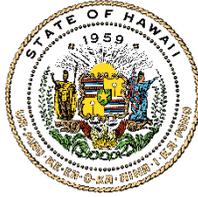


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



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

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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
DAWN N.S. CHANG
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Wednesday, March 19, 2025
1:10 PM**

State Capitol, Conference Room 225, and Via Videoconference

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1334, HOUSE DRAFT 3
RELATING TO MEAT DONATION**

House Bill 1334, House Draft 3 proposes to exempt the donation of wild game meat, including axis deer, to a charitable, religious, or nonprofit organization to needy persons from specific laws regarding the inspection and transportation of meat. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill and offers the following comments.**

The disposition of game species as regulated by the Department's hunting rules, Hawai'i Administrative Rules Chapters 122 and 123, and the Hawai'i Revised Statutes, only restricts the sale or the offer for sale of any game animal or parts of the carcass of any game animal taken from a public hunting area. The Department supports allowing licensed public hunters the discretion to donate their quarry to charitable, religious, or nonprofit organizations.

While the Department regulates the taking of game animals, it does not oversee the processing or food safety aspects of meat donation. The Department defers health and safety requirements for donated wild game meat to the Department of Health.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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TO: Committee on Health and Human Services
FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: March 19, 2025

TIME: 1:10pm

RE: HB1334 HD3 Relating to Meat Donation
Position: Support

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, manufacturers and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

HFIA is in support of this measure. Axis deer are an invasive species and keeping the population under control is necessary in order to protect our agricultural lands and ecosystems. Axis deer can be a plentiful source of affordable locally sourced meat, which can help address food insecurity in our state. Right now there are some unnecessary impediments that prevent axis deer meat from being donated. This measure would help remove those roadblocks and allow for meat donation. We encourage the committee to pass this measure and we thank you for the opportunity to testify.