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Public Utilities Commission
465 South King Street
Hearing Room #103
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Proposed Changes to Livestock Procedures

Aloha Chair Griffin and Members of the Commission,

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

The Hawaii Farm Bureau is concerned about the proposed changes that could cause harm to the livestock industry in shipping their animals from harbors across the state. The state desires to have a viable agricultural industry and livestock is a major component to achieving this goal.

We also need to be aware of the effects on our youth as they participate in programs that not only teach them animal husbandry but life skills as well. We have seen growth in the 4-H program and these changes could have a detrimental effect on the continuation of these programs.

We strongly urge the commission to listen carefully to the cattlemen and work with all parties to reach a mutually agreeable solution.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important subject.

Sincerely,

Randy Cabral
President
Hawaii Farm Bureau