

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
WATER, LAND & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, March 11, 2020**

**9:00 AM**

**State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 2417, SENATE DRAFT 2  
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY**

Senate Bill 2417, Senate Draft 2 proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to recognize that game mammals and game birds are a sustainable food source and that the State's unique relationship with the ocean provides the opportunity to integrate the local fish and game industry into the State's food security profile and to establish and maintain fish propagation facilities. **The Department appreciates the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.**

Free-ranging introduced mammals such as pigs, goats, deer and sheep provide recreational hunting opportunities and meat for some of Hawaii's residents. These animals will also, if left to their own devices, create significant environmental degradation to both farmland and the natural environment. When considering whether these animals are "sustainable", the costs and threats to farming, forest, wildlife and near-shore fishery habitats should be considered.

Conflating introduced game mammals and native fisheries is problematic, especially as the former has a negative impact on the later.

With regard to the proposed SECTION 4 of this measure, please note that the addition of "fish propagation facilities" appears to be unnecessary. Section 187-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires that the Department establish and maintain aquatic life propagation stations, a function that is already provided by the Department's Division of Aquatic Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



**SB2417 SD2**  
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY  
House Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs

March 11, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Room 325

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following **COMMENTS** regarding SB2417 SD2, which would require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and other state agencies to recognize the need to protect resources critical to the subsistence and cultural practices of Native Hawaiians. OHA greatly **appreciates** the amendments reflected in the current draft of this bill, which acknowledge both the importance of subsistence hunting for OHA beneficiaries, as well as the need to appropriately manage game mammals as well as land and ocean activities to protect key public trust resources, including subsistence and cultural resources of critical importance to Native Hawaiians. Due to these amendments, OHA no longer opposes this bill.

OHA recognizes that hunting and fishing may provide a critical source of subsistence for many of its beneficiaries, and that such activities may be particularly relied upon by rural Native Hawaiian communities, such as those found on the island of Moloka'i. Certain hunting and fishing activities may also constitute Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices recognized and protected by the state constitution. Therefore, OHA appreciates the intent of this measure insofar as it may seek to recognize the role that hunting and fishing may play in meeting the subsistence and other needs of local residents, including OHA beneficiaries in particular.

OHA also recognizes that the proliferation of game mammals in potentially sensitive watershed areas may have significant and severe impacts on native species and habitats that themselves serve as the foundation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices; may impair the water security and climate change resilience functions of native watershed ecosystems; and may exacerbate runoff events that can further impact nearshore reefs and coastal ecosystems relied upon by Native Hawaiians for their cultural practices and daily subsistence needs. Accordingly, OHA also greatly appreciates the amendments made to this measure, which recognize not only the importance of game animals as subsistence resources, but the importance of protecting Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices and other public trust priorities in the management of introduced game species.

**OHA is aware of additional refining amendments being proposed that would further recognize the need for subsistence game resources to have adequate food, water, and refuge to the extent necessary to support viable game animal populations sufficient for subsistence hunting purposes; OHA does not object to the adoption of such additional language, should the Committee choose to do so.**

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 2:51:39 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
nani pogline	Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission	Support	Yes

Comments:

Dear WLH Legislators,

On behalf of cultural and historical users of our wild game resources, hunters and fishermen of the Island of Hawaii who depend on them, the Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission strongly supports SB2417.

We would also like to add further to the amendment. After negotiating with OHA, we have gained their full support and agreement in word changes to their amendment, as they will state in their testimony.

We request the wording to read:

Page 1, (3) Recognize that game mammals and game bird provide a sustainable food resource that merit quality habitat providing sufficient food, water, and refuge to support viable populations and sufficient for hunting, and that game populations should be managed to reduce impacts and provide benefits to important watershed areas and functions as well as to Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practice and the resources those practices rely upon.

Mahalo nui loa,

Nani Pogline-chair

GMAC

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 8:58:30 AM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brandon Allen Kainoa Leong	Hawaii Rifle Association Board Member	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB2417 SD2.

Brandon Leong

Hawaii Rifle Association Board Member

Lessons In Firearms Education Board Member and Certified NRA Firearms Instructor

# Hawaii Hunting Association

Preserve, Protect, and Promote Public Hunting



SB2417 SD2

March 9, 2020

Committee on Water Land and Hawaiian Affairs

Date: Wednesday, 03-11-20 9:00AM

House conference room 325.

Dear Committee members of the Water Land and Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

## SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

*The Senate, in SB2417 Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to recognize that game mammals and game birds can provide a sustainable food source when properly managed in appropriate areas that minimize their impacts to important watershed areas and functions as well as to native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices and the resources those practices rely upon, and that the State's unique relationship with the ocean requires a careful consideration and management of land and ocean activities that prioritize the public trust responsibilities of the State, including but not limited to the conservation of natural resources for future generations and the protection of native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices pursuant to article XI, section 1 and article XII, section 7, of the Hawaii State Constitution. Requires each department, office, or agency of the State to update its rules and policies to integrate the local hunting and fishing industries into any food security or sustainability strategies that department, office, or agency employs. Requires reports to the Legislature. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)*

16-1596 Pahoia Hwy; Keaau, HI 96749  
808-982-4747

# Hawaii Hunting Association

Preserve, Protect, and Promote Public Hunting

We would ask that you modify this requirement by incorporating the following changes to SB2417.

Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to recognize that game mammals and game birds ~~[can]~~ provide a sustainable food source when properly managed in appropriate areas[.] ~~[that minimize their impacts to important watershed areas and functions as well as to native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices and the resources those practices rely upon, and that]~~ [I][t]he State's unique relationship with the ocean requires a careful consideration and management of land and ocean activities that prioritize the public trust responsibilities of the State, including but not limited to the conservation of natural resources for future generations and the protection of native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices pursuant to article XI, section 1 and article XII, section 7, of the Hawaii State Constitution.] Requires each department, office, or agency of the State to update its rules and policies to integrate the local hunting and fishing industries into any food security or sustainability strategies that department, office, or agency employs. Requires reports to the Legislature. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

Thank you and Much Aloha,

Tom Lodge, Hawaii Hunting Association

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 9:32:50 AM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 11:37:41 AM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:



**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 2:08:06 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Ley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly approve of SB 2417. As we are going through the Corona Virus, we see shortages of toilet paper. It makes sense that we protect our game animals and birds, in case the islands are ever cut off for whatever reason, we can feed ourselves.. The DLNR needs to step up and do its job on protecting the animals that were given to the people. these animals have been living on the islands for hundred to thousands of years they are apart of the islands

Brian Ley

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 5:24:26 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryan Arakawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fly to the neighbor islands a couple of times a year to hunt with friends. It's a great tradition that I look forward to every year. Hunters contribute to the local economy (lodging, car rental, dining out, etc.). Please support this bill.

Mahalo.

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 5:40:50 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lionel Delos Santos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha legislature, I support this bill for game mammals and birds for food soucre , to help control pigs and popultion to protect the plants, trees that some animal eat and slow down soil erosion in the moutaians.

Thank you for your time for reading my testimony

lionel

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 5:54:00 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ricky Ferreira Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly Support this

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:02:31 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I stand in support of this bill, because hunting is a means for those to provide for themselves as well as their family, as well as to keep traditions alive.

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:05:41 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jerry Ilo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly Support! Our Natural resources must be managed as a invaluable food source and protected from eradication.

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:22:35 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kevin Kacatin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORT. Maintaining the freedom of individual sustainability which includes procuring your own sustenance is key for property rights and individual rights.

Absolutely support this measure.

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:48:03 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eric Akiyama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:49:51 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Don Fujimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB2417 Relating to Sustainability.

Game mammals such as goats and sheep have been part of Hawaii for nearly 250 years. Axis deer were introduced nearly 200 years ago. Pigs came here with the first Hawaiians. All have become important food sources and an established part of the local culture and lifestyle for many generations, especially on the outer islands.

Our ocean food resources desperately need to be managed and nurtured also. Ocean warming is damaging our reefs, creating a dire future for our near-shore species. The impacts of development have also degraded much of the ocean habitat. Catch rates have declined significantly in my lifetime.

Requiring the state to manage these resources will support the subsistence lifestyle of many who struggle to make ends meet, and help to preserve them for future generations. Failure to move this bill forward will result in continuing the haphazard approach taken by the state, and increase the frustration and anger of many in the local community who rely on hunting and fishing for sustenance and recreation.

All of the other western states consider fish and game to be valuable resources. They have management plans that are tailored to each specific environment. Unlike Hawaii, those states rely on fishing commissions and game commissions to help guide their policies. Hawaii needs to do the same.

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 7:17:33 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ron Klapperich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the bill for hunters.

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 7:03:14 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
steven a kumasaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 9:43:37 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Don Aweau	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 8:27:48 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joel Berg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hunting is both traditional and helps us be self sufficient, especially for lower income families. Please pass this bill into law.

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 8:45:59 AM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Amy Brinker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 9:37:10 AM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eric Hammond	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It's bad enough you've taken away some of our 2nd amendment rights with recent legislation. Support the hunters and use these resources wisely.

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 10:06:50 AM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kenny Kwan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

i support this bill. I heavily rely on game animals for food source.



**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 11:57:29 AM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Todd Yukutake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support sb2417

This will help to protect and promote hunting in Hawaii and help with better management of game animals to help the environment. I don't hunt myself but know others that do as a food supplement, recreation and exercise, and bonding with families and friends.

Todd Yukutake

District 33

808-255-3066

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 12:42:31 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joel Nakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because it formally recognizes game mammals and game birds as potentially important sustainable food resources in Hawaii, while specifically stating that such value will not be at the expense of watersheds and native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices (and associated resources).

Therefore, as written, I feel that the possibility of negative impacts (environmental and cultural) have been precluded, and that by recognizing game animals as sustainable food sources, there will be a positive net benefit to the residents of Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to testify.

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 4:36:11 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Thatcher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hawaiians should be entitled to gather food freely year around from any coastline. Natives that catch food to sustain themselves should be free from DLNR persecution. Fishing from land is not a threat to endangered species or to the population of reef fish. Native practices of fishing and gathering should NEVER be hindered by laws and limitations.

**LATE**

**SB-2417-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 7:49:09 AM  
Testimony for WLH on 3/11/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Smith	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Hawaii's game mammals have costs and benefits, but are all injurious invasive species with serious impacts to agriculture and watersheds. While they will always be on the landscape, they should not be codified as part of the state's "sustainability" profile, as their costs outweigh their benefits.