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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LIVESTOCK.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that maintaining an  
2 economically viable and animal-safe interisland ocean  
3 transportation system is essential to food sustainability in  
4 Hawaii and is a matter of statewide concern. Because beef  
5 cattle slaughter facilities are limited statewide, many  
6 producers pursue ocean transport to gain access to available  
7 facilities on other islands. Although air transportation always  
8 remains an option, it is often cost-prohibitive and limited by  
9 air carrier weight and size restrictions. Thus, ocean  
10 transportation remains vitally important to the local cattle  
11 industry and to consumers of beef cattle throughout the State.

12           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the  
13 University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human  
14 resources, in consultation with livestock industry stakeholders,  
15 to study and assess the effects of heat stress on beef cattle  
16 during interisland ocean transport.



1 SECTION 2. (a) The University of Hawaii college of  
2 tropical agriculture and human resources shall conduct a study  
3 to assess the effects of heat stress on beef cattle during  
4 interisland ocean transport and to inform potential future  
5 legislation relating to beef cattle interisland ocean transport  
6 and the safety of people, animals, and the environment. The  
7 study shall evaluate:

- 8 (1) The core body temperatures and blood biomarkers  
9 relating to stress of grass-fed market and cull cattle  
10 before, during, and after interisland ocean transport;
- 11 (2) The environmental conditions inside shipping devices  
12 during interisland ocean transport; and
- 13 (3) Carcass quality and animal performance measurements  
14 after interisland ocean transport.

15 (b) In conducting the study, the University of Hawaii  
16 college of tropical agriculture and human resources may request  
17 assistance and feedback from the department of agriculture or  
18 any other department it deems appropriate, to provide expertise  
19 to assist with the beef cattle interisland ocean transport  
20 study. The college shall further consult with livestock



1 industry stakeholders, who are encouraged to cooperate and  
2 provide information or input.

3 (c) The University of Hawaii college of tropical  
4 agriculture and human resources shall submit a report of its  
5 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
6 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
7 to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$62,500 or so much  
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the  
11 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
12 2024-2025 for the University of Hawaii college of tropical  
13 agriculture and human resources to conduct the beef cattle  
14 interisland ocean transport study.

15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University  
16 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



S.B. NO. 1488  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 2

**Report Title:**

UH; CTAHR; Beef Cattle Interisland Ocean Transportation Study;  
Livestock; Report; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the University of Hawaii College of Tropical  
Agriculture and Human Resources, in consultation with livestock  
industry stakeholders, to conduct a study to assess the effects  
of heat stress on beef cattle during interisland ocean  
transportation. Requires a report. Appropriates funds.  
Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is  
not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

