



**Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.**

**COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
**Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair**  
**Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair**

DATE: Monday, March 28, 2016  
TIME: 9:15 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211

**HB 1982, SD1 – RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS  
TO ASSIST BIG ISLAND DAIRY, LLC.**

Authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Big Island Dairy, LLC, with the operation of its dairy farm in Ookala.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dale Sandlin, and I am Managing Director of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 140+ 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 approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **strongly supports** HB 1982, SD1 as this measure would support the last of the remaining dairy industry in Hawaii.

The dairy industry plays an important role in Hawaii Agriculture. The local dairy cows provide both milk and beef cattle from cull cows and bulls. They are an important sector of the beef industry as they provide another source of locally grown beef to the market here in Hawaii. The dairy industry plays an important role for Hawaii's food sustainability and we would be solely dependent on product from the mainland if they cannot succeed.

This measure would provide the Big Island Dairy the necessary means to build their proposed facility for processing their product. This facility would also help other dairies in that they will have another option to sell their product at a competitive rate. Hawaii Cattlemen's Council strongly supports the dairy industry in Hawaii and we respectfully ask this committee to pass this authorization.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify on this important matter.





4 Ag Hawai'i  
Hawai'i Aquaculture &  
Aquaponics Association  
Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council  
Hawai'i Farm Bureau  
Federation  
Hawai'i Farmers' Union  
United  
Hawai'i Food Industry  
Association  
Hawai'i Food  
Manufacturers Association  
Kohala Center  
Malama Kaua'i  
Maui School Garden  
Network  
Ulupono Initiative

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Monday, March 28, 2016 – 9:15 AM - Room 211

**RE: HB 1982 SD1 – Relating to the Issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to Assist Big Island Dairy, LLC – In Support**

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

**The Local Food Coalition supports HB 1982 SD1**, which authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Big Island Dairy, LLC, with the operation of its dairy farm in Ooкала.

The Local Food Coalition is pleased to support HB 1982 SD1 as it is consistent with our goal of providing more locally produced food.

Currently, there is only one milk processor in the state. If Big Island Dairy builds its own processing facility, it would allow for market competition, as well as contribute to Big Island Dairy's efficiency and profitability.

The dairy industry plays an important role in Hawaii agriculture and to the food sustainability of the state. Big Island Dairy's new facility would ensure a fresher product for Hawaii residents.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprising of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawai'i's food supply.

We ask for your favorable consideration of HB 1982 SD1. Thank you.

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1982 on Mar 28, 2016 09:15AM\*  
**Date:** Monday, March 28, 2016 6:28:52 AM

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**HB1982**

Submitted on: 3/28/2016

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2016 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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