HB-972-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/12/2023 7:00:36 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/13/2023 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Brian Miyamoto	Testifying for Hawaii Farm Bureau	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Farm Strong!



## COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

# HB972 RELATING TO THE ANIMAL INDUSTRY SPECIAL FUND

Monday, March 13, 2023, 1:15 PM Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 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 over 750 thousand acres of land in Hawaii, or 20% of the State's total land mass. We represent the interests of Hawaii's cattle producers.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **<u>supports HB972 HD1</u>** which adds revenue generated by the State Veterinary Laboratory and Animal Disease Control Branch as sources for the Animal Industry Special Fund and clarifies that the funds from the special fund may be expended to make laboratory improvements.

It is important to ensure there is revenue to continue providing services by the State Veterinary Laboratory. This branch should be adequately funded to properly carry out their duties, as it is vital to supporting the livestock industry, continuing research, and monitoring and addressing disease outbreaks.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Nicole Galase Hawaii Cattlemen's Council Managing Director



P.O. Box 934 • Hilo, HI 96721 • (808) 333-6755 • www.hicattle.org • office@hicattle.org

HB-972-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/11/2023 2:44:01 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/13/2023 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Aileen K . F. Yeh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this uses of the special fund.

HB-972-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/12/2023 6:56:20 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/13/2023 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Woody Child	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB972 relating to Animal Industry Special Fund.