JAN 2 5 2017

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LIVESTOCK HARVEST FACILITIES.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the cattle industry
 2 in Hawaii has a long-standing history, beginning with the gift
- 3 of cattle to King Kamehameha in 1793. The industry has since
- 4 seen numerous changes in production practices and has adapted to
- 5 market conditions. The industry was locally focused until the
- 6 1990s when it became more cost effective to send cattle to
- 7 pasture on the mainland. Recently, there has been a resurgence
- 8 in the number of cattle that remain in Hawaii for local
- 9 consumption, and challenges have arisen due to that resurgence.
- 10 The legislature further finds that livestock harvest
- 11 facilities in Hawaii have had to adapt to the various industry
- 12 changes, and the owners of these facilities have had to make
- 13 difficult decisions over the years to remain competitive and
- 14 continue to serve local markets. After adapting in the 1990s
- 15 when cattle was predominantly sent to the mainland, many
- 16 facilities are not equipped to handle the recent resurgence of
- 17 cattle remaining in Hawaii before harvest. Specifically, these

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- 1 facilities were built for a set throughput of livestock, which
- 2 makes it difficult to effectively adapt to changing industry
- 3 conditions. Many facilities need major improvements to remain
- 4 competitive and serve the community, the significant costs of
- 5 which can be prohibitive.
- 6 The legislature believes that the renewed focus on keeping
- 7 more cattle in Hawaii presents the opportunity to prepare for
- 8 the future now. Planning and design funding is needed to
- 9 provide comprehensive and scalable plans for livestock harvest
- 10 facilities that can be utilized throughout the State. The
- 11 planning for these facilities would provide for anticipated
- 12 future growth of the industry and for adaptability to changing
- 13 throughput for which the existing facilities were never able to
- 14 account. This effort should provide a model for adaptable use
- 15 in varied locales, would focus on more efficient processing
- 16 technologies and equipment, and provide stability within the
- 17 industry as we continue to expand our local food supply.
- 18 The purpose of this Act is to support, maintain, and
- 19 prepare for the future of Hawaii's cattle industry.
- 20 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much



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- 1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 for the
- 2 planning and design of scalable livestock harvest facilities.
- 3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 4 agriculture for the purposes of this Act.
- 5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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Report Title:

Livestock Harvest Facilities; Department of Agriculture; Appropriation

Description:

Makes an appropriation for the planning and design of scalable livestock harvest facilities to be expended by DOA.

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