Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment Senate Committee on Higher Education Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 3:07 p.m.

By

Anna Wieczorek, Interim Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
And
Michael Bruno, Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 1488 – RELATING TO LIVESTOCK

Chairs Gabbard and Kim, Vice Chairs Richards and Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment and Senate Committee on Higher Education:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in <u>support</u> of SB 1488 relating to the appropriation of funds to the University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH/CTAHR) to conduct a study to assess the effects of heat stress on beef cattle during interisland ocean transportation.

UH/CTAHR possesses the expertise to conduct the beef cattle interisland ocean transportation study. As appropriate, we will request assistance and feedback from the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture and other relevant departments, and we will consult with livestock industry stakeholders and seek their cooperation in gathering information and data. We are convinced that the findings of this study will help us better understand the impact of interisland ocean transport, as presently practiced, on animal welfare and meat quality.

We <u>support</u> SB 1488 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Board of Regents Approved Budget.