

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:54:33 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alan Gottlieb	Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dog attacks on livestock is a safety issue for humans as well as animals

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 10:18:33 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Ka'ala Farm Inc.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Chair, Vice-Chairs, and Members of the Committee

Aloha. My name is Dr. Kealii Pang, and I am the Board President of Ka'ala Farm, Inc., a Native Hawaiian-serving nonprofit in Wai'anae with over 50 years of service dedicated to food security and community resilience. I submit this testimony in strong support of HB2152.

Our support for this measure follows a recent tragedy. In the early morning hours of February 8, 2026, an unrestrained dog entered a fenced area on our farm and destroyed our entire flock of sheep. Eleven animals were lost. These sheep were not merely livestock; they were vital partners in land stewardship, grazing invasive grasses to provide essential wildfire prevention for the Wai'anae community. Their loss is a direct blow to our ability to protect the 'āina and our neighbors from fire risk.

While we have accepted the owner's apology with grace, the current legal framework is insufficient to prevent such tragedies. HB2152 provides necessary accountability and clarity through the following provisions:

- Clarified Liability (§142-74): Holding owners strictly liable for double damages acknowledges that the value of livestock includes their role in a farm's ecosystem and future production.
- Authority to Protect Livestock (§142-74(b)): Our staff was forced to neutralize the dog as a last resort to stop the massacre. Codifying the authority to protect livestock during an active attack is essential for the safety of both animals and human staff.
- Streamlined Judicial Process (§142-74(d-f)): Creating an expedited path in district court for cases involving dangerous dogs focuses on preventing repeat offenses and ensuring community safety.
- Definition of Livestock (§142-74(i)): Explicitly recognizing animals raised for agricultural value validates their role in Hawai'i's food security and land management.

The loss at Ka'ala Farm is a stark example of why this bill is needed. We urge the committee to pass HB2152 to protect Hawai'i's farmers, ranchers, and land stewards from similar devastation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Kealii Pang, Ph.D.

Board President, Ka'ala Farm, Inc.

**HB-2152**

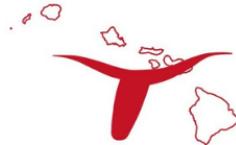
Submitted on: 2/9/2026 10:42:47 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kristin Mack Almasin	Ulupalakua Ranch	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We support HB2152 which clarifies owner liability and increases penalties and enforcement mechanisms for dog attacks on livestock. At Ulupalakua Ranch, we frequently deal with dogs harassing our cattle, elk, and sheep. We've lost as many as 25 sheep in one night and a few years ago, we lost about half of our elk herd (about 50 head) over the period of a couple of months to dog attacks. We have even had instances where dogs have growled or barked at our employees while they are working in the field. While there are some packs of actual feral dogs in the mountains, many times our dog attacks are from domestic dogs that are not kept in a secure area and join into packs. Because they don't fear humans, these packs are dangerous and are not afraid of pursuing livestock. Irresponsible individuals should not have the privilege of owning dogs, especially when they hinder agricultural production.



**Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.**

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

Rep. Cory M. Chun, Chair  
Rep. Matthias Kusch, Vice Chair

**HB2152**  
RELATING TO DO ATTACKS.

Wednesday, February 11, 2026, 9:30 AM  
Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

Chair Chun, Vice Chair Kusch, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports HB2152** which clarifies owner liability and increases penalties and enforcement mechanisms for dog attacks on livestock.

Ranchers frequently deal with dogs harassing livestock. Such actions not only negatively impact the business of rancher but also poses a safety threat. Incidents have been reported in which wild dogs are aggressive to both humans and livestock. Wild dogs hunt in packs and have been known to kill dozens of animals in a single incident, not for food, but for sport.

Ranchers use low-stress animal handling for animal health and well-being, but the introduction of unmanaged dogs increases stress. Additionally, the loss of one animal equates to more than just one animal, as cows have the potential to produce calves for several years and those losses should be accounted for as part of the penalty.

Clarifying dog owner liability will motivate dog owners to take more initiative in securing their dogs and preventing damage, and will also allow livestock producers to dispatch wild dogs as a safety measure. As this law has been established in California where dog attacks are an issue, we support adopting this approach here in Hawaii where wild dogs are an increasing safety issue.

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





## Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

Date: Feb. 9, 2026

To: Chair Rep. Cory Chun  
Vice Chair Rep. Matthias Kusch  
and Members of the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems

Submitted By: Stephanie Kendrick, Vice President of Community Engagement  
Hawaiian Humane Society, 808-356-2217

RE: Testimony in opposition to HB 2152: Relating to Dog Attacks  
Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2025, 9:30 a.m., Room 325 & Videoconference

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On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society, thank you for considering our opposition to House Bill 2152, which clarifies owner liability and increases penalties and enforcement mechanisms for dog attacks on livestock.

As the oldest and largest animal welfare nonprofit in the state of Hawai'i, the Hawaiian Humane Society advocates for the humane treatment of all animals. While our work has come to be most associated with pet animal protection, our earliest campaigns established ethical standards of treatment for working animals and livestock. We support the intent of this bill.

We offer amendments below that would ensure that this measure, in pursuing its admirable goal of protecting livestock, does not allow for the unjustified or erroneous destruction of dogs.

Allowing dogs to be destroyed for chasing other animals is cruel. Most dogs will chase anything that runs away from them. Doing so does not mean they are dangerous. Killing dogs who have not caused injury is disproportionate to the harm done. The owners of dogs who are stray on someone else's property already can, and should, be cited.

Two other provisions of the bill raise due process issues. Whether there is "conclusive proof" of harm is a matter for the legal system to decide. The Hawaiian Humane Society is deputized to enforce animal laws on O'ahu. Our officers are regularly called on to identify the animals involved in bite incidents. Given the similar appearance of many dogs, it typically takes a combination of eyewitness and physical evidence to build a case that



## Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

supports a successful prosecution. This bill gives property owners the ability to skip to conclusions that could very well be incorrect. The legal system is in place to protect all of us, even if it can at times be frustratingly slow.

There are similar legal issues with denying dog owners recourse to “civil or criminal action” over the destruction of their property. If a dog owner claims that a dog who was destroyed under these provisions had never been on the property in question, should that owner – and that dog – not have recourse to justice?

We urge the committee to adopt the following amendments or defer this measure for further conversation. Mahalo for your consideration.

Amendments Needed:

**"§142-74 [~~Liability of dog owner; penalty.~~] Damage to livestock or other property by dogs; liability; penalties.** (a) If any dog, while on [~~private property~~] land or premises without the consent of the owner or person in possession of that [~~property,~~] land or premises, injures or destroys any [~~sheep, cattle, goat, hog, fowl,~~] livestock or other property belonging to any person other than the owner [~~of~~] or person responsible for the dog, the owner [~~of~~] or person responsible for the dog shall be liable in damages to the person injured for twice the value of the property so injured or destroyed. [~~The~~]

(b) Any person may destroy any dog in any of the following cases:

(1) The dog is found in the act of injuring, ~~or destroying,~~ ~~or persistently pursuing or harassing~~ livestock on land or premises not owned or possessed by the owner of the dog. ~~or~~

~~—(2) The person has proof that conclusively shows that the dog has been recently engaged in injuring or destroying livestock on land or premises not owned or possessed by the owner of the dog.~~

~~No civil or criminal action shall be maintained for destroying any dog pursuant to this subsection.~~

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 7:41:22 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Roland Yartzoff	Hawai'i Sheep and Goat Association	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Legislators,

I serve on the board of directors of the Hawai'i Sheep and Goat Association. Many of our members have experienced dog attacks on their livestock; in some cases multiple times. I wish to shed light on certain aspects of dog attacks which may not be apparent to those who have little experience working with livestock.

First, dogs do not attack livestock because they are hungry; they do so for sport. Once they have incapacitated their first victim, they pursue another animal and incapacitate it. This is repeated multiple times; often resulting in most of the livestock being killed or severely mauled. One of our board members lost eighty (80) sheep during one night and thirty (30) during another night.

Second, losing the majority of one's flock during one night has a chilling effect on shepherding. One woman in Ka'u lost four of five sheep during one night to one dog. She spent most of the next day burying them; re-homed the lone survivor; and, is no longer interested in keeping sheep. One of her neighbors acquired ten sheep to control grass in his coffee orchard. He lost eight during one night to one dog. He, too, re-homed the survivors and has reverted to using herbicide to control grass in his orchard.

The two incidents cited above are neither outliers nor are they uncommon events. They warrant robust legislation; especially, given the potential contribution sheep and goats can make to achieving food security in Hawai'i.

HB2152 takes a no-nonsense approach to providing unambiguous recourse for shepherds to protect their flocks. The proposed consequences of conviction are moderate and reasonable; especially, in the context of our shepherds' experience. HB2152 would not be necessary were all dogs properly confined. Unfortunately, not all are.

I thank you for your attention to this matter.

Cordially,

Roland Yartzoff, board president

Hawai'i Sheep and Goat Association





P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759  
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921  
e-mail [info@hfbf.org](mailto:info@hfbf.org); [www.hfbf.org](http://www.hfbf.org)

February 11, 2026

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

**TESTIMONY ON HB 2152**  
RELATING TO DOG ATTACKS

Conference Room 325 & Videoconference  
9:30 AM

Aloha Chair Chun, Vice-Chair Kusch, 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 HB 2152**, which strengthens owner liability and enforcement mechanisms related to dog attacks on livestock.

Uncontrolled dogs continue to pose a serious and ongoing threat to livestock producers across the State. Attacks on cattle, sheep, goats, poultry, and other farm animals can result in devastating losses, disrupt farm operations, and cause significant animal suffering. These incidents are often preventable and place an unfair burden on farmers and ranchers who are already managing narrow margins and rising costs.

HB 2152 builds on existing law by clarifying responsibilities and increasing accountability for dog owners whose animals cause harm on agricultural lands. By strengthening deterrence and enforcement, this measure promotes responsible pet ownership while providing livestock producers with clearer legal protection.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau appreciates the Legislature's continued attention to this issue and respectfully urges the Committee to support HB 2152.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

## TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL TANOUE

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COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS  
Representative Cory M. Chun, Chair  
Representative Matthias Kusch, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 11, 2026  
9:30 a.m.

### **HB 2152**

Chair Chun, Vice Chair Kusch, and members of the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, my name is Michael Tanoue, counsel for the Hawaii Insurers Council. The Hawaii Insurers Council is a non-profit trade association of property and casualty insurance companies licensed to do business in Hawaii. Member companies underwrite approximately forty percent of all property and casualty insurance premiums in the state.

Hawaii Insurers Council submits **comments** on this bill. While we appreciate the intent of the bill, which is to clearly punish owners of dogs who injure or destroy livestock or property, there may be unintended insurance consequences to expanding tort actions against owners of dogs.

The property insurance market in Hawaii is extremely strained by ongoing catastrophic and other losses resulting in an increasingly smaller and expensive marketplace. Imposing strict liability and joint and several liability on owners of dogs in these circumstances would result in higher losses largely paid by the homeowners insurance policy of the dog owners, not necessarily directly by the dog owner themselves. This could lead to a further tightening of underwriting guidelines by insurers on dog ownership and/or higher premiums paid by all who purchase homeowners insurance whether or not they own a dog or dogs.

If this bill moves forward, we respectfully ask that the committee consider deleting the expansion of tort with respect to strict liability and joint and several liability.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:29:52 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Serena Stefanic-Phillip	Hawaiian Humane Society	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose bill HB2152

**LATE**

February 10, 2026

To: Chair Cory Chun, Vice Chair Matthias Kusch and the House Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems

Subject: **HB2152**, Relating to Dog Attacks

Aloha,

I am writing to **support the intent of HB2152 with comments**. This measure clarifies owner liability and increases penalties and enforcement mechanisms for dog attacks on livestock.

Farmers who raise animals play an important role in addressing food security in Hawai'i and strengthening the economy. Damages caused by dog attacks can create economic loss and emotional stress on livestock farmers. If a dog attack takes place and a judge determines the loss was caused by a certain dog, this measure would say that the dog owner is "liable in damages to the person injured for twice the value of the property injured or destroyed" (HB2152, 2026). There needs to be accountability when dog attacks happen, and HB2152 would help to ensure that. One change I would make to the bill is to the definition of "habitual agricultural crime perpetrator", which includes a person "who has been found liable four or more times under section 142-74" (HB2152, 2026). I think being found liable three or more times is sufficient.

I agree that dog owners need to be held liable for damages caused by their pets, but I also recognize that attacks from stray dogs are also the reason for loss of livestock, so perhaps more regulation around stray animals should be evaluated as well.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure and thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,  
Sydney Haas & 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**

Thompson Ranch and Riding Stables

1311 Waianu Rd

Kula, HI 96790

(808)878-1910

thompsonranchmaui@spectrum.net

Our problems with dog attacks have been going on since 2021, that year we lost a countless number of goats. A pack of about 15 feral dogs had made house in the eucalyptus forest bordering the Polipoli state park. We probably lost 200 goats between mothers and babies. We would come upon goats half dead and have to put them out of their misery. We finally made the decision to move the herd of goats to a neighbor's property, with better fencing and closer to civilization where we hope the dogs won't come.

We then purchased livestock guard dogs \$2,000 and raised them for the next year until they were ready to defend the herd. We now are able to raise goats again on the property, but it hasn't come without loss either. On January 28<sup>th</sup> of 2026 we were surprised to find a dead nanny and 10 dead babies. We lost more babies than that, but did not find them all.

Every time this happens it's a great deal of stress and hardship for us we spend countless hours feeding and caring for our livestock. Blood sweat and tears go into the work we do and it is completely devastating when something like this happens.

I couldn't even begin to tell you how much was lost financially. A nanny goat could have multiple sets of babies in her life, when her life is lost so are all the future babies she could have had. Each baby is potentially \$240 when it reaches a sellable age.

Our goats are primarily used for brush management and because of this we are unable to have them out working the land where we need them. The unmaintained state land bordering our property to the North and South of us provides safe harbor for the packs of feral dogs. Making it extremely hard for us and our guard dogs to keep the livestock safe.

Since 2021 we have lost about \$50,000 in revenue due to dog attacks. This does not include our time, effort and stress.

During these dog attacks in 2021 we also had a horse who broke her leg, running away from the dogs, and had to be euthanized. She was a working trail horse and that revenue is also lost. It cost about \$1000 for her to be euthanized

When the pack of dogs were living on our property they had an area they felt was their's and would become very defensive when you would come into the area. One day when I was in that area and the pack must've been out hunting, I found a den with three puppies. I took them and handed them over to the Maui Humane Society.

This is a serious problem, for both rancher's and the general public a like. These dogs do become aggressive and its only a matter of time before someone is attacked. Neighbors in our area have said aggressive dogs have approached when out walking in the more rural areas.

Mahalo,

Gerard Thompson

Thompson Ranch, Maui

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 8:18:34 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lois Crozer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chasing animals is not illegal and to make it a death sentence is cruel. The bill also removes due process protections. Determinations of proof are reserved for the legal system, and pets are protected as the property of their owners.

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:10:04 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
carole richelieu	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

intent of this bill, which is to protect livestock against attack which is good. My opposition centers on language that allows dogs to be immediately destroyed arbitrarily and without due process. That is contrary to our legal system.

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:17:06 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
joanna p milo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i support the bill

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:44:48 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

While I support the intent of this bill, I do object to provisions tht allow for immediate destruction of dogs before they have their day in court and urge you to remove that remedy.

Lynne Matusow

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:53:51 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lisa Kart	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii Kindly Stop using cruelty as a solution for the poor animals in Hawaii.

Hawaii is consistently ranked in the bottom for animal welfare.

Removing due process and killing dogs who chase instead of holding the owners responsible.

Tyypical Hawaii solutions for dogs, cats chickens, KILL KILL KILL

Shame on us

Where is the ALOHA ???

## Testimony in opposition to HB2152

**Relating to Dog Attacks** clarifies owner liability and increases penalties and enforcement mechanisms for dog attacks on livestock.

I advocate for the humane treatment of all animals. I am in agreement with the intent of this bill, which is to protect livestock against attack but my **opposition** centers on language that allows dogs to be immediately destroyed:

- For “persistently pursuing or harassing livestock”
- If a “person has proof that conclusively shows that the dog has been recently engaged in injuring or destroying livestock”
- Without recourse by their owners to “civil or criminal action”

Chasing animals is not illegal and to make it a death sentence is cruel. The bill also removes due process protections. Determinations of proof are reserved for the legal system, and pets are protected as the property of their owners.

Signed

Judith Aikawa, MD

37 Apali Way

Kula, HI 96790

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:46:07 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Natalie Graham-Wood	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i oppose HB2152. My name is Natalie Graham-Wood and I reside at Sunset Beach, Oahu.

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 1:07:48 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jimmy Gomes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in support of this bill.

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 2:43:12 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stephanie McLaughlin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill that will make our communities safer from dog attacks.

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 4:18:45 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Randy Cabral	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 5:26:01 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alice Saul	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems,**

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB2152 RELATING TO DOG ATTACKS**

**Dear Representative Cory M. Chun, Chair:**

**While it may appear as a noble objective to protect livestock, the proposed language of the bill does the opposite by allowing for the destruction of 'man's best friend' without anything comparable to due process. I would call it 'too quick on the draw.'**

**Thank you.**

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:57:04 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debra Bringman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. Sometimes dogs figure a way out, and they do what comes natural to them. I totally agree; have the owner pay fines for loss of the livestock... but please do **NOT** sanction killing them for that.

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 6:30:35 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I Strongly Support HB2152.

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 9:56:27 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Soo Sun Choe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Chun and Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems,

In 2020 I had recurring incidents with a neighborhood dog owner that was intent on attacking one of my goats. The owner was aware of his dog's tendencies and paid for the first veterinary visit. The second visit was worse and required stitches, but while the owner promised to pay he was unable to do so because of financial troubles for some time, until I sent a reminder. My options seemed to be limited. I understood I could report the incident to the Humane Society and take the owner to court but I did not want to deal with a court case. But there seemed to be limited incentives or penalties to make a dog owner take the incidents seriously. I did not follow through because the owner eventually was able to cover the vet bill. But my main concern was that the dog did not seem to be safe in our community for people or other animals.

Then in 2022, I lost two dwarf Nigerian goats to a half feral dog, including the first goat I had ever owned, that I had flown from the Big Island to Oahu. Although they had died, the manner of their deaths was so horrible and not something to wish on any livestock or pet. The dog ripped up the whole rear half and organs of the smaller goat. She had no functioning capabilities for urinating or defecating left and her legs were chewed up. The veterinarian euthanized her as there was no other option. The larger goat was bitten as well but had more superficial injuries. He still died of stress and shock the next day. This dog was also verifiably unsafe to have on/near farms but I did not even know who/if there was an owner. There was nothing I could do in this case as my goats were being cared for at the time on a friend's farm while I was off-island. I was grateful that my friend's neighbor kindly offered to bury our goat.

Their deaths were sad for not just our family but our neighbors as well, for whom they had been familiar faces.

Over the years, whenever our neighborhood had a half starved looking hunting dog come wandering from the mountains, my neighbors would always give me a call to warn me to check on the goats and make sure they weren't getting harassed.

Livestock owners should not have to always be looking over their shoulders worrying whether their livestock will be attacked by dogs with negligent owners. These kinds of incidents happen far more frequently than people are aware of. And it is important for dog owners to take seriously the damage they inflict in terms of time, costs, worry and heartbreak for farmers and livestock owners.

Mahalo for your attention.

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 12:27:49 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Thompson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our problems with dog attacks have been going on since 2021, that year we lost a countless number of goats. A pack of about 15 feral dogs had made house in the eucalyptus forest bordering the Polipoli state park. We probably lost 200 goats between mothers and babies. We would come upon goats half dead and have to put them out of their misery. We finally made the decision to move the herd of goats to a neighbor's property, with better fencing and closer to civilization where we hope the dogs won't come.

We then purchased livestock guard dogs \$2,000 and raised them for the next year until they were ready to defend the herd. We now are able to raise goats again on the property, but it hasn't come without loss either. On January 28th of 2026 we were surprised to find a dead nanny and 10 dead babies. We lost more babies than that, but did not find them all.

Every time this happens it's a great deal of stress and hardship for us we spend countless hours feeding and caring for our livestock. Blood sweat and tears go into the work we do and it is completely devastating when something like this happens.

I couldn't even begin to tell you how much was lost financially. A nanny goat could have multiple sets of babies in her life, when her life is lost so are all the future babies she could have had. Each baby is potentially \$240 when it reaches a sellable age.

Our goats are primarily used for brush management and because of this we are unable to have them out working the land where we need them. The unmaintained state land bordering our property to the North and South of us provides safe harbor for the packs of feral dogs. Making it extremely hard for us and our guard dogs to keep the livestock safe.

Since 2021 we have lost about \$50,000 in revenue due to dog attacks. This does not include our time, effort and stress.

During these dog attacks in 2021 we also had a horse who broke her leg, running away from the dogs, and had to be euthanized. She was a working trail horse and that revenue is also lost. It cost about \$1000 for her to be euthanized

When the pack of dogs were living on our property they had an area they felt was their's and would become very defensive when you would come into the area. One day when I was in that

area and the pack must've been out hunting, I found a den with three puppies. I took them and handed them over to the Maui Humane Society.

This is a serious problem, for both rancher's and the general public a like. These dogs do become aggressive and its only a matter of time before someone is attacked. Neighbors in our area have said aggressive dogs have approached when out walking in the more rural areas.

Mahalo,

Gerard Thompson

Thompson Ranch, Maui

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 3:09:07 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Glen Kagamida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONG SUPPORT!!!



**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:04:26 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
ginny tiu	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose HB2152 because although I support laws that protect all animals, putting a dog down for chasing livestock or any other animal is not right .

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.  
Ginny Tiu

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:00:25 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Representative Chun, Vice Chair Representative Kusch and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems.

Please oppose HB 2152. While I support protecting livestock from attack, it's my understanding that this bill allows dogs suspected of attacking livestock to be immediately destroyed and removes due process protections. Determination of proof should be made by the legal system, and pets should be protected as property of their owners.

Again, please oppose HB 2152.

Mahalo.

Jennifer Chiwa

Makiki and life long resident of Oahu

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 7:39:16 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Collins	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I disagree with the animal immediately being destroyed.

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:14:27 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Matson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

My father was killed by dogs in Ocean View in August of 2023. Two and a half years later and our family has still not seen any accountability of consequences for the dog owners.

I am in strong support of any and all laws that can be enacted to make our community safer from dog attacks. Dogs that attack and harm livestock also can and do attack humans. Please continue to seek out ways to improve, clarify, and strengthen our laws on this important public safety issue. Also please remember, in these sorts of cases while the dogs probably DO need to be put down, it's ultimately the dog OWNERS who should be held responsible and must face appropriate consequences or they will just end up owning more dogs and letting them stray and harm other animals and people in the future.

Mahalo,

Shannon Matson

Hawai'i Island Resident

**LATE**

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:59:15 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Taurie Kinoshita	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Honorable Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HB2152.

Chasing animals is not illegal and to make it a death sentence is cruel.

Please pass this bill to protect animals and their owners.

Sincerely,

Taurie Kinoshita

lifelong voter and resident!

HB2152 - Dog Attacks, Livestocks, Liability  
February 11, 2026  
Time: 9:30am  
Room: 315

**LATE**

In support of HB2152

Aloha Chair Chun and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems,

My name is Trista Tiave, a senior at Papahana o Kaiona, an alternative learning program located in Nanakuli. I am in support of HB2152, relating to dog attacks.

In school we partner with Ka'ala Farms located in Waianae Valley. Our focus is on using sheep to mitigate wildfires. Some of our responsibilities include building paddocks, herding sheep, and utilizing the sheep to eat invasive grass. On February 8, 2026, 11 sheep were killed by a loose dog that dug underneath the paddocks we just constructed. These killings are an extreme loss to us because we have been caring for these animals for the past year and they are an important part of helping to fight wildfires in our community.

I hope you will consider passing HB2152 as it will help to protect livestock from future dog attacks and also will hold dog owners accountable for these attacks.

me ke aloha,  
Tiave, Trista  
Papahana o Kaiona Student  
808-629-9699

**LATE**

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 5:19:05 PM  
Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sarah Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There is a big problem with dogs savaging livestock, harsher penalties will help hold dog owners accountable. Ranching and farming is difficult enough without threats to livestock from dogs.

Please support the passage of this bill.

Thank you,  
Sarah Anderson

**LATE**

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:52:51 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elizabeth Hansen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

please support / mahalo

**LATE**

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 10:04:47 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kinsley McEachern	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Committee,

I am in opposition to HB 2152. I am in agreement with the intent of this bill, which is to protect livestock against attack. My opposition centers on language that allows dogs to be immediately destroyed: Chasing animals is not illegal and to make it a death sentence is cruel. The bill also removes due process protections. Determinations of proof are reserved for the legal system, and pets are protected as the property of their owners. A bill that urges for the immediate termination of a dog is cruel and inhumane. Please ensure legislation is developed with humane intent. Tackling one issue with an inhumane choice is not ideal. I urge you to oppose HB 2152 as it is written.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kinsley McEachern

**LATE**

**HB-2152**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:16:26 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/11/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Edward Johnston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is much needed legislation. For too long dog owners have not been adequately held responsible for their dog attacks on livestock. Not to mention people!