
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LIVESTOCK.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that maintaining an
2 economically viable and animal-safe interisland ocean
3 transportation system is essential to food sustainability in
4 Hawaii and is a matter of statewide concern. Because beef
5 cattle slaughter facilities are limited statewide, many
6 producers pursue ocean transport to gain access to available
7 facilities on other islands. Although air transportation always
8 remains an option, it is often cost-prohibitive and limited by
9 air carrier weight and size restrictions. Thus, ocean
10 transportation remains vitally important to the local cattle
11 industry and to consumers of beef cattle throughout the State.

12 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
13 University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human
14 resources, in consultation with livestock industry stakeholders,
15 to study and assess the effects of heat stress on beef cattle
16 during interisland ocean transportation.



1 SECTION 2. (a) The University of Hawaii college of
2 tropical agriculture and human resources shall conduct a study
3 to assess the effects of heat stress on beef cattle during
4 interisland ocean transportation and to inform potential future
5 legislation relating to beef cattle interisland ocean
6 transportation and the safety of people, animals, and the
7 environment. The study shall evaluate:

- 8 (1) The core body temperatures and blood biomarkers
9 relating to stress of grass-fed market and cull cattle
10 before, during, and after interisland ocean transport;
11 (2) The environmental conditions inside shipping devices
12 during interisland ocean transport; and
13 (3) Carcass quality and animal performance measurements
14 after interisland ocean transport.

15 (b) In conducting the study, the University of Hawaii
16 college of tropical agriculture and human resources may request
17 assistance and feedback from the department of agriculture or
18 any other department it deems appropriate, to provide expertise
19 to assist with the beef cattle interisland ocean transportation
20 study. The college shall further consult with livestock



1 industry stakeholders, who are encouraged to cooperate and
2 provide information or input.

3 (c) The University of Hawaii college of tropical
4 agriculture and human resources shall submit a report of its
5 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
6 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
7 to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$62,500 or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the
11 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
12 2024-2025 for the University of Hawaii college of tropical
13 agriculture and human resources to conduct the beef cattle
14 interisland ocean transportation study.

15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
16 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.



Report Title:

UH; CTAHR; Beef Cattle Interisland Ocean Transportation Study;
Livestock; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the University of Hawaii College of Tropical
Agriculture and Human Resources, in consultation with livestock
industry stakeholders, to conduct a study to assess the effects
of heat stress on beef cattle during interisland ocean
transportation. Appropriates funds. Effective 6/30/3000.
(HD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

