

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
Governor

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
Lt. Governor



State of Hawai'i  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & BIOSECURITY**  
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI A KIA'I MEAOLA  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9560 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**SHARON HURD**  
Chairperson  
Board of Agriculture & Biosecurity

**DEAN M. MATSUKAWA**  
Deputy to the Chairperson

## **WRITTEN ONLY**

### **TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND BIOSECURITY**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, CULTURE AND THE ART**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026  
1:00 PM  
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2161  
RELATING TO LAND USE**

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2161 that amends Section 205-4.5(a) to authorize rodeos and rodeo activities on lands within the State Agricultural District, agricultural lands controlled by the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity (Department) or the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), and lands encumbered by the Department and DLNR. The bill defines the term "rodeo and rodeo activities." The Department offers comments.

The Department is concerned that enacting the language amending Section 205-4.5 would open the door to other uses and activities seeking equal treatment. We recommend that approval of rodeos and associated uses and activities follow the long-established special permit process described in Section 205-6.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE  
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHANE  
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  
RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE  
Acting Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER, LAND, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Wednesday, February 4, 2026  
1:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 224 and Via Videoconference

In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 2161  
RELATING TO LAND USE

Senate Bill 2161 proposes to permit rodeos and rodeo activities on lands within agricultural districts that have a soil classification productivity rating of class A or B and defines the term “rodeo and rodeo activities”. **The Department supports the intent of the bill and offers the following comments.**

The Department recognizes the educational, cultural, and ceremonial importance of rodeos and rodeo activities associated with the State’s paniolo history. The Department also recognizes that it controls lands within agricultural districts, which primarily are used for pasture purposes. The Department’s current pasture leases strictly limit these lands to “pastoral” use. This is a concern as this measure does not provide as to whether “rodeo and rodeo activities” are considered pastoral uses.

The Department’s lands are subject to Chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), which provides authority for the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) to review and approve events on its lands. We note that any activity on the Department’s lands requires an environmental review pursuant to Chapter 343, HRS, and Hawaii Administrative Rules 11-200.1. Accordingly, any “rodeo and rodeo activities” will need to be properly reviewed and approved by the Board prior to the event occurring. We recommend that long-term dispositions be sought so that the Department’s limited resources are not further taxed and to ensure an appraisal is done to appropriately compensate the Department.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 4:57:10 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Candace Martin	Testifying for Department of Land and Natural Resources	Comments	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Testimony submitted on DLNR Testimony account for comments to be presented by Lauren Yasaka in-person. Request for zoom link for additional staff to attend remotely as backup.

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 1/30/2026 5:49:41 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cathy Goeggel	Testifying for Animal Rights Hawai'i	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

We ask that SB2161 be tabled. There is indeed, a long history of Hawaiian cowboys, and the lore that accompanys such romanticizing of cruelty to animals. There is also history of the removal of forests to accommodate cattle ranching. The recent droughts throughout the islands could have been mitigaited by keeping valuable trees which capture moisture from rain clouds. There is no reason to continue an event in which animals are abused and sometimes killed, just for entertainment. The cowboy saga is history -pau. Please do not pass SB2161.



COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
Senator Chris Lee, Chair  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

**SB2161**  
RELATING TO LAND USE

Wednesday, February 4, 2026, 1:00 PM  
Conference Room 411 & Videoconference

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **strongly supports SB2161** which authorizes rodeos and rodeo activities on lands that are zoned for agricultural use and defines the term "rodeo and rodeo activities".

Rodeo values and skills are closely intertwined with paniolo cattle production. The skills learned in rodeo develop horse and livestock handling skills which is paramount to workforce development for the cattle industry.

These community events bring together all ages and teach the participants responsibility and love of the land, while providing spectators with a way to connect more closely to the hard work that goes into producing the food on their plate. These rodeos also often serve as fundraising events for the community. Especially when paired with educational, cultural, and ceremonial activities, rodeos are integral to maintaining support for agricultural production in Hawaii. It is a way to reach those who do not normally have a connection to agriculture, allowing them to appreciate and learn the paniolo culture and values.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four county-level Cattlemen's Associations. Ranchers produce a high-quality protein and are the stewards of almost 750 thousand acres of land in Hawaii, or nearly 20% of the State's total land mass. We represent the interests of Hawaii's cattle producers.

Nicole Galase  
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council  
Managing Director



**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 5:21:45 AM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keith	Testifying for McCandless Ranch	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support. This use of Ag land is highly appropriate and long overdue.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LT. GOVERNOR



WENDY GADY  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
HUI HO'OU LU AINA MAHIAI

TESTIMONY OF WENDY L. GADY  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, CULTURE, AND THE ARTS  
February 4, 2026  
1:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

SENATE BILL NO. 2161  
RELATING TO LAND USE

Chairperson Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

We are writing in **support** of allowing rodeos and related rodeo activities to be conducted on lands zoned for agricultural use. Rodeos are fundamentally connected to livestock production, ranching operations, and agricultural skills, and when properly managed, they represent a compatible and beneficial use of agricultural lands.

Rodeos are not merely recreational events; they are an extension of working ranch practices that showcase horsemanship, livestock handling, and land stewardship. These activities are deeply rooted in Hawai'i's paniolo tradition, which represents one of the oldest ranching cultures in the United States. Supporting rodeos on agricultural lands helps preserve this cultural legacy while reinforcing the continued relevance of ranching and livestock operations in Hawai'i today.

Rodeos and related agricultural events also create meaningful business development and revenue-generating opportunities for agricultural landowners and rural communities. These events support local ranchers, farmers, trainers, veterinarians, feed suppliers, farriers, equipment vendors, and small businesses.

They also create opportunities for value-added activities such as agricultural education events, local food sales, agritourism, and community gatherings that strengthen rural economies.

Allowing rodeos on agricultural lands provides land managers with a flexible tool to generate supplemental revenue that can be reinvested into land stewardship, infrastructure maintenance, and ongoing agricultural operations. This diversification supports the long-term financial sustainability of agricultural lands while keeping them in active agricultural use.

Rodeos play an important role in engaging youth and introducing the next generation to livestock, horsemanship, and agricultural careers. Rodeo activities provide hands-on learning experiences that build responsibility, work ethic, and practical skills associated with animal care and land management. These experiences can spark early interest in ranching, veterinary science, agricultural trades, and other careers critical to Hawai'i's food system.

Creating spaces where young people can safely and appropriately interact with livestock helps ensure the continuity of agricultural knowledge and skills. Rodeos offer an accessible entry point for youth who may not otherwise have exposure to working lands or livestock-based agriculture.

When conducted with appropriate safeguards, rodeos and rodeo-related activities are compatible with agricultural zoning and support the intent of keeping lands productive, economically viable, and culturally relevant. Clear operating standards, coordination with land managers, and respect for surrounding agricultural activities can ensure that rodeos enhance—rather than detract from—the primary agricultural purpose of these lands.

In summary, allowing rodeos and rodeo activities on agricultural lands supports ranching operations, preserves Hawai'i's paniolo heritage, generates economic activity, and creates meaningful pathways for youth engagement in agriculture. We respectfully encourage continued support for rodeos as a legitimate and valuable agricultural use that contributes to the vitality of Hawai'i's rural communities and food system.



Thank you for your consideration and ongoing commitment to Hawai'i's agricultural future. We would be pleased to discuss this further or provide additional information as needed.



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February 4, 2026

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

**TESTIMONY ON SB 2161**  
**RELATING TO LAND USE**

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference  
1:00 PM

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice-Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate, and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

**The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports SB 2161**, which authorizes rodeos and rodeo activities on lands that are zoned for agricultural use.

HFB believes that rodeos are a legitimate agricultural activity that is closely connected to livestock management, ranching operations, and Hawai'i's paniolo tradition.

Rodeos are rooted in the practical skills used by ranchers, including horsemanship, roping, and animal handling. These activities reflect real-world agricultural practices and serve as an extension of working ranch operations rather than a departure from them. Rodeos also provide opportunities for agricultural education, skill development, and community engagement centered on livestock and working ranch lands.

Clarifying that rodeos are an agricultural activity provides important land-use certainty for ranchers, agricultural organizations, and communities. This clarity helps avoid inconsistent interpretations that could unintentionally restrict legitimate agricultural uses on agricultural lands, while still allowing appropriate oversight and community considerations.

Recognizing rodeos as an agricultural activity supports the continued viability of ranching operations, preserves Hawai'i's agricultural heritage, and reinforces the primary purpose of agricultural lands as working landscapes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Senator Chris Lee, Chair  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

**SB2161**  
RELATING TO LAND USE

Wednesday, February 4, 2026, 1:00 PM  
Conference Room 411 & Videoconference

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee,

I **strongly support SB2161** which authorizes rodeos and rodeo activities on lands that are zoned for agricultural use and defines the term "rodeo and rodeo activities".

Rodeos is one of the most effective ways to connect our community to the agricultural world. It not only brings our community together, but invites others to learn about Hawai'i's paniolo heritage with events like, "Hawai'i's own" such as Po'o Wai U and Double Mugging that allow paniolo to show their skillful handling of cattle as they would on the ranch.

Rodeo teaches our keiki the foundation of horsemanship and livestock handling skills that will be imperative for them in the cattle industry. As a former Hawaii High School Rodeo participant, rodeo has taught me life skills and deeper appreciation for my paniolo roots. Rodeo is a part of our paniolo legacy that lives on through generations.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sharlei Iranon  
Triple S Livestock LLC  
President



**LATE**

February 3, 2026

To: Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Lorraine R. Inouye, and the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Culture, and the Arts

Subject: **SB2161, Relating to Land Use**

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee,

We **support the intent of SB2161**, which seeks to honor the State's rich ranching and paniolo culture by authorizing rodeos on agricultural lands. We recognize that these activities can provide a **viable new source of income** for both the agricultural and tourism sectors.

However, because these events involve dangerous sports and take place on land primarily intended for food production, we urge the committee to adopt the following standards:

**Establishing Rodeo Welfare and Safety Standards.** To ensure the safety of both participants and animals, the State should establish a **Rodeo Board** to enforce safety and welfare protocols, including things like veterinary oversight and humane handling.

**Protecting Agricultural Land and Resource Value.** Since this land is originally slated for agricultural purposes, it is vital that rodeo activities **do not adversely impact agricultural land** or other agricultural uses in the vicinity. To maintain its long-term value, we recommend:

- **Scale and Frequency Caps:** Implementing a **cap on the scale or frequency** of these events to prevent long-term degradation.
- **Environmental Safeguards:** Adding requirements to mitigate **erosion, waste, and excessive water use**. This should include protecting tree root zones from soil compaction and utilizing protective matting in high-traffic areas.
- **Post-Event Restoration:** Mandating that organizers restore the **"disturbed earth"** to substantially the same physical condition as existed before the event.

By incorporating these safeguards, **SB2161** will ensure that Hawai'i's ranching traditions grow in a way that is safe, humane, and respectful of our precious agricultural resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo,  
Carlin McFadden & the Food+ Policy Team  
#fixourfoodsystem

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**The Food+ Policy internship** develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawai'i communities.

In 2026, the cohort of interns are undergraduate and graduate students and young professionals working in the food system. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, public health, nutrition, and Hawaiian culture.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 6:01:28 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lani Petrie	Testifying for Hawaii Cattlemen's Council	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a rancher, business woman, and current president of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. I wear three hats. Our industry depends on generational commitment to the land, livestock, family, and community. There is no better place to shape our youth than in the sport of rodeo which was spawned by the skill set of our ranching kupuna.

Lani Petrie



T. George Paris  
Managing Director

# Iron Workers Stabilization Fund

**LATE**

February 4, 2026

Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Thirty-Third Legislature, Regular Session of 2026

## **Re: Strong Support for SB2161, Authorizing Rodeos and Rodeo Activities on Agricultural Lands**

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee,

The Ironworkers Stabilization Fund strongly supports SB2161, a measure that seeks to honor Hawai'i's rich paniolo culture by explicitly authorizing rodeos and related activities on agricultural-zoned lands. This bill represents an opportunity for economic growth, job creation, and enhanced community well-being across the islands.

The authorization of permanent venues and events for rodeo activities serves as a powerful catalyst for **new revenue and the growth of local businesses**. Rodeo events draw crowds and will directly inject money into local economies through tourism, ticket sales, concessions, and retail. This creates a new, stable, and culturally-relevant form of economic activity for our agricultural districts. Furthermore, the establishment, maintenance, and operation of rodeo facilities and events will create demand for a wide array of support services from local businesses—from veterinary and livestock suppliers to food vendors and event organizers. Crucially, the construction and ongoing maintenance of the necessary infrastructure—such as arenas, bleachers, corrals, fencing, and staging areas, as defined in Section 205-4.5(g)—will require the skilled labor of our local ironworkers, providing stable, family-sustaining union jobs.

Furthermore, this measure delivers much-needed **recreational and cultural activity for our people**. By promoting and formalizing the Hawaiian cowboy tradition, we preserve a valuable piece of local heritage. Rodeos offer a wholesome, family-friendly, and engaging recreational outlet for all residents, providing entertainment, competition, and a deep connection to the islands' history of ranching and horsemanship. This initiative creates a platform for youth development. By establishing structured programs centered on horsemanship and ranching skills, we can provide constructive activities that keep our youth busy and off the streets. For at-risk or troubled youth, the discipline and responsibility required to care for animals serve as mentorship tools. This approach offers a tangible solution to help combat rising crime, giving our young people the skills, guidance, and sense of purpose they need to choose a positive path.



# Iron Workers Stabilization Fund

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For these reasons—economic opportunity, job creation for our members, support for local enterprise, and the preservation of a vital cultural recreation—I urge the Committee to pass SB2161.

Respectfully,

T.George Paris  
Managing Director

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 1/30/2026 7:05:12 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry COMMENT is NOT on ag soil land classification A-C

2161 SB RELATING TO LAND USE.	WLA	CR 224 & Videoconference	Feb 4, 2026 1:00 PM
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**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 10:57:25 AM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Megan Blazak	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee,

As a constituent of Senate District 1, I support SB2161 and urge you to pass the measure.

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 3:58:37 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jimmy Greenwell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I concur with the testimony of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council in strong support of this measure. In addition to HCC's comments , I would underscore the value of encouraging activities like rodeos that involve our youth in a way that may contribute to their interest to consider a career in agriculture and being a part of a community of dedicated ranchers and land stewards that we need for our future. Where better to have such events than on land already zoned for agricultural use?

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 4:34:12 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am in support of rodeos on Ag lands.

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:24:43 AM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Yeh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii produces some of the best rodeo stars, they also usually move away to pursue their dreams. Bringing in more competition here and making Hawaii a destination for the rodeo circuit would have a major economic impact.

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 11:21:38 AM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gabrielle	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

My name is Gabrielle Berce, and I am an alumna of the Miss Rodeo Hawai'i and Miss Rodeo America programs class of 2021, Chairman of the Livestock and Poultry Exhibit at the Maui County Fair, and President and Founder of Hui Livestock & Poultry Maui.

I am writing in support of SB2161. In short, rodeo absolutely belongs on agricultural lands. Rodeo began as a way for cowboys to show off their ranching skills. It celebrates and perpetuates the Paniolo heritage. We, Paniolo and the community alike deserve designated spaces to ride our horses and compete. While it is accurate to say not all ag lands should hold arenas and host events, it is essential to allow the opportunity for such events to happen within those spaces.

It broke my heart seeing event organizers for the Rope for Wishes rodeo, a benefit for the Hawai'i Make a Wish Foundation, call for petition and testimony to share at a Kailua Community Board Association meeting as complaints had been received by non-local property managers that having a rodeo at Kualoa Ranch was inappropriate. How ridiculous. If not for ag lands, where else should we ride? We have limited to no public trails available, or county owned arenas.

Meanwhile, I also live on an agriculture designated land with my horse, cows and poultry, amongst neighbors who rent out several housing "units" that somehow got approved with a single flower bed. With tenants coming from abroad while simultaneously evicting a local family who struggled to pay the increased rent. I'd much rather see a ranch or farm utilize their ag lots to host and profit off of rodeos, than building housing units that don't support locals.

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 11:43:38 AM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corinna Oliva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Corinna Oliva. I am born and raised in Hawai'i and reside in Paauilo with my 2 children. I am sending in my testimony in support of bill SB2161. Agriculture and livestock have played such an import role in my upbringing as well as for my children. At 13 years old my oldest daughter wakes up early to care for her horses before school. She comes home, exercises them, then feeds them dinner. When she was younger she was very shy and lacked self confidence. She started rodeo when she was 6, she struggled at first because she was so nervous, but once she realized that the sport is between you and your partner (your horse) she began to grow. To see her now IS the testimony. She is so proud to show how far her and her horse have come. She has made amazing friends and even family through rodeo. My littlest daughter is also well on her way, fine tuning her skills so she can one day fly on borrowed wings. Rodeo has taught my girls hard work, responsibility, discipline, confidence, passion, and most of all LOVE. To be loved unconditionally. To be able to put your 100 percent trust in your horse to carry you through hard things, it changes you. I cannot even imagine where my family would be without the sport of rodeo and the company of the many friends we have made along the way. I hope that you felt my heart in this testimony.

Mahalo for your time,

Corinna

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 12:17:48 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james earl duffy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

My name is Jim Duffy. My wife Jeanne and I are the owners of a small livestock company, 4-J Livestock, on Oahu. We strongly support SB2161. Rodeos and related activities are family and community events which not only provide entertainment for Country people and City people alike but also are educational in promoting an understanding of the ranching work and skills which are necessary in the production of food for our Community. We respectfully submit that rodeo and rodeo activities are perfectly consistent with lands zoned for agricultural use. Jim Duffy, retired Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 2:52:18 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Makai Freitas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of SB2161. Mahalo.

-Makai Freitas



**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:01:10 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kale Ornellas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in complete support .

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:25:13 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Blair Nahale	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:25:33 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zorich Palimoo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:26:53 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kona Makaula	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:26:52 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Phlynn Pennington	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong opposition of SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:30:07 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jay Amina III	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2161.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:32:09 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen Paling IV	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:39:34 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kona Makaula	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support SB2161



**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:36:43 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Mendiola	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Keoni Mendiola, in Strong Support of SB2161. Mahalo!

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:41:56 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Dunhour	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:49:31 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Micah Kahumoku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of SB2161.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:50:05 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandon Parker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:51:46 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Louis Mansanas jr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 3:58:45 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pita Hiko	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Support of SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:00:46 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelsey Beck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:06:18 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noah Campbell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this SENATE BILL



**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:24:48 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cole B Kashimoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:32:30 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Naheana Brenneman Aguiar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Naheana Brenneman Aguiar, and I am a fourth-generation paniolo. My children are now the fifth generation of our family continuing this proud tradition. I am writing to express my support for allowing ACTRA team roping events to be held on state lands in Hawai at the AMPAC arena in Pa'auilo on the Big Island.

Team roping is more than a sport—it is a vital part of our paniolo heritage. These events preserve our culture, teach discipline, responsibility, and horsemanship, and create opportunities for future generations to carry forward our traditions.

Personally, the opportunity to participate in ACTRA team ropings has had a profound impact on my family. As a single mother, I relied on this community to support my children. Through their participation in team roping, my children were able to earn scholarships and attend college, which would have been difficult otherwise. The ACTRA system makes this possible because events are affordable and accesible, and the support of this team roping community is AMAZING!

Hosting events at the AMPAC facility is ideal. It is quiet, with no homes nearby, and the grounds are safe—unlike the current county facility, which requires frequent watering because residents often complain about the dust, creating a very hard and unsafe condition unless a tractor and arena drag are hauled with every use (which is unaffordable). At AMPAC, there is no cattle hauling required, the cattle are less stressed, natural shade provides comfort for both horses and participants, and families would be able to bring their kids to work on their skills. The current arena is always locked and inaccessible, which limits opportunities for youth and community involvement.

Allowing ACTRA team roping at the AMPAC arena helps families learn a meaningful skill, strengthens our cultural identity, and opens doors for future opportunities. It is a safe, structured, and supportive environment that nurtures both our traditions and our youth. All ACTRA members are covered by the ACTRA insurance when the membership is purchased, which is mandatory to participate.

I respectfully ask for your support in allowing ACTRA team roping events to resume on state lands, so that our paniolo culture can thrive for generations to come.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Naheana Brenneman Aguiar

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:33:40 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Montgomery Meyer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB2161. Mahalo

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:38:25 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Collin Mansanas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support of SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:56:26 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Dolan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of SB2161.

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 5:03:15 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noah foti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I strongly support this. Rodeo and rodeo activities will strongly promote agriculture in our community. And also brings more value to the animals and everything that goes along with raising animals. Bringing more value create more opportunity and ultimately will help Hawaii be more sustainable, agriculturally friendly, and benefit farmers, ranchers, Feed supply stores, as well as entertainment in our community.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 5:03:32 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lori	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2161.



**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 5:03:59 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linnea Botelho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am very much in support of this bill. Our paniolo culture is very important to us and preserving it is too. Allowing rodeo activities on agricultural lands helps to teach much needed skills that help the growth of the work force in the cattle industry which in turn helps the economic growth accelerator. This is very important as these skills are passed down from generations to keep the paniolo culture alive and well. Up coming children need to learn skills that will help them keep ranching alive in Hawaii and keeping Hawaii sustainable. These skills are learned through rodeo activities. It is also a great recreation allowing families and community to come together and have fun, relax and learn together. Please vote yes on this bill. It is very important to us!

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 5:48:39 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Makana Fronda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 6:02:58 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Darby ventura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I whole heartedly support SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 6:23:56 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kasey Romero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Strong support of SB2161.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:01:29 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kekoa Huffman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of sb2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:26:36 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lloydette Helenihi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in support of SB 2161. Rodeo was a part of my life growing up. Taking care of my horse everyday no matter the weather. The weekend was for longer rides, horse shows or rodeo. While I no longer ride I know how important it is to rodeo families.

Here on the Big Island we have few activities available for whole families to participate in. Children, teenagers, adults and seniors can and do participate in rodeo. We're talking three generations in one rodeo. Grandparent roping with grandchild.

Having places to gather to rope are few and far between. Just being able to gather to practice roping in arena is difficult for most. It can be for just a few hours after work to squeeze in some practice time.

Please allow this bill to pass.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:33:07 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jimmy Gomes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in total support of SB2161 bill. I stand behind Hawaii Cattlemen Council testimony.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 8:54:14 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaliko Bugado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Events hosted on agricultural land also strengthen the connection between the public and agriculture. When people visit a ranch, they gain a better understanding of where their food comes from, how much care goes into land stewardship, and why preserving agricultural land matters. That understanding builds support for farming, not development.

Ranchers are already responsible land managers. We understand safety, environmental impacts, and neighbor considerations, and we are willing to comply with reasonable standards. What we need is a regulatory framework that recognizes agriculture as a living, evolving business—not one frozen in time.



**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 9:05:28 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Seth Holck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 9:27:13 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joshua Mueller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2161

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 9:55:53 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Miranda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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Our family owns and runs a ranch on the island of Maui. We will be celebrating ranching in Hawaii for 110 years this summer. Our family has supported and produced the 4th of July Makawao Stampede for over 80 years. Rodeos provide skills important for livestock animal handling. We have 3 rodeo arenas. All of our arenas are used for handling our cattle herds. Rodeos provide a way for the community to connect to agriculture. Not only do we use the arenas for working our cattle, but also for hosting the Keiki, Jr High and high school district rodeos, and several large open rodeos and equine events. During these rodeos, we believe in training arena champions, and raising life champions. We are able through hard work, perseverance and cooperation, to raise community contributors that one day will pay it forward and be the workers, leaders and families in our communities. These rodeos, on our ranch and ranches across the state, are an opportunity for our community to join with us, to shape the culture and life worth living and raising our families in.

Thank you for taking the time to hear us. Thank you to our legislators who find value in preserving the Paniolo culture for the next generation. The world needs more cowboys and cowgirls. We need another generation who isn't afraid to work hard to grow and raise our food and feed our islands, our nation. Rodeos provide a way for the community to connect to agriculture.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 5:39:32 AM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shawn Aguiar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Shawn Aguiar and I support rodeo and rodeo activities being allowed on agricultural land because rodeo provides and place for cowboys to sharpen and showcase their skills that are needed for everyday function.

it also encourages and promotes the keiki to stay or get involved in agriculture with pride in the paniolo culture. Rodeo goes hand in hand with ranching and agriculture.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:32:36 AM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carolyn L W Auwelo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Rodeo is an extension of the livestock industry and should be allowable on agricultural land.

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 10:06:37 AM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gabrielle (Gabby) Lorenzo-Beaudet	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, My name is Gabby. Before I am an employee, or spouse, or volunteer, I am a mom, the most important role I will hold in my life. The role that will shape the people in my care for the better or for worse. My children, biological or hanai'd due to circumstances out of there control, are a part of your community. How they are raised will mold the adults they become. Up and coming generations face a different challenges than our grandparents and parents faced. Those before us knew hard laborious work, limitations, and true grit and dedication before receiving any type of reward. Our kids today face challenges that are larger, scarier, and overall the influences in today's society make growing up in Hawaii terrifying. We have the ability to make a difference in a huge way through approving this bill. Limitation's are endless, people in the farming, ranching, agriculture fields are ridden with rules and laws that are set forth not to allow the gain of momentum for them but to forestall them, to thwart progress and any real success. Farms without adequate water resources, ranchers without viable leases with longevity to make smart financial investments, road blocks for our agriculture workers here in our state that create more room for imported goods and less room for Hawaii grown, and restrictions on land use that prevent the the very reasons we all do what we do. Where do you suggest we "practice" our profession? Where do people in our position go to raise our children and "show them the way" if we cannot utilize our lands that are zoned agricultural to practice the skills necessary to thrive in an ag based industry? Do the ranchers "just know how" without any delegated areas to better there skills? Do my children and thousands more have to rely on the permits and use of county parks? . Prohibiting the use of my ag zoned land and the lands of many others for the use of rodeos takes away from generations of children who depend on these lands to learn invaluable skills directly related to there future ability to properly lead businesses in this industry. Will we be the reason those after us thrive and work hard? Or will we be the reason they struggle, and then complain about the lack of food and resources we have in Hawaii! Holomua and allow the practice of ranching through rodeo and roping events!

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 10:39:13 AM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isaac Ignacio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of SB2161!

**LATE**

**SB-2161**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 12:36:05 PM

Testimony for WLA on 2/4/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Myles Y Miyasato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good afternoon Chair Lee,

Vice Chair Inouye, and Senate committee members,

I would like to express my strong support for this amendment that Rodeo's become a permissible use on state agriculture designated lands. The Paniolo culture needs to be preserved now more than ever.

please advance this measure.

mahalo, Myles Miyasato