catch basins can be installed that drain wastes directly into surface waters.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Please support SB1585.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne Frederick", with a stylized, cursive script.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director



February 15, 2023

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON SB 1585
RELATING TO ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
1:30 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee:

Villa Rose LLC submits the following comments in opposition to SB 1585. Villa Rose LLC owns and operates an active chicken egg farm in Waialua, HI. Its egg producing chickens are housed at a solar powered egg farm where they are packed and sold locally under the “Waialua Fresh” brand name. The company currently employs 56 people locally and has invested over 70 million to date.

1. As proposed, phasing out existing CAFOs could constitute a regulatory taking under the United States Constitution. The state of Hawaii would need to potentially set aside hundreds of millions of dollars to compensate the owners of existing CAFOs and agricultural land owners fair market value for their loss.
2. As one of the largest new agricultural projects in the state, we have made a substantial local investment to bring locally grown, fresh eggs to market. We have found the demand for our local product has expedited our plans for growth, increasing local food production, and decreasing the dependence on mainland for the residents of the state. We are currently working with local farmers regarding the production of row crops for animal feed. This bill is a major step backward to that growth and a major boost to the state’s dependency on mainland for its food supply. The cost of imported food is more expensive than locally produced food. The management of CAFOs can provide significant benefits to the agricultural community and further reduce the dependency on mainland products, like fertilizer for our crops. Banning CAFOs would result in a loss of jobs for local residents.
3. Villa Rose is working closely with the Hawaii Department of Health to safely manage the wastewater and manure produced by the egg laying birds at its ranch. The state already has laws in place to manage the handling of wastewater and fertilizer. Working with farmers to ensure the waste products are cared for properly is beneficial to the general community and to the agricultural community as well, by lowering their cost and increasing their effectiveness in increasing food production for the state. Big Island Dairy mishandled their waste management system. Big Island



Dairy had to close their operation because they failed to comply with local, state, and federal regulations. They should not become the standard for which all animal care facilities are judged.

4. The primary beneficiaries from this bill are producers and distributors of food items from the mainland.

This testimony is in opposition and we ask that you defer this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sincerely,

Don Lawson



COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

SB1585
RELATING TO ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 1:30 PM
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Lisa Wood and I serve as the chair of the Animal Health and Well-being Committee for Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC). HCC is the Statewide umbrella organization which represents the interests of our state's beef producers.

I **strongly oppose SB1585** which prohibits new operations and renewal of existing licenses or permits to operate large concentrated animal feeding operations in the State, under certain conditions and by an unspecified date and phases out all existing large concentrated animal feeding operations by 7/1/2028.

The foundation of any strong society rests on its ability to care for itself, to provide food for its community. SB1585 will limit opportunities for Hawaii to grow its own food supply and further increases our vulnerability to food insecurity. Our state needs support for the diversity of farmers and ranchers who provide safe, wholesome and nutritious food for our people.

We are sympathetic to the O'okala community that suffered the environmental disaster in 2018 and understand the intent of this bill to prevent this from happening again.

We are committed to working with the community and producers to ensure operations are well-managed and sensitive to environmental impacts. This should be our focus.

We oppose efforts that so broadly restrict agriculture and limit our ability to diversify our economy and grow our own food.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Lisa B. Wood, DVM
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Animal Health and Well-being





COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

SB1585
RELATING TO ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 1:30 PM
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, 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 **strongly opposes SB1585** which prohibits new operations and renewal of existing licenses or permits to operate large concentrated animal feeding operations in the State, under certain conditions and by an unspecified date and phases out all existing large concentrated animal feeding operations by 7/1/2028.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council supports all types of agriculture when done in a manner that is safe for the animals, the community, and the environment. Having access to various methods of animal agriculture ensures that we can be flexible in the ways that we feed our community. While the term "CAFO" has negative connotations, the key to ensuring animal and environmental safety is well managed facilities and regulations that are enforced. Restricting methods of agriculture can have detrimental impacts on our flexibility and ability to achieve local food security, and we advise against a complete prohibition.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director





Hawaii Foodservice Alliance LLC, 2720 Waiwai Loop, Honolulu, HI 96819
Tel: 808.839.2004 ~ Fax: 808.839.2033 ~ HFA@HFAHawaii.com

February 12 , 2023,

TO: Chair Gabbard & Vice Chair Richards
Committee on Agriculture

FROM: Chad Buck
Founder & CEO for: Hawaii Foodservice Alliance LLC - HFA Logistics LLC -
Hawaii Secure Foods LLC (O'okala) - Niihau Ahiu Provisions LLC

RE: **SUPPORT FOR SB1585 - SPECIFIC ONLY to prohibiting Dairy Operations with
over 700 cows and Egg Laying Operations over 150,000 laying hens.**

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Committee Members,

BACKGROUND

HFA is Hawaii's largest handler of highly perishable products from farm or manufacturer to every grocer, club, and retailer across the state of Hawaii. In addition, **HFA provides the cold-chain logistics for over 38 LOCAL FARMS and PRODUCERS to move their products from source to grocers, clubs, and retailers across the state and export to the continental US.** I employ over **540 staff members dedicated to keeping Hawaii fed.**

I recently purchased all of the assets of the former Big Island Dairy (BID) in O'okala. Big Island Dairy was a mainland owned, concentrated animal feeding operation (**CAFO**) **that showed our state how dangerous and destructive concentrated animal feeding operations are to Hawaii's environment and residents** when BID repeatedly sent toxic waste down the sacred slopes of Mauna Kea into the town and homes of the residents of O'okala. After repeatedly damaging the O'okala ecosystem and homes, the rivers of toxic waste entered the ocean where our families surf, fish, and recreate as a way of life. **Having witnessed the catastrophe in O'okala first hand, I purchased the assets to help ensure that a large dairy CAFO would never operate in this location again.** We are currently working to diversify this operation to produce local food, value-added services for other farmers and meaningful jobs to those in the surrounding communities - all in a manner that honors this special place and in harmony with Hawaii's fragile environment.

THREAT TO AQUIFERS AND OCEAN

The potential harm that large dairy and egg laying CAFO's are capable of far outweigh any limited benefit when considering Hawaii's fragile environment and delicate eco-systems. The topography and volcanic soil, of our islands, virtually guarantee that the concentrated pollutants generated by large dairy and egg laying operations end up in our aquifers or flowing to our coastlines and surrounding waters.

HEALTH RISKS & VOLUME OF POLLUTANTS

These pollutants can contain pathogenic microorganisms including bacteria, fungi, viruses and parasitic protozoa, and helminthes; antibiotics and pathogenic microbes with antibiotic-resistant genes and heavy metals. Among the bacteria detected in these waste streams, and sometimes its compost, are E. coli, Salmonella, Staphylococcus, Campylobacter, Clostridium, Listeria, Bordetella, Corynebacterium, Globicatella, Mycobacterium, Streptococcus, and Actinobacillus, all of which can severely impact human health and the environment.

With the above considered, it should cause great concern that Villa Rose, another large mainland owned CAFO is actively working to expand their current egg laying operations to house one million laying hens in Wahiawa.

An egg laying CAFO of this magnitude produces the following approximated waste streams:

- ◆ **250,000 pounds of manure per DAY**
- ◆ **20,000 hens culled per WEEK to replace with new hens**
- ◆ **6,000 pounds of broken egg production (in-edibles) per WEEK**
- ◆ **And several million gallons of wastewater used to clean operations**

The waste streams listed above are equivalent to a town of 200,000 people. If a developer wanted to build a complex to hold 200,000 people in this same location, the developer would typically be required to conduct a full Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and obtain a series of permits, conduct public hearings, and clear multiple other hurdles to ensure that everything, especially the sewage, and waste streams, were in order and in harmony with the environment and communities that could potentially be impacted by the development. It seems Villa Rose CAFO never underwent any of this process - including NOT having to perform a full Environmental Impact Study. ***They were simply able to do this because Hawaii does not have laws requiring the controls necessary to address CAFO operations.***

THREAT TO NORTH SHORE

To make this situation and potential waste streams of even greater concern - this mainland owned CAFO is located next to the gulch system that feeds into the streams that flow to the town of Waialua and directly into the waters of Oahu's legendary North Shore.

LETTER TO FORMER SENATOR GIL RIVIERE

In a letter dated May 27, 2022, from the *Honolulu County DPP* to former Senator Gil Riviere, DPP wrote that Villa Rose received permitting as a minor composting operation. *The Department of Planning and Permitting also confirmed that **Villa Rose did not have to conduct an EIS or provide any evidence that their method of handling chicken waste was effective. (Letter attached)***

EYE WITNESS REPORT OF CONCERN FROM FORMER USDA OFFICER

Former Senator Riviere wrote the above mentioned letter to DPP, after Joseph Realdine, a retired *USDA-FSIS CSO/FLS/RIFS with the Office of Field Operations/Office of International Affairs* wrote to Senator Riviere regarding his recent tour of the Wahiawa, Villa Rose CAFO. Mr. Realdine toured the Villa Rose site as a consultant to a party that was interested in seeing if there was a commercial application for the culled hens. Mr. Realdine reported that he was ***shocked to find out that there was literally no oversight to the waste stream effluent.*** While the marketing brochures for Hidden Villa state that their manure is processed utilizing

biochar and as a result, was carbon neutral, according to Mr. Realdine, the Hidden Villa guide, SVP Michael Sencer, stated that Villa Rose does not use the biochar and that Villa Rose fired their biochar consultants. According to Mr. Realdine, Mr. Sencer informed him that the manure from the chickens is too wet to run through the biochar. When Mr. Realdine asked what regulations the EPA requires on the biochar aspect, Mr. Sencer stated that the **EPA has no oversight** since the biochar unit is a “mobile” unit. Lastly, when Mr. Realdine asked Mr. Sencer about what happens with the wastewater, Mr. Sencer stated that the wastewater from operations along with the human waste from the toilets across the operations are sent to a tank and pumped on to a 14-acre field on the property. To make matters even worse, according to Mr. Realdine, Mr. Sencer seemed to treat these issues as trivial. Mr. Sencer even stated that he was surprised that Villa Rose’s well water was permitted for use for the egg laying and processing operations. (See testimony submitted by Joseph Realdine)

PERSONAL VISIT

Based on my own visit to Villa Rose, ***I witnessed massive stockpiles of wet manure stored in multiple barns at the facility. I was told by the guide that the humidity, heat, and live fire from Schofield Army Base is contributing to a mortality rate in the laying hens that is a multiple of the industry average. All of these issues should be of great concern to the community and state agencies.***

NO KNOWN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES MONITORING

I am unaware of any government agency auditing or monitoring any waste streams produced by this CAFO, making this a growing potential threat to the immediate environment, nearby communities and the environment and communities located at lower elevations below.

NOT SUSTAINABLE WITHOUT MASSIVE MAINLAND SUPPORT

It is important to note that an egg laying operation of this size does not move Hawaii toward a sustainable future. Laying hens need to be fed a heavy dose of minerals and amendments to allow them to produce the amount of eggs required for CAFO production. These additives need to be imported in to Hawaii for the laying operation. ***If the ships stop coming with the feed and additives - the eggs stop.***

CLARIFICATION ON SUPPORT

To further clarify - I support SB1585, based on my very real experience with the O’okala Dairy tragedy and what I have recently discovered in Wahiawa at the Villa Rose CAFO, and ***only as SB1585 relates to dairy farms, and egg laying operations over 150,000 laying hens,*** assuming they have an acceptable waste stream plan that protects Hawaii’s fragile environment and their surrounding communities.

With the above and attached in mind, ***I strongly support SB1585 as a necessary step to protect Hawaii’s fragile environment and help move Hawaii toward a more sustainable and food secure future - in an eco-friendly way.***

Mahalo for your time & consideration,



Chad Buck

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 7TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-8000 • FAX: (808) 768-6041
DEPT. WEB SITE: www.honoluluapp.org • CITY WEB SITE: www.honolulu.gov



RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

DEAN UCHIDA
DIRECTOR

DAWN TAKEUCHI APUNA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

May 27 2022

SEND VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Senator Gil Riviere
c/o Mark Anthony Clemente
m.clemente@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senator Riviere:

Thank you for your email on May 11, 2022, regarding to the Villa Rose Waialua Egg Farm (the "Facility") located at 65-1001 Kaukonahua Road in Waialua. The Mayor has asked the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) reply directly to you.

Specifically, you inquired as to whether the Facility was required to submit any scientific evidence in support of their method of chicken waste disposal, which you refer to as "Bio-Char technology," and whether the Facility was exempt from any requirements to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) by the DPP. The subject property is located within the State Land Use Agricultural District (SLUAD) and the City and County of Honolulu AG-1 Restricted Agricultural District.

In a letter dated November 18, 2016, the DPP concurred that the use of the Facility as an egg farm is considered a major livestock production, which is a permitted use in the AG-1 Restricted Agricultural District, subject to additional specific development standards established in the Land Use Ordinance (LUO), Chapter 21, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, Section 21-5.410. Further, the egg packing building is considered a "centralized bulk collection, storage, and distribution of agricultural products" use, which is also permitted in the AG-1 Restricted Agricultural District, subject to the additional provisions provided in LUO Section 21-5.110.

Our research indicates that "Bio-char technology" involves the processing of biomass material, with the end result being a charcoal-like material that has applications in improving soil fertility, sequestration of atmospheric carbon, and contaminate absorption, among other uses. "Bio-char technology," therefore, appears to meet the definition of "Minor Composting Operations," as defined in Article 10 of the LUO. Minor

Composting Operations “involve relatively simple management and engineering solutions to control odors, vectors, and surface water contamination. **Minor composting includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the composting of clean, source-separated organic materials, including, but not necessarily limited to, green waste, animal manure, crop residues, and waste from vegetable food processing operations** [emphasis added].”

A Minor Composting Operation utilizing chicken manure from an egg farm (permitted use) on the same site in the SLUAD is allowed as an accessory use to the farm, pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 205. And, a Minor Composting Operation is a permitted use within the AG-1 Restricted Agricultural District, subject to the following development standards provided in LUO Section 21-5.140:

- Outgoing and incoming materials shall be received and delivered only between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.;
- All incoming and outgoing material loads shall be covered or otherwise managed to prevent material from falling onto the ground while in transport and to mitigate odors;
- Areas on site where composting takes place shall be located at least 50 feet away from all surface water sources;
- No minor composting facility shall be located within 100 feet of any zoning lot in a country, residential, apartment, apartment mixed-use, or resort zoning district;
- Accessory uses may include, but are not necessarily limited to, packaging and the incidental retailing of finished compost material;
- Compost material shall be covered in such a way that no fugitive material shall leave the site; and
- Controls shall be required to manage odors, vectors, and surface and groundwater contamination.

As described above, the three operations (major livestock production, centralized bulk collection, storage, and distribution of agricultural products, and minor composting) on the site are all permitted uses within the AG-1 Restricted Agricultural District, therefore, a discretionary approval from the DPP was not required (i.e., a Conditional Use Permit or other land use approval was not necessary). Under the provisions of Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) Section 11-200-1.9 for “Applicant Actions,” the Facility did not require an environmental review (pursuant to HRS Chapter 343). Therefore, an exemption by the DPP was not applicable, and the Facility could proceed directly to building permit review.

Since an EA, EIS or land use approval was not required, the Facility did not have to submit scientific evidence to the DPP in support of their method of chicken waste disposal. The State Department of Health may have regulations relating to the

The Honorable Senator Gil Riviere
May 27, 2022
Page 3

management and disposal of animal waste, in accordance with HAR Chapters 11-58.1 (Solid Waste Management Control), 11-104.1 (Management and Disposal of Infectious Waste), or others.

Should you have any further questions regarding this letter, please contact Joyce Shoji of our Land Use Approval Branch at (808) 768-8014 or via email at jshoji@honolulu.gov.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Uchida", written in a cursive style.

Dean Uchida
Director

February 12 , 2023,

TO: Committee on Agriculture

FROM: Joseph Realdine (JR)
USDA-FSIS CSO/FLS/RIFS with the Office of Field Operations/Office of
International Affairs - RETIRED

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB1585

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Joseph Realdine. I am a retired USDA-FSIS CSO/FLS/RIFS with the Office of Field Operations and the Office of International Affairs.

Several months ago, I was asked to consult a local food producer who was interested in the culled hens from the Villa Rose CAFO operations in Wahiawa.

During my visit to Villa Rose, I was greeted by Mr. Michael Sencer, the Senior Vice President for Villa Rose. Having been around farms my entire career, I am aware of the waste generated by Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations. Having read the brochure that Villa Rose marketed, I was originally optimistic about how they said they were handling their manure and other waste streams in Hawaii's environment. I was hopeful that Villa Rose was different than the mainland CAFOs that I am familiar with.

When I arrived for the walk through, I asked about the bio-char and was informed by Mr. Sencer, that Villa Rose didn't use the biochar because the manure was too wet and too plentiful to use bio-char. I asked Mr. Sencer if there were EPA regulations for the use of the biochar and was informed that the EPA has no oversight since the biochar unit is a "mobile" unit. When I asked Mr. Sencer about what happens with the wastewater, Mr. Sencer informed me that the wastewater from operations along with the human waste from the toilets across the operations are sent to a tank and pumped on to a 14-acre field on the property. Overall, Mr. Sencer seemed to treat these issues waste stream issues as unimportant. I was shocked to learn that there was no state or county oversight or monitoring of the waste that was being generated by their CAFO operations.

Having lived and worked in Hawaii for many years, I know how the importance of taking care of our Aina and our ocean. It is hard to believe that a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation can open up in our fragile environment without any overview or environmental impact study.

I would also like to bring to the attention of this committee a dangerous risk posed by bio-char.

Bio-char in itself is not the cure for the waste products produced by this CAFO. The fine ash associated with Bio-char is the perfect source for dust, posing a risk for respiratory diseases.

Everything that I have done in my 30 plus years in food safety and working with ranchers must be based on supporting documentation.

I was trained by the Federal Government to always review supporting documentation in order to form an agency supportable position. In this case, while retired from Federal service, I have not come across any supporting documentation provided by this CAFO with respect to their operation. I would like to submit the document written by Danielle L. Gelardi, Chongyang Li, Sanjai J. Parikh * University of California Davis, Land, Air and Water Resources, One Shields Ave., Davis, CA 95616, United States of America, to the committee. In part it states the following:

"PM10 exposure is a public safety concern as it can bypass the body's particulate interception mechanisms and penetrate deep into the airways. PM10 inhalation has been associated with increased chronic respiratory symptoms and the worsening of lung and heart disease (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2017). Exposure to both the organic and inorganic components from agricultural PM10 have been linked with these adverse health effects in farmworkers (Schenker, 2000; Schenker et al. 2009, 2005). While there are chemical, physical, and end-use distinctions between biochar and other carbonaceous materials such as coal, there are many chemical and physical similarities (Lehmann and Joseph 2015). These similarities, and what is well known about the linkages between coal inhalation and chronic heart, kidney, and respiratory disease (Castranova and Vallyathan 2000; Graber et al. 2014; Hendryx 2009; Hendryx and Zullig 2009; Santo Tomas 2011), call for further investigation into airborne emissions from biochar-amended soils. With the growing interest in biochar as a soil amendment comes an imperative to better understand potential consequences for air quality, and how these might affect agricultural workers and neighboring farm communities. While the physical size of biochar-related PM10 is itself a serious concern, the organic and inorganic chemical constituents of biochar may also present a human health risk. The primary aim of this review is to highlight the emerging environmental concern of biochar-induced dust emissions by evaluating the limited literature currently available. In addition, solutions to minimize potential harm during biochar production and application are synthesized, and areas for future investigation are suggested".

As someone who suffers from Kidney disease as mentioned in the above article, is this what I expect to have here in Hawaii? Having a CAFO producing PM 10 unnecessary risks to not only the human population, but to the environment as well.

If you remove Bio-char from the solution to the waste, you are left with what? Basically, a big mess.

The public must be protected at all times.


I live on the North Shore and am also aware of how runoff from this CAFO could impact our North Shore and the communities that call this side of the island home.

Hawaii we can do better here. With the above in mind, **I am in full support of SB1585 to ensure that our communities and environment are protected at all times.**

TASTY SAFETY[®]
FOOD SAFETY CONNOISSEUR

808-563-0715
Jr@tastysafety.com
Tastysafety.com
Haleiwa, Hawaii 96712

Mahalo,



Joseph Realdine

66-133 Keahipaka Lane, Haleiwa, HI 96712

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From the Pacific Business News:

https://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/blog/morning_call/2015/04/mainland-companies-plan-to-develop-egg-farm-in.html

Mainland companies plan to develop egg farm in Central Oahu

Apr 22, 2015, 6:50am HST

A partnership involving two of the largest egg distributors and producers in the U.S. plans to develop an egg farm on Oahu.

The new facility would help Hawaii reduce its reliance on importing fresh eggs from the Mainland and increase the sustainability of the food supply in the Islands, an executive for one of the companies confirmed to PBN.

The partnership involves California's Hidden Villa Ranch, one of the largest egg distributors in the U.S., and Indiana's Rose Acre Farms, one of the nation's biggest egg producers.

Michael Sencer, an executive vice president with Hidden Villa Ranch, told PBN that his company has been working on the project with Scott Enright, chairman of the Hawaii Department of Agriculture.

"While the size of the project has not yet been determined, we believe a project that increases employment and produces fresher food to the marketplace helps advance the goals of the Department of Agriculture," Sencer told PBN in an email. "With the guidance of the Department of Agriculture, we continue to believe this project has a high probability of success."

Enright told PBN this week that the project is tentatively planned for **Dole Food Co.-owned** lands in Wahiawa in Central Oahu and could involve 1 million hens housed in a state-of-the-art facility.

A development timeline has not been set yet, although Sencer said it could happen as quickly as the permitting process allows.

"We will start very small and see where the market will take it," he said. "Our hope is for a very 'green' facility, powered by our own solar panels. We would like to make it visitor-friendly so the public can

see how their local eggs are produced and how we take care of our birds.”

The plan is to develop a cage-free operation where the birds can roam freely in the barn.

“Hawaii has not had a modern layer barn built there for many years and we felt it was time to try,” Sencer said.

Hawaii ranks 45th in the U.S. in sales in the poultry and eggs commodity group, according to the most recently available statistics from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Duane Shimogawa

Reporter

Pacific Business News



SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:56:14 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lauren Blickley	Testifying for Surfrider Foundation	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Surfrider Foundation strongly supports SB1585 that prohibits new operations and renewal of existing licenses or permits to operate large concentrated animal feeding operations in the State. Concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) are environmentally harmful and inhumane. In addition, the CAFOs in Hawai'i are mainland owned and operated. We do not need these operations negatively impacting our communities and environmental resources. Mahalo for your support of SB1585.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:58:02 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
George Wood	Testifying for Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

SB1585

RELATING TO ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 1:30 PM

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Keoki Wood, and I serve as the chair of the Transportation Committee for Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC). HCC is the Statewide umbrella organization which represents the interests of our state's beef producers.

I strongly oppose SB1585 which prohibits new operations and renewal of existing licenses or permits to operate large, concentrated animal feeding operations in the State, under certain conditions and by an unspecified date and phases out all existing large concentrated animal feeding operations by 7/1/2028.

Hawaii's Livestock is a critical component to our state's food security. Given the limited ag lands in our state and the high costs associated with production of livestock, CAFO's can be a necessary component to help increase local production.

This bill assumes that all CAFO's are bad for the environment. The reality is CAFOs are very efficient in capturing waste and reapplying those nutrients back into the soil in the form of organic fertilizer.

We understand the concerns the Ookala Community has based on what they experienced. But that is a situation that can be remedied with proper engineering in waste management and better locations.

We oppose efforts that so broadly restrict agriculture and limit our ability to diversify our economy and grow our own food.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Keoki Wood

Hawaii Cattlemens Council, Transportation Committee Chair

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
AMANDA FOX	Testifying for Animal Rights Initiative	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

As conscious representatives that love Hawaii and it's land, and understand the nature of aloha. We must extend this compassion to animals and our states land by passing SB 1585. This is a no brainer piece of legislation that will put hawaii in the forefront of the sustainability movement and will give other states the opportunity to copy our remarkable moves forward in creating a more humane place for animals and protecting this precious island. Animal agriculture is not sustainable in the slightest. It's polluting the land, polluting the water, and profiting off of animal slaughter. These are sentient beings with the same level of intelligence and capacity to feel as dogs and cats. We must leave these horrors in the past. Thank you for voting yes on this bill.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:23:29 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Suzanne Frazer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Suzanne Frazer. I am vegan and I live on Oahu. I am writing in support of SB1585, because factory farming is inhumane. There needs to be an immediate end to cruel practices rather than waiting another 5 years. Animals have feelings, thoughts, feel pain, get lonely and bored and need freedom to move around and not be restricted to cages and pens where they are crammed in with other animals so tight they can't even turn around. If you wouldn't treat a human like that you shouldn't treat an animal like that either.

Humans need to stop cruel, horrible behaviour towards animals. We don't live in the dark ages. We live in a society that respects all kinds of rights for humans. Please protect the animal's wellbeing by stopping the miserable, horrible practice of factory farming. Also if any farms in Hawaii are still killing male chicks, please put a stop to that as well.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Suzanne Frazer



HAWAIIAN EGG COMPANY

DBA Mikilua Poultry Farm

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2023

Time: 1:30 p.m. & Video Conference

To: Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Herbert "Tim" Richards III, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment

RE: **Support for SB1585** with Amendment

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee:

We are a 75-year-old farm started by our grandfather (a first generation immigrant from Okinawa), our father, and three uncles. Our family worked hard to build a life here and become a part of our Hawaii Ohana.

We are serious about quality, taking care of our hens and respecting our environment. Our processing facility is a USDA Plant and Certified Organic. Our Farm follows FDA regulations, and we have a Certified Organic farm.

We respectfully request the threshold be increased to 200,000 laying hens so that we have room for some growth and can continue our operations here in Wai'anae for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Debra Shimabukuro
President

Iris Shimabukuro
Vice President

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 3:30:27 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christian Zuckerman	Testifying for Kuwale Ridge Farms	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support bill SB 1585. CAFOs in Hawaii will directly harm our family farmers. There are many generational chicken farmers whos livelihood is threatened by the introduction of the Waialua Fresh chicken farm which is owned by mainland corporations. This creates competition for our local farmers and because of their scale will eventually force them out of the market. Also, having CAFOs in Hawaii will open us to the potential of having outbreaks of viruses that are affecting CAFOs on the mainland. Please protect our local farmers and keep our environment pristine!

Aloha

Christian Zuckerman



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 15, 2023

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON SB 1585
RELATING TO ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
1:30 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Richards, 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.

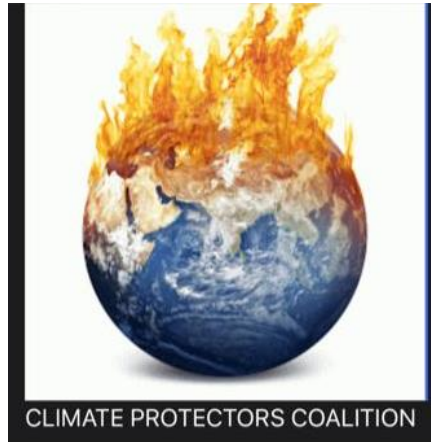
The Hawai'i Farm Bureau respectfully opposes SB 1585 which would prohibit large concentrated animal feeding operations in Hawai'i.

HFB opposes the bill for the following reasons:

- Food sustainability and resiliency is a priority in Hawai'i. A properly sited, operated and maintained large CAFO could provide Hawai'i consumers with local, affordable sources of protein. These types of farms are efficient and have doubled and in some cases quadrupled milk, meat, and egg production and significantly cut down on the amount of time and resources, including capital and labor, it takes to produce food.
- Large concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) are strictly regulated under the Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and our State DOH administrative rules permitting program that regulates the discharge of pollutants from point sources to inland, marine, and groundwater in Hawai'i. CAFO regulations are periodically updated to reflect new information, technologies, and public comments.
- There may be a time in the future of the islands in which large CAFOs are necessary to adequately feed Hawai'i's people. HFB does not believe it is in the public interest to outright ban these facilities on a wholesale basis.

Intensive farming methods such as large CAFOs can help us to achieve our food goals if we prioritize public health and animal welfare, prevent waste products from overwhelming the environment, and make sure we do it in a way that doesn't negatively impact the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this issue.



To: The Honorable Chair Mike Gabbard, the Honorable Vice Chair Tim Richards, III, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment

From: Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: **Hearing SB1585 RELATING TO ANIMAL AGRICULTURE**

Hearing: Wednesday February 15, 2023, 1:30 p.m., room 224

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (HIROC) is a group of scientists, educators, filmmakers and environmental advocates who have been working since 2017 to protect Hawaii's coral reefs and ocean. HIROC is deeply concerned about polluted runoff, particularly nutrients, running into the ocean from large concentrated feeding operations and harming reefs and other marine life.

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i seek to educate and engage the local community in climate change action, to help Hawai'i show the world the way back to a safe and stable climate. The Climate Protectors Hawai'i are concerned that large concentrated feeding operations contribute to climate warming by producing greenhouse gases, particularly methane, a potent greenhouse gas that is about 80 times worse for the climate than carbon dioxide.

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill.

Concentrated animal feeding operations or "CAFOs" present significant risks to public health and the environment. These facilities house hundreds or thousands of animals at a time, creating a concentration of massive amounts of animal waste that contains chemicals, pharmaceuticals, heavy metals, and pathogens. These pollutants can contaminate the environment and harm human and animal health.

Even when adhering to state and federal permits, CAFOs harm people and wildlife through air and water pollution and threaten surface water and groundwater due to runoff and seepage of animal waste. Those who live in proximity to these facilities and breathe their pollution suffer increased rates of asthma and other diseases, significantly lowering their quality of life. CAFOs put small, independent farms using ecologically sensitive methods to raise livestock at a disadvantage.

I served as a Deputy Attorney General and represented the Department of Health in litigation involving the Big Island Dairy, a large dairy CAFO that generated millions of gallons of animal urine and feces. The O'okala community was significantly polluted by the wastewater that was allowed to flow through several gulches and into O'okala. This experience showed the harms that could be caused by a CAFO in Hawai'i, especially given our sloping topography and volcanic soils. A CAFO such as Big Island Dairy should not be allowed to operate in Hawai'i.

Local food production is crucial for Hawai'i, but the harms and impacts of large CAFOs outweigh any benefits and, in fact, make it harder for small, midsize, and independent farms to operate.

This bill would protect the State's residents and environment by preventing further large concentrated animal feeding operations from being operated in Hawai'i and phasing out existing large concentrated animal feeding operations.

Please pass this bill! Mahalo!

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 12:06:31 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:01:05 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amanda Lillibridge	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Amanda Lillibridge and I live in Kona on Hawaii Island. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO with 200,000 laying hens and plans to increase to 1,000,000 laying hens, owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Amanda Lillibridge

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 4:32:39 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rexann Dubiel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please, pass this bill.

No gigantic CAFO farms here.

Small organic farms for healthy food for us.

Use ADC land as that was why it was purchased.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 5:09:38 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yunuen Bustamante	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a livestock specialist I support the prohibition of CAFOS because encourage animal cruelty, confinement, pollution of air, soil, water and is not sustainable.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 5:26:06 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carie Sarver	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

People should have access to the foods they like, but that food should be raised sustainably and humanely.

As a resident of O'ahu, I strongly support legislation that will not only reduce cruel conditions for livestock but will also support the aina by reducing the carbon footprint associated with large CAFOs.

Please support this bill and begin the phase-out of factory farms.

Mahalo,

Carie Sarver

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 5:46:50 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Traci L. Schmalle-Jacobs	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Traci L. S. Schmalle-Jacobs and I live in Manoa, Oahu. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai‘i.

Animal waste is typically stored in open or covered pits or liquid lagoons and later spread or sprayed on nearby cropland contaminating the air, or creating runoff. Workers in animal production can be exposed to airborne waste particles, drug residues, heavy metals, potentially harmful pathogens, and antibiotic resistant bacteria, many of which are transferable into neighboring communities.

Large CAFOs in Hawai‘i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua‘i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai‘i’s precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Traci L. S. Schmalle-Jacobs

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 6:45:39 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicholas Baliares	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii simply does not have the resources to support medium to large scale animal agriculture.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:33:09 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sylvia Dolena	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB1585.

The commercial animal industry is not only pollution and problem ridden, it is animal cruelty.

Mahalo,

Sylvia Dolena

Aloha Animal Advocates and Pele Lani Farm LLC

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:44:02 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ellen jackson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senators,

Please support bill SB 1585; This is an excellent bill which reduces some of the worst animal cruelty in the animal agriculture business. It is the humane and moral thing to do, and should be a country wide standard.

Thank you!

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:48:42 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryuko Miura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Animal agriculture is not sustainable.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:53:08 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Travis Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Travis Smith and I live in Waimanalo, Oahu. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Travis

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:30:16 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matt Jisa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The way animals are treated in CAFOs (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations) is unacceptable. Animal abuse is absolutely inherent in these operations. There is no way to operate them without heartbreaking animal abuse.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:57:09 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Moniz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB1585. I have spent my entire career as a livestock veterinarian and beef cattle producer. Well managed and regulated CAFOs are important entities in animal agriculture. Hawaii's ability to move towards food sustainability would be negatively impacted if this Bill passes. Our poultry and dairy industries in particular would be negatively impacted by the size of operations restrictions imposed by this proposed Bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 12:37:55 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support SB1585. Factory farms are extremely cruel, unnecessary, and detrimental to our health and environment. I understand that meat and dairy consumption on a large scale is a Hawaiian tradition that dates far back (as in many cultures), but some traditions, as this, are harmful and best to phase out. There really needs to be more education and role models on plant-based living. I used to think for many years that veganism was extreme and too difficult. But because of my strong desire and motivation to not want to be a contributor to the negative impact of factory farming, I did a lot of research and have been a very satisfied and healthy vegan for almost 7 years. Most people aren't motivated to put in this research, so implementing this bill is an important move forward along with education and support for arable farmers.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:34:41 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sonya Baker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill. CAFOs are shown to be so damaging to our environment. We are already causing more harm to the environment than it can handle. We are unable to fix or reverse a lot of this damage. The best we can do now is to do better moving forward. Reduce our impact on the environment, the best we can. CAFOs are also known to be inhumane to animals and they are severely mistreated. Thank you.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 6:15:01 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dwamato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support sb1585.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:17:54 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sophia Somers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Sophia Somers and I live in Aiea, Ohau and I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Sophia Somers

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:21:13 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Shizuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB1585

The mainstream media has popularized the impacts of CAFOs and it has become common knowledge of the damage that is done to the environment from these feeding operations. While I do support feeding operations here in Hawaii, given our unique environment, limited land, and over-development and over-population of our islands, innovative and new best-practices will need to be developed to protect our environment while supporting our local agricultural production.

I support this bill and the preventing of new large CAFOs in the future as well as the phasing out of existing large CAFOs. I do, however, feel that the state of Hawaii needs to fund and perform its own research to create innovative new best practices to make feeding operations in Hawaii sustainable and beneficial for the environment. The food security of Hawaii depends on it, for we will not be able to survive on just plants grown in Hawaii, but will need the many beneficial nutrients that animal products provide our human bodies.

Mahalo for your consideration

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:28:02 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Heithaus	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Brian Heithaus and I live in Honolulu. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Animal Agriculture is one of the most polluting industries on the planet, while diets high in meat and dairy are now proven scientifically to be causes of the leading causes of death in our country: heart disease, cancer and diabetes, and others. We can take a leadership position in the US by investing in growing our own wholesome foods here in Hawai'i, like bananas, kalo and 'ulu, foods that can provide true food sustainability and also contribute to better health for our community and environment!

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Brian Heithaus

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:06:28 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) in Hawai‘i. Large CAFOs in Hawai‘i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy on the dairy on Kaua‘i, both of which were shut down in the last 5 years alone. This bill would protect Hawai‘i’s precious environment and our communities, while also supporting locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms, local farmers, and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Please support SB1585.

me ke aloha ‘āina,

Nanea Lo, Mō‘ili‘ili

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:28:06 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samantha Zepeda Silva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Samantha Zepeda Silva and I live in Oahu. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Raising animals in large, high-density operations leads to the routine accumulation of massive volumes of animal waste, often at rates far exceeding the capacity of nearby land to absorb it. The animal manure and wastewater generated on AFOs and CAFOs are the primary cause of water quality issues, as they lead to a host of pollutants, including nutrients, pathogens, hormones, antibiotics and more. Some consequences of this pollution include drinking water contamination and fish kills, along with habitat loss and groundwater depletion.

Animal waste is typically stored in open or covered pits or liquid lagoons and later spread or sprayed on nearby cropland contaminating the air, or creating runoff. Workers in animal production can be exposed to airborne waste particles, drug residues, heavy metals, potentially harmful pathogens, and antibiotic resistant bacteria, many of which are transferable into neighboring communities.

Close proximity to CAFOs is frequently associated with declines in local economic and social indicators which undermine the socioeconomic and social foundations of community health. These indicators include business purchases, infrastructure, property values, population, and social cohesion.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Samantha Zepeda Silva

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:11:59 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cristina Cooper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As someone who grew up in both Hawaii and California, I have witnessed the large CAFO's in California. I also have been on the grounds of the Big Island Dairy while it was still in operation. As a kid growing up and driving past these CAFO's in California with my parents, I always remember the horrible stench of them and the crippling conditions the animals they were in. I was too young to know the details of CAFO's and how they operated, but I was smart enough to know it wasn't a good place... it was dirty, stinky and I felt for the animals in such poor health; visually skinny and sickly. From this point on, I was always weary of the meat industry, and after I graduated high school, I ended up deciding I wouldn't contribute to the farm factories anymore. I stopped eating meat and the root cause was because of my first experiences driving past those CAFO's in California.

While in college, I did more research on farm factories and was absolutely shocked at how these facilities were able to stay in business. They are first off, inhumane... but second off, extrememely hazardous to not only the animals, but also to the meat/dairy/egg consumers and the environment. The CAFO's that I used to drive by were in central California, and 35 years later, that area has become a very dark and hazy place. The vastness of the land there has become bleak and resembles what I would assume hell to look like. Heavy layers of dirt blow in the air, blocking out the sun, the animals are heard screaming as they are slaughtered, there are rivers of blood from the slaughter house that run to rivers of urine and feces that create large lakes of toxic waste. This all wrecks havoc on the land and as the CAFO's multiply, the death of the land multiplies.

Let Hawaii, for once be the catalyst for change... a change that would not only benefit the environment, but also the welfare of farmed animals. Let us not follow the mainlands steps towards greed, while the health of the citizens suffer. Let us take the lead on what is best for our citizens, our land, our health and our animals so that we can keep Hawaii beautiful.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:36:22 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Feel Ideal	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

no factory farms makes total sense to me for the aloha state. they generate bad karma because there is no shortage of plant protein, making animal ag unnecessary cruelty.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:51:52 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane E Arnold	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB1585, which would phase out "factory farms" in Hawaii by 2028. These "farms" are incredibly cruel to the animals, pose a risk to human health, and contribute to climate change. Thank you.

Jane E Arnold

1763 Iwi Way, Apt D

Honolulu, HI 96816

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:52:43 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephanie McLaughlin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this important bill. It will help animals and Hawaii's environment stay clean.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:25:04 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carole R. Richelieu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This measure would clarify that high-intensity animal agriculture is unwelcome in our state

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:52:43 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fernanda Santos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Fernanda Medeiros Gomes dos Santos and I live in Haleiwa, O’ahu, Hawai’i. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai’i.

Large CAFOs in Hawai’i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua’i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai’i’s precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Fernanda Medeiros Gomes dos Santos

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:14:45 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Eubank	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB1585.

Thank you.

Susan Eubank

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:15:36 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Max Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill! Pass this bill please!

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:29:04 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Allison Jacobson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm a resident of Kaua'i writing in support of SB1585. CAFOs are completely incompatible with our island ecosystem. They create massive amounts of waste, often at rates far exceeding the capacity of nearby land to absorb it & which can cause drinking water contamination, fish kills, habitat loss, groundwater depletion, and other public health risks. We must protect the 'Āina now and for future generations.

Allison DeYenno

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:39:55 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Claire Muskopf	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

While a sustainable local food supply is necessary and valuable, we cannot sacrifice our waters or land safety. Raising animals in regenerative and sustainable ways is the appropriate approach.

Large scale concentrated animal feeding operations are abusive to the aina in that they produce massive amounts of noxious waste that is nearly impossible to prevent from polluting the environment.

We need to find ways to support local farmers and ranchers to contribute to our food supply without sacrificing the well-being of our citizens and their access to safe air, water and local environments.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting the phasing out of these operations in the islands and prohibition of future operations without strict controls/operating standards and current and past operations have be unable to meet.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:36:11 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katrina Ahia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB1585. Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations or Factory Farms are horrible for the environment and horrible for our people. The resulting pollution and detrimental effects are unconscionable. Please ban new CAFOs and phase out the existing one with due haste! Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:43:57 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sunshine Eckstrom	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

CAFOs are not compatible with our island ecosystem. They create massive amounts of waste which overwhelm the land and then contaminate our water and kill fish and other marine animals. This results in habitat loss and risks public health. Not to mention the appalling quality of life that animals on these factory farms suffer. Prohibiting large CAFOs would be a strong step toward a more environmentally responsible future for Hawai'i.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 6:06:56 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JOANNE PARKER	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill

Mahalo,

Joanne Parker

parkerinparadise@msn.com

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 6:50:59 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcus Brooks	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,
My name is Marcus Brooks and I live in Honolulu, HI. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,
Marcus Brooks

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Victoria Anderson. I live in Honolulu. I write in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

In brief, CAFOs create devastating environmental and public health impacts. They undermine the socioeconomic and social foundations of community health. And most important, they are agonizingly cruel to the unfortunate individuals who endure excruciating, hellish lives before being slaughtered.

Please pass SB 1585.

Mahalo,
Victoria Anderson

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:54:39 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luke Nagasako	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

RE: SB1585 Relating to Animal Agriculture

In Support

Dear Senator Gabbard, Senator Richards, and members of the committee,
I support SB1585 because many times when businesses or companies do large scale animal farming then the conditions become inhumane.

Thank you,
Luke Nagasako
Makiki

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:22:30 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Natalie Graham-Wood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB1585. I live at Sunset Beach, Oahu.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:57:56 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment.

I am Jennifer Chiwa, have lived on Oahu my whole life and currently reside in Makiki.

Please support SB 1585 which, to my understanding, would help implement humane standards for animals who are used in animal food production and oppose the inhumane, unhealthy conditions of factory farming. Furthermore, I hope this bill would help prevent any new factory farms from being established in Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and for your consideration in supporting SB 1585.

Jennifer Chiwa

Makiki

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:10:10 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
phyllis fong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Phyllis Fong and I live in *Aiea, Oahu*. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai‘i.

Factory farms are bad for so many valid reasons. It is devastating to the environment, unnecessary cruelty to animals, and detrimental to our health physically and mentally. It is also not a good use of our precious land and resources. Instead, plant-based agriculture should be maximally encouraged and supported.

Also, large CAFOs in Hawai‘i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua‘i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai‘i’s precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Phyllis B. Y. Fong

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:22:42 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
jennifer schneider	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha:

CAFOS or concentrated animal feeding operations are unsafe, cruel and extremely dangerous for our precious water supply.

After the shutdown of Big Island Dairy in O‘okala and the failure of the proposed Hawai‘i Dairy Farms on Kaua‘i, we know that CAFOs are incompatible with our island ecosystem.

They create massive amounts of waste, often at rates far exceeding the capacity of nearby land to absorb it, which can cause drinking water contamination, fish kills, habitat loss, groundwater depletion, and other public health risks.

Practice ALOHA and make SB1585 a law.

Mahalo nui loa.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:24:32 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michiyo SatoYoung	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Michiyo and I live in Nu'uano. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

I went to ag day at the capitol and I can see how corrupt the relationship is between animal agriculture and the state. I believe all animal agriculture, especially in Hawai'i is unsustainable. Plant-based products are the future.

Thank you for your consideration of my whole-hearted support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Michiyo Sato Young

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:29:17 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Raatz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

mahalo

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:30:18 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacoby Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kakou,

My name is Jacoby Young. I live in Nu'uuanu, O'ahu. I am fully supporting SB1585. Animal agriculture is not the way forward for Hawai'i. I have seen many CAFOs fail and I believe that phasing them out sooner rather than later is the most sustainable and ethical plan for the future.

The Sierra Club lists the pollutants that CAFOs generate as such:

- The amount of urine and feces produced by the smallest CAFO is equivalent to the quantity of urine and feces produced by 16,000 humans.
- CAFO waste is usually not treated to reduce disease-causing pathogens, nor to remove chemicals, pharmaceuticals, heavy metals, or other pollutants.
- Over 168 gases are emitted from CAFO waste, including hazardous chemicals such as ammonia, hydrogen sulfide, and methane.
- Airborne particulate matter is found near CAFOs and can carry disease-causing bacteria, fungus, or other pathogens.
- Animals frequently die in CAFOs. Their carcasses, often in large numbers, must be dealt with.
- Infestations of flies, rats, and other vermin are commonplace around CAFOs and therefore around CAFO neighbors.

We do not need these to continue harming human and animal communities in Hawai'i. Plant-based agriculture is the way forward.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Jacoby Young

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:12:25 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mistee Uyehara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Mistee Uyehara and I live in Aiea on Oahu. I am writing in very strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is one farm in the state that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support our local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you so much for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Mistee Uyehara

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:17:42 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol Janezic	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Carol Janezic and I live in Temple Valley on Oahu. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

CAFOs are bad for animals -- you bet they are, but they are bad for people, too.

The National Association of Realtors report multiple studies conducted since the 1980's show construction of a CAFO lowers home and land value around it. Properties within three miles of a CAFO lose up to 26% of their value. Properties within .25 miles of a CAFO lose up to 88% of their value. It has been estimated that CAFOs around the U.S. have reduced property values by Twenty-Six Billion dollars as of 2008 -- 15 years ago, and there are many more CAFOs today. Homes and properties near CAFOs become unlivable. Why would that be?

Because CAFOs house massive numbers of animals, and those animals produce massive amounts of waste. There is no comprehensive system in place to regulate and track the waste produced by CAFOs. The waste from so many animals is concentrated in areas too small to absorb the waste.

If CAFO waste is not properly stored, transported, and applied to land that can absorb it, the pollutants get into the air (small droplets can travel for miles,) seep into ground water and run off into surface waters. They can contaminate our pristine aquifers.

These pollutants make people sick, make the air putrid, and contaminate plants grown for food within the community. These pollutants are very often the reason plants are infected with Salmonella and E coli.

Research shows that the disease-causing E. coli interacts directly with plant cells allowing it to anchor to the surface of a plant where it can multiply. E coli bacteria is a toxic poison that can damage the lining of the small intestine, and can cause bad stomach cramps, vomiting, and bloody diarrhea.

When salmonella is present in the soil it can get on the surface of the produce and also enter plants through their root system to colonize the plant. Fruits and vegetables grown on the colonized plant can have salmonella cells too. People who eat the infected produce are at risk of

Salmonella infection. Salmonella can cause permanent life-altering diseases such as irritable bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease, reactive arthritis, and Guillain-Barre syndrome.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and protect and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by two large corporations on the mainland. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Carol Janezic

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 11:19:43 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doorae Shin	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

SB1585 Testimony | In Strong Support

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the AEN Committee,

My name is Doorae Shin, a longtime resident of Oahu, currently living in Kaimuki and writing in strong support of SB1585. This bill would prohibit new large CAFOs (commonly referred to as factory farms) in Hawai‘i and give the existing one 5 years to scale down or phase out their operations. This bill would have an immensely positive impact on our community and our environment, while also having no negative impact on locally-owned farms.

The only farm in the State which qualifies as a large CAFO is a factory egg farm in Waialua called Villa Rose, and it is not locally-owned, rather owned by 2 large corporations from the continent, including Hidden Valley Ranch and Rose Acre Farms. Under the guise of “sustainable” operations, they sell Waialua Fresh brand eggs at popular retail locations. But their operations are large, with 200,000 laying hens in small spaces and plans to grow to 1 million hens, and a goal to export to Asian markets.

What are CAFOs?

CAFOs are Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, where animals are kept and raised in confined situations for agricultural operations. Animals in CAFOs are confined and fed or maintained for 45 days or more in a 12-month period and crops or vegetation are not present on the facility.

CAFOs are defined by three categories: Small CAFOs, Medium CAFOs, and Large CAFOs. This is based on the number of and type of animals confined in the operation.

Environmental Impacts

In 1998, following President Clinton’s release of the Clean Water Action Plan to clean up our rivers, lakes, and coastal waters, the USDA & EPA created a Unified National Strategy to minimize water quality and public health impacts of AFOs. This document found that the vast majority of farms with livestock are small, with approximately 85% of those farms having fewer than 250 “animal units” (one animal unit is equal to roughly one beef cow). In 1992, there were 6,600 AFOs that were considered large operations.

While USDA supports sustainable agricultural practices, the forces of domestic and export markets, technological changes and industry priorities, have led to an expansion in CAFOs. The animal manure and wastewater generated on AFOs and CAFOs are the primary cause of water quality issues, as they lead to a host of pollutants, including nutrients, pathogens, hormones, antibiotics and more. Some consequences of this pollution include drinking water contamination and fish kills, along with habitat loss and groundwater depletion.

Past failures of CAFOs in Hawai‘i

Two clear examples of CAFOs being incompatible with our island watersheds and environment are Big Island Dairy and Hawai‘i Dairy Farm on Kaua‘i.

- Big Island Dairy for years was polluting millions of gallons of animal waste into the local streams and causing significant harm on the environment and community downstream of the farm.

Liquid and solid animal waste from large CAFOS such as Big Island Dairy contain numerous pathogens, nitrogen, phosphorus, and dangerous bacteria. Water quality testing confirmed high levels of fecal coliform, E.coli, and enterococcus bacteria which are “toxic to human, animal, plant, or aquatic life.”

Big Island Dairy violated the Federal Clean Water Act and subsequently lost a lawsuit brought by the Center for Food Safety and the community, forcing them to shut down operations in early 2019.

- The proposed Hawai‘i Dairy Farm on Kaua‘i was also shut down in 2019 after the community successfully challenged the company’s false claims of sustainable agriculture. This protected the culturally and environmentally significant shoreline of Māha‘ulepu on Kaua‘i island along with the surrounding areas where the proposed dairy would have operated.

An Important Solution

Again and again, we see across Hawai‘i that large CAFOs, a.k.a. factory farms, are simply incompatible with our island ecosystem, wreaking havoc on our interconnected systems of water, land, and soil. This is why only one exists across the State today and why preventing new ones from coming in is a clear way to protect our communities and environment for our current and future generations in Hawai‘i. A local, resilient, and sustainable food system should help our environment and communities, not hurt them.

Mahalo for your consideration of SB1585. We urge you to pass this bill and we thank you for the opportunity to testify.

With aloha,

Doorae Shi

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:01:55 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Hee	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Jennifer Meleana Hee. I was born and raised in Hawai‘i Kai, where I also currently live. I am writing in strong support of SB1585.

As someone who has worked in the food service industry in Hawai‘i for over a decade, I recognize the importance of sourcing local in order to reduce our reliance on imported food. However, we must also protect our islands from the irreversible environmental harm associated with high-intensity animal agriculture. While I do not know how local agriculture may resolve the problem of feeding so many people on such limited land, I am certain CAFOs are not the answer.

First, CAFOs generate massive amounts of animal waste daily. How will large CAFOs keep feces and urine out of our streams and oceans? As an island chain, high volumes of animal waste will devastate our fragile marine ecosystems.

Additionally, as climate change increases the occurrence of natural disasters, we need to take precautions, prohibiting structures which could exponentially increase environmental harm during a hurricane, for example. The massive overflow of hog waste lagoons during Hurricane Florence in North Carolina should serve as a haunting warning of what could occur here. The thousands of animal carcasses surrounding submerged neighborhoods, the sickened communities-- is this the future we want to open ourselves up to?

Third, CAFOs are hardly a sustainable solution to our food insecurity, as the feed for thousands of animals will still need to be shipped in. (If we somehow are ever able to grow the amount of food necessary to support a CAFO, wouldn't it be more efficient to feed our human population directly?)

I stopped eating beef after reading about slaughterhouses in the seventh grade. Learning more about animal agriculture over the decades has only reinforced my initial impression as a 12 year-old-- that our treatment of nonhuman animals is unfathomably cruel. Individually, we should not support such inhumane conditions anywhere. As a state, we should shut CAFOs out before their harms to our land and people cannot be undone.

As a chef, customers supported our business because we sourced ingredients from small farms using organic growing methods. A CAFO is the antithesis of environmentally-friendly and sustainable farming, and has no place here.

As a student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law, I endeavor to continue to protect animals, small farms, and our entire community from the immense environmental harms caused by CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Jennifer Meleana Hee

jmhee@hawaii.edu

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:04:38 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anna Camacho	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and members of the committee,

My name is Anna Camacho, I live in Kaimukī and I'm testifying in favor of SB1585.

In 2019, the American Public Health Association released a policy statement calling for a precautionary moratorium *“on the establishment of new CAFOs and expansion of existing CAFOs until regulation and enforcement conditions are in place to adequately protect the public’s health.”*

This is because **raising animals in large, high-density operations leads to the routine accumulation of massive volumes of animal waste, often at rates far exceeding the capacity of nearby land to absorb it.** CAFO-generated manure has hazardous constituents like antibiotic drug residues, potentially harmful pathogens, heavy metals, hormones, and antibiotic resistant bacteria — many of which are transferable into neighboring communities.

As someone who grew up on the Hāmākua Coast, I was devastated and angered to learn about the disaster with Big Island Dairy in ‘Ō‘ōkala, a large CAFO with Idaho-based owners. Because of improper handling and treatment, millions of gallons of animal waste created runoff, polluting water resources downstream and ultimately into the Pacific Ocean. The environmental, health, aesthetic, economic, and recreational interests of the community were negatively impacted by the CAFO’s inability to manage the massive amounts of manure they produced.

Their story is not an isolated incident. **Close proximity to CAFOs is frequently associated with declines in local economic and social indicators which undermine the socioeconomic and social foundations of community health.** These indicators include business purchases, infrastructure, property values, population, and social cohesion.

As there is only one large CAFO in the State of Hawai‘i, owned by two large corporations on the continent (that might also be failing to manage their waste properly) SB1585 is legislation with low impact in the short-term and high impact in the long-term. I urge you to support locally owned farms and local farmers, while protecting our ‘āina and kama‘āina for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Anna Camacho

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:07:56 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Breanne Fong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Breanne Fong, and I live in Kaimuki on O'ahu, Hawai'i. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

I have been advocate for animals ever since I became plant-based in Fall 2019 after learning about the industrial food system in an environmental humanities course during my undergrad. The impact of CAFOs is devastating to animals, the environment, and humans (who consume theses animals and/or live in areas near CAFOs).

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Breanne Fong

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:49:06 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Mark Alexander	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Jason Mark Alexander, and I strongly support SB1585 as a settler in Mānoa and PhD student in sociology at UHM. This bill places a moratorium on large Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) in Hawai‘i and opens more pathways for sustainable farmers to connect through local coops to provide food equity to these islands.

Large CAFOs in Hawai‘i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy on the dairy on Kaua‘i, both of which were shut down in the last 5 years alone.

This bill would protect Hawai‘i’s precious environment and our communities, while also supporting locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations in the continental US. It is time to support locally-owned farms, local farmers, and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Please support SB1585.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 3:14:10 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Rang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I live in Moilili on Oahu Island Honolulu Hawaii, we need a sustainable Hawaii and animal farming is bad for the island to remain sustainable now or future. The islands need protection from this industry that will devastate the soil and natural water aquifer.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 7:47:42 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Malia Taylor-Wolfe	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

CAFOs are inhumane and pollute our precious environment. We have no room for mass animal farming and pollution in Hawai‘i. Communities on the mainland suffer greatly from CAFOs and the best thing we can do is stop them from building more in Hawai‘i before it becomes a problem we can not control. Hawai‘i has a long and strong history of sustainable farming practices. CAFOs would aid in destroying local and independent farming practices.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:03:03 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashley Wilcox	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill to protect the environment, animals and people.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:15:42 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melanie Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB1585 to reduce the establishment of large scale animal factories that often breed, raise, slaughter and process animals in cruel, unsafe and unhygienic conditions. They are not only cruel to animals but they are also pose environmental and health hazards to Hawaii's fragile ecosystems and people. Please malama the people and these islands but supporting this bill.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:31:57 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael D Parker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill.

Mahalo,

Michael Parker

808-487-1111

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:34:43 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jerome Kellner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB1585 and urge Hawaii lawmakers to adopt it.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:44:40 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amber Moorhead	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB1585. I teach at Olomana School, where we have students working on local farms for a cultural based, sustainable education with a focus on Malama Aina. In order to have integrity with the motto of Hawaii and the needs of the people and the land.

Our state motto is **Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono-** The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness. We all know that CAFOs do not perpetuate righteousness. CAFOs are auwe and we all know that at our cores.

Thank you for hearing my testimony. Please help future generations maintain their integrity and to not get lost in destroying their land and values.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:04:09 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zoe Malia Ozoa Loos	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Zoë Malia Ozoa Loos, and I live in Kaimuki. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Look no further than North Carolina and that state's so-called pig farms. Farms that are nothing more than horrendous money-making machines run by Smithfield, a multi-million dollar organization that does not care about people, the planet, or animals.

After watching the Documentary *The Smell of Money*, which exposed the cruelty of these "farms," it's even clearer to me that CAFOs have no place on this island or anywhere in the world for that matter. While this bill focuses on protecting local farmers and the environment, I would like to note that CAFOs are also a violation of animal rights.

If the cruelty of animals subjugated to spend their entire lives in CAFOs, which end in being brutally slaughtered, is not enough to sway you, then perhaps the compounding atrocities to people's health and the environment will.

CAFOs pollute the water, the soil, and the human body--simple as that. Imagine having to inhale the smell of feces and urine every day from so-called lagoons that these CAFOs use to collect the thousands of gallons of waste produced by the animals. Open pits sitting in the sun. And then, to add insult to injury, these "farms" will dispose of the waste in whatever's the easiest or cheapest way they can. Do you really think they have Hawai'i's interest at heart? Again look at North Carolina and the environmental racism felt in the predominantly black communities that live in the eastern part of that state. There, anyone who lives near a CAFO will deal with the waste matter being sprayed onto fields in the guise of raising crops right next to their houses. Studies have shown that fecal matter ends up inside their houses due to the air pollution created by these companies.

Perhaps this will not happen in Hawai'i; you might be telling yourself it will be different here. But how? For example, Monsanto sprays pesticides on their crops even though they are located near neighborhoods that are predominantly black or brown or Kanaka Maoli communities. Do they care about the negative health effects experienced by those communities? No. Do you think these companies would build in Kahala or even in Kaimuki, where I live? No. There they cannot hide their human rights violations. So what will stop a CAFO, which can only happen through the wealth of large multi-million dollar corporations like Smithfield, from doing

something just as horrendous here to communities that already experience environmental racism?

Mind you, farmers who buy into these corporations or are bought out have no say whatsoever in how their farm is run. They are simply plant managers as if they work at a power company; they are not treated as local farmers should be. They have no say. I have volunteered on many farms and have friends who are farmers, and it's a real honor and privilege to see the dedication they have and their hard work. CAFOs are not that. They just aren't.

Hawai'i cannot have any more damage. And today, you can all prevent the further degradation of the island's already fragile ecosystem that has withstood countless horrors. Do we want another Red Hill, but with pig feces instead? Chicken feces? Bacteria-infected water that kills the ecosystem and people? I would hope the answer is no.

Again I urge anyone here to watch *The Smell of Money*, a quick plug for the Hawai'i Museum of Art's Doris Duke Theater, which is showing this documentary again as part of their film festival for black history month; please go and see it; nothing I say today will compare to the power of that film.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Zoë Malia Ozoa Loos

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:06:48 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathryn McCarthy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB1585 to prohibit large CAFOs here in Hawai'i as they create massive waste and are harmful to the state of Hawai'i its residents and wildlife.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:20:47 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christian Caluya	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

CAFOs will destroy Hawaii's precious ecosystem.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:36:52 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corrina Mahuna	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As both a native Hawaiian and a agricultural producer I strongly oppose this bill.

By highlighting native Hawaiians as a argument for this bill I find that disturbing, not genuine, and disrespectful. In some cases this argument may work but looking at the population in these areas it is mainly white and Asian.

These producers are a staple to the community to where they support and feed those on and off island. By passing this bill you are directly effecting not only the local producers like myself who are generational ranchers but also the people they feed

I definitely sympathize with the unfortunate circumstances that effected the ookala community. It was a event that disrupted the homes, residents, environment, etc and was never intentional and was not suppose to happen. But by this event happening it helps these businesses to learn, improve and never let it happen again.

Thank you for the chance to testify on this measure

Aloha,

Corrina Mahuna

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 11:41:49 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen W Beidner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass SB 1585. This is such a vital and important piece of legislation. CAFOs are extremely detrimental to our environment, human health and to the animals that are housed there. Agriculture is so important to Hawaii, but these operations have no business on our islands (or anywhere else for that matter). Please stand up for the environment, our health and the animals and set an example for the nation.

**TESTIMONY OF MARY CHARLENE NISHIDA AND KUPALE O`OKALA IN
SUPPORT OF SB 1585- THE LARGE CAFO BAN – 02/14/2023**

Kupale O`okala is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to preserving and protecting the people and environment of the Hamakua Coast and community of O`okala on the Big Island of Hawaii. Members of the community of O`okala primarily comprise its membership. The story of Big Island Dairy (BID) is one that caused great trauma to the community and should never be allowed to occur again, on Hawaii Island or anywhere else in the State. That is why Kupale O`okala urges you to support SB 1585 with a very minor amendment, which will be discussed at the end of this testimony.

Here is the background: Big Island Dairy's operations included up to 3,000 cows. They released their manure on a regular basis, if not hundreds of times, to the gulches that run through the site and the community of O`okala. The smells coming from the operation were often overpowering, enough to drive you out of your home. Those residents who had no other option to leaving were forced to keep their windows closed even during the suffocating heat of the summer. The dairy was located on the lower slopes of Mauna Kea where precipitation runs between 120-170 inches annually. Three gulches that drain different parts of the property, Kaohahoa, Alaialoha, and Kaula, run through the community of O`okala and into the Pacific Ocean. The manure discharges from the dairy egregiously violated the Federal Clean Water Act and the Hawaii equivalent laws and put our community at great risk. Video of the discharge is provided for the record. [attach below]

Unfortunately, for many years the Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH) provided minimal intervention to prevent the discharges and lacked enforcement after the discharges occurred until the community took action. Kupale O`okala, along with its partner, Center for Food Safety, filed a complaint in federal district court on June 28, 2017 in a Federal Clean Water lawsuit.

BID took over a much smaller, existing dairy in late 2011 and began expanding the facility and adding cows almost immediately upon takeover. As of 2018, it quadrupled in size from the prior ownership. According to EPA information about dairies, each mature milking cow produces between 120-150 pounds of excrement per day. Kupale O`okala's experts estimated that some seven billion gallons of precipitation-related stormwater crossed the site each year. The amount of manure produced combined with the stormwater movement led to disastrous consequences for the community and the environment. During a significant, but not unusual, rain event in May 2018, BID admitted discharging 2.3 million gallons of manure water over three days to one gulch in order to avoid overtopping of one of its manure storage pits (known as "open lagoons"). Another event during Hurricane Lane resulted in an intentional discharge of nearly 6 million gallons over 2-3 days. Discharges have been occurring since BID took over the facility and began operating in 2012. Hawaii Department of Health, supposedly in charge of regulating the facility and protecting human health and the environment, fined BID for only one discharge event that occurred in March 2017 before our involvement.

Federal and state law requires ZERO discharge from large CAFOs. But in fact, every time it rained an inch or more, which happens regularly in this area of the Hamakua Coast, BID released manure water to one or more of the three gulches that run through our community. During one particular event in 2016, many homes in the community were flooded with manure water. People had to be evacuated from their homes, the main highway was shut down and people's health was put at great risk.

During a site visit with our attorneys and experts in November 2017, it rained approximately six inches in four hours. Manure water was spewing from fields and operational areas all over the site. In 2019, our attorneys had convinced the owner-operators, the Whiteside family from Idaho, that they could not operate the facility safely and in compliance with the Clean Water Act, so all parties agreed that they would cease operations. No new Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) should ever be allowed to take its place. It would be an affront to our Island and generations to come.

We ask that you amend one section of the bill and substitute the language below in order to avoid a potential problem down the road and make HDOH's obligation clear and specific. The present section and proposed change are here:

PRESENT LANGUAGE

§ -3 Phasing out of existing large concentrated animal feeding operations. Beginning July 1, 2028, all existing large concentrated animal feeding operations shall cease operations in the State; provided that the director of health, in cooperation with existing large concentrated animal feeding operations, shall develop proposed rules for the closure of all large concentrated animal feeding operations in the State."

AMENDED LANGUAGE

§ -3 Phasing out of existing large concentrated animal feeding operations. Beginning July 1, 2028, all existing large concentrated animal feeding operations shall cease operations in the State; in addition, the director of health, by no later than December 31, 2025, shall develop proposed rules for the closure of all large concentrated animal feeding operations in the State."

Thank you for considering our comments and protecting our community. We urge passage of SB 1585 without delay.

Sincerely,

Mary Charlene Nishida
Ookala Property Owner
PO Box 908
Kamuela, HI 96743

(808) 216-1028
kpueo@yahoo.com

Discharge from Big Island Dairy to the streams surrounding O`okala.



Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator “Tim” Richards III, Vice Chair

SB1585 RELATING TO ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

To be heard on **Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 1:30 pm**
Conference Room 224, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of the Bill

Aloha to the Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee. Thank you for considering this testimony in support of SB1585. I am a resident of Ewa Beach, once a proud farming community, and a strong supporter of the Hawaiian Humane Society. I am especially concerned about two aspects this measure seeks to correct.

First is the complete disregard for animal welfare in large farms where food is “mass produced”. We all must seek humane standards for animals at every phase of food production.

Second is the horrific impact (waste mismanagement) on our fragile environment at a time when we are already dealing with issues related to “single use plastics”, drinking water contamination, more severe weather patterns, and rising sea levels.

I’m comforted in knowing that concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) are very limited across our islands, but I believe that NOW is the time to correct policy to prohibit CAFOs in the future to ensure that our families, animals, and environment are protected.

While local food production is crucial for our islands, this particular method is not the way to achieve “locally grown” food products. It endangers animals, threatens our environment, and puts small scale farmers at risk of extinction.

It is proven that animals raised in humane conditions produce better quality, healthier, and better tasting food products.

I would like to see the “phase-out date” for current CAFOs to be accelerated - much damage can occur in 5 years. Thank you for your careful consideration and action on this very important Bill.

Testimony/Anne Forshey/annejforshey@gmail.com/Ewa Beach, HI 96706

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:01:18 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Hamilton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is very short sighted, and doesn't allow for the future of agriculture in our state. It is written in an inflammatory way and is focusing only on the extreme situations that have rarely occurred with animal confinement industries.

Our state needs to be more food secure, and limiting our farmers and ranchers with such a blanket statement will only be hurtful to our ranchers, animals, and economy.

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:53:48 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Selene Mersereau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is vital. Support small farms and condemn factory farming. It is grotesque and inhumane.

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Olivia Marohnic and I live in Hilo. I am writing to express my strong support for bill SB1585, which prohibits new, and phases out existing, CAFOs (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations) in Hawai'i.

As a surfer and having been born and raised in Hawai'i, I have always enjoyed our beautiful natural water resources, playing in gulches, and surfing on our coasts. There is nothing more disconcerting as a surfer than finding your favorite surf spot tarnished by polluted water after heavy rains or a sewage spill. The natural beauty and ecology in Hawai'i is our number one most valuable resource, and we need to protect it accordingly.

CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continual history of polluting waterways and violating environmental laws, demonstrating that they cannot operate here without causing great environmental harm. We have seen this with Big Island Dairy and the earlier Kaua'i Meadow Gold Dairy. The Big Island Dairy plagued the downstream town of O'okala in the 2010s with many numerous (at least 30 recorded) incidents of spills and runoff of manure and urine into the waterways and even into the town itself after a storm, even after the Dairy claimed to be changing their practices to mitigate impacts. With the likely increase in hurricane and heavy rainfall event frequency associated with rising sea surface temperatures, we cannot allow the risk to our precious waterways that CAFOs present.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious natural resources and communities, and preserve space for locally-owned farms. The only existing large CAFO in the State is owned by large mainland companies. It is imperative now to support locally-owned and sustainable agriculture that has Hawai'i's best interests at heart.

Thank you for your consideration of my support for SB1585.

Mahalo,
Olivia Marohnic

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:12:30 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Prema Tanaka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Kakou Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and members of the Committee,

I Prema Tanaka am in strong opposition of Bill SB1585.

Warmest Mahalo,

Prema Tanaka

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:18:52 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kencho Gurung	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Kencho Gurung and I live in Kapa'au, Kohala, on the Big Island. I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Having factory farms would be completely devastating for animals, who would be forced to live in crowded, inhumane conditions, as well as the health of our land and water systems.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Kencho Gurung

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:23:29 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Suzanne Frazer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Suzanne Frazer. I am vegan and I live on Oahu. I am writing in support of SB1585, because factory farming is inhumane. There needs to be an immediate end to cruel practices rather than waiting another 5 years. Animals have feelings, thoughts, feel pain, get lonely and bored and need freedom to move around and not be restricted to cages and pens where they are crammed in with other animals so tight they can't even turn around. If you wouldn't treat a human like that you shouldn't treat an animal like that either.

Humans need to stop cruel, horrible behaviour towards animals. We don't live in the dark ages. We live in a society that respects all kinds of rights for humans. Please protect the animal's wellbeing by stopping the miserable, horrible practice of factory farming. Also if any farms in Hawaii are still killing male chicks, please put a stop to that as well.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,

Suzanne Frazer

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 2:02:47 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nai`a NEWLIGHT	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

After the shutdown of Big Island Dairy in O‘okala and the failure of the proposed Hawai‘i Dairy Farms on Kaua‘i, we know that CAFOs are incompatible with our island ecosystem. They create massive amounts of waste, often at rates far exceeding the capacity of nearby land to absorb, which can cause drinking water contamination, fish kills, habitat loss, groundwater depletion, and other public health risks.

CAFOs are inhumane (as is slaughtering and consuming our friends, the animals). By all means, let them end!

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 2:41:54 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emily Sarasa	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and members of the Committee,

I am testifying **in support of** S.B. 1585. Hawai‘i should phase out concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) because they are harmful to the environment, humans, and animals.

By their very nature, CAFOs produce large amounts of fecal waste that pollute the air and groundwater. CAFOs commonly keep their waste in “lagoons” or spray it into the air as “fertilizer”. Because of these practices, communities surrounding North Carolina CAFOs have developed respiratory illnesses and samples taken from surfaces inside their homes revealed contamination from hog manure. In 2017, [the Center for Food Safety reported](#) that Big Island Dairy sprayed waste into the air, which spread to communities downhill by wind and water runoff. Our communities should not be exposed to the same risks and conditions. [Scientists also warn](#) that the unnatural practices of confining hundreds of animals in small spaces make CAFOs a breeding ground for zoonotic diseases. These infectious diseases, like swine flu and avian flu, harm humans. Finally, this legislature should not support a policy of animal mistreatment. The practice of confining hundreds of thousands of animals in one location, primarily indoors, is cruel and inhumane.

I have submitted testimony to this committee in support of local food production, but CAFOs located in Hawai‘i are not truly local. Big Island Dairy, for example, is owned by mainland residents. Mainland corporations and individuals benefit from CAFOs, while rural Hawaiian communities bear their many costs.

I respectfully request that the Committee supports this measure and a policy of sustainable food production. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Emily Sarasa

esarasa@hawaii.edu

Angela Crumpton

From: danielle shemesh <dshemesh11@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 8:26 AM
To: AEN Committee
Subject: SB1585 band factory farming please

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee,

My name is Danielle and I live in Kaneohe, I am writing in strong support of SB1585, which places a moratorium on large CAFOs in Hawai'i.

Factory farming is another factor to global warming and it is un human. Free range meat and practices are more sustainable, healthier for the consumer (no hormones) and more humane to the animal.

Large CAFOs in Hawai'i have a continued pattern of polluting our water and being shut down for environmental violations. We saw this with Big Island Dairy and the dairy on Kaua'i, both of which were shut down in recent years.

This bill would protect Hawai'i's precious environment and our communities and support locally-owned farms. There is only one farm in the State that qualifies as a large CAFO and it is owned by 2 large corporations on the continent. It is time to support locally-owned farms and local farmers and protect our environment from the harm of large CAFOs.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,
Danielle

Angela Crumpton

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Thank you for your consideration of my support of SB1585.

Mahalo,
Danielle

SB-1585

Submitted on: 2/15/2023 9:33:08 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/15/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sophia Tidler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in full support of SB 1585 and eliminating CAFOS and other contractual operations that render animals as machines, rather than honor and respect them as intelligent and connected living beings. CAFOS is an environmental and moral disaster. Our food systems need to be overhauled and our islands cannot take the pollutants. Animal farming should be small-scaled and the prices should adequately represent the hard work.

My fear is that this will promote outsourcing dairy and meat rather than reduce our waste and promote the local industry. What is the plan to protect and support small, midsize, and independent operations from being replaced from outsourcing, which carries a heavy environmental impact as well from packaged waste and shipping fuel. Can the state take on delivery of milk and eggs... similar to garbage... except a bottle reuse collection system like the good ole days before all the plastic?

Thank you for your commitment to a healthy environment,

Sophie