

Testimony for  
Item A-2

## **Nakamura, Gayle M**

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**From:** Lisa B Wood <lbwood451@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 25, 2022 7:14 AM  
**To:** HDOA.BOARD.TESTIMONY  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony  
**Attachments:** HCC DOA shipping regs.docx

To the Board of Agriculture,

Attached is testimony previously submitted in support of the proposed changes to interisland transportation of livestock.

The proposed changes and suggested edits represent a statewide effort among livestock shippers to collaborate with each other and our transportation partners to ensure the humane treatment and well-being of not only cattle but other livestock species including goats, sheep and horses. In addition, industry has been in open dialogue with animal activists and while not all their recommendations can be practically implemented, we continue to work together to improve overall shipping standards. Hawaii Cattlemen's Council continues to investigate improved shipping methods through research and data collection. Current work includes establishing standard certification of livestock shippers and a study to determine effects of temperature on animals during interisland shipment.

Our community remains committed to the highest standards of care for our animals and to providing safe, nutritious and wholesome food for the people of Hawaii.

We urge you to stand in support of the Department's proposed amendments as written.

Sincerely,

LB Wood DVM

*L. B. Wood, DVM*  
*Veterinary Associated, Inc.*  
*PO Box 839*  
*Kamuela, HI 96743*  
*(808) 885-7941*

Proposed Amendments to Administrative Rules for Animal Disease Control Program

November 29, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.  
Department of Agriculture, Plant Quarantine Conference Room  
1849 Auiki Street, Honolulu, Oahu  
And via Zoom

To the Hawaii Department of Agriculture,

My name is Lisa Wood and I am a practicing veterinarian on the Big Island. I have worked with Hawai'i's cattle producers for over 30 years and currently serve as chair of the Animal Health and Well-being committee for Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council (HCC).

**I strongly support the proposed amendments to Chapter 4-16 as presented.**

The recent COVID 19 pandemic has placed a stark spotlight on the Hawaii's vulnerability to food insecurity. Our agricultural community must be able to sustain and expand their operations to ensure that Hawai'i moves towards more locally sourced food. Since cattle were first introduced to Hawai'i in 1793, the people of Hawai'i have always found innovative ways to get their goods to market. From preserving salted meat in barrels to shipping in modified livestock containers, our production methods have evolved over the last 200+ years to meet the current challenges of the everchanging agricultural landscape. Many of the proposed changes reflect the current practices of our Hawaii producers and we welcome the formal amendments.

Whether our animals are marketed locally or on the mainland, interisland shipment will always be a key factor in the success of our producers.

The proposed changes and suggested edits represent a statewide effort among livestock shippers to collaborate with each other and our transportation partners to ensure the humane treatment and well-being of not only cattle but other livestock species including goats, sheep and horses. In addition, industry has been in open dialogue with animal activists and while not all their recommendations can be practically implemented, we continue to work together to improve overall shipping standards.

Below are proposed changes that HCC's Animal Welfare committee strongly supports;

1. The need for mandatory reporting of losses that may occur enroute. This improved reporting allows for producers, veterinarians, and others to respond more quickly to adverse events and gather information in a more timely manner.
2. The essential need for adequate ventilation during transit - placement of shipping containers in areas that allow for natural airflow and prevent placement where ventilation is restricted.
3. As live cargo, transportation partners should be obligated to limit time livestock spend on board vessels by implementing "last-on, first-off" practices.
4. Loading densities based off the Interisland Livestock Shipping Standards that have been developed in cooperation with industry and University of Hawaii's Cooperative Extension Services. These standards are modeled after those published by the American Association of Bovine Practitioners.
5. Access to food and water must be provided for livestock transported over 24 hours.

These amendments support our continued commitment to animal care and to thoughtful and responsible livestock management.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of these changes. We are grateful to the support and leadership HDOA has given to our industry over the many years.

Sincerely,

LB Wood, DVM

Veterinary Associates, Inc

Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Animal Health and Well-being, Chair



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

## Request for Approval to Adopt Proposed Amendments to Chapter 4-16

November 29, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.  
Hale Waiolama Board Room, 1428 South King St.  
And via Zoom

To the Hawaii Department of Agriculture,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of over 750 thousand acres of land in Hawaii, or 20% of the State's total land mass. We represent the interests of Hawaii's cattle producers.

HCC strongly supports the proposed amendments to Chapter 4-16. These changes are necessary to clarify and update the rules to today's needs. These changes will allow the state to better track livestock movement and control movement of disease, which will protect the livestock industry from unwanted disease outbreaks. Additionally, the following will help ensure the safety of livestock during transport:

- Updating the carrier responsibility to specify that animals should not be stowed in a manner that prevents natural ventilation.
- Addressing load densities using the Interisland Livestock Shipping Standards and stipulating that densities shall not deviate by more than 10%.
- Ensuring livestock transported over more than a 24 hour period have access to feed and water.

The Interisland Livestock Shipping Standards that the rules refer to were vetted and updated in 2020 by livestock shipping experts and veterinarians. Further, these standards have proven to be successful, as transporting livestock interisland has resulted in very few losses. The isolated incidents that have occurred will be addressed by proposed carrier responsibility amendments to ensure animals have natural ventilation throughout the duration of the trip.

Nicole Galase  
Managing Director



Testimony for

Item C-3



**PO Box 1095  
Kurtistown, Hawaii  
+1-808-938-2840  
jim.wyban@gmail.com**

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November 24 2022

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Chairperson Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser,  
Hawaii Board of Agriculture  
Honolulu Hawaii

Dear Madam Chairperson,

I am writing to declare my strongest support for Hawaii Fish Company's effort to secure a long-term lease from the State for an expanded site at the old Dillingham quarry site to implement an expanded aquafarm production venture at that site.

I am well qualified to assess this project as an aquaculture venture. I have been an aquaculture professional for 40+ years. I successfully developed the World's first SPF Shrimp breeding company and sold it to an Asian multinational company. I am founder and principal of HIplan – Hawaii Island Business Plan Competition. These combined experiences make me uniquely qualified to assess this project.

I have known Hawaii Fish Company's principals Ron & Lita since the 70s. They are both very high caliber people – hard working, dedicated parents, community minded and absolutely determined to fulfill Hawaii's food production vision. They are supremely qualified to undertake this exciting project.

I have reviewed Hawaii Fish Company's business plan and found it thoughtful, well considered, and compelling. Their project has very high potential to be successful and implement a State-of-the-Art aquafarm production facility on

Oahu's Northshore. This project is a perfect fit with the goal of increasing local food production.

I strongly urge HDOA to give this project top priority and extend to Hawaii Fish Company the reasonable lease terms they have requested. Their project would be a huge success for the Governor's agenda.

Please let me know if I can be of any service in advancing this project.

Best regards,

*Jim*

Jim Wyban PhD President  
Marine Genetics



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

GoFarm Hawaii



GoFarm Hawai'i  
University of Hawai'i at Manoa  
3050 Maile Way, Gilmore 115  
Honolulu, HI 96822

November 24, 2022

Hawaii Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Chairperson  
1428 S. King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Re: Letter of Support presented as testimony for meeting agenda item "C.3. Request Approval for Conversion of Revocable Permit No. S-6814 to a New General Lease for Ronald P. Weidenbach dba Hawaii Fish Company"

To Chairperson Shimabukuro-Geiser:

I would like to submit this letter of support for Hawaii Fish Company Inc.'s (HFC) planned aquaculture farm expansion at the former U.S. Army/Hawaii Bitumuls & Paving Company Quarry Site in Waiialua and believe their success will have a significant and lasting impact on food and agriculture in Hawaii by helping to improve our food security.

GoFarm Hawaii is a beginning farmer training and agri-business consulting program. Our mission is to enhance Hawaii's food security and economy by increasing the number of local agricultural producers by offering those with an interest in agriculture a combination of knowledge, experience, and support designed to assist them in becoming viable agricultural producers, and accomplish this in a manner that encourages sustainability. HFC has been a client of GoFarm Hawaii's agri-business consulting program (formerly the Agribusiness Incubator Program) since 2006.

We worked with HFC during their early strategic planning process and reviewed various drafts of their business plan. Obtaining an extended and expanded lease was one of the key initiatives identified in their plans. This expansion would provide the company with more economic opportunities for their aquafarming operations and would allow HFC to expand production and increase profitability.

We have worked with Ron and his wife Lita and feel that the Weidenbachs and their three adult children, who have worked on the farm since childhood and are committed to helping the farm thrive and grow, are very serious about the farm's expansion into a thriving and collaborative commercial-scale sustainable aquaculture and aquaponics operation providing increased local food production and support their efforts.

Based on HFC's years of experience in the industry and the added knowledge from partners such as Fred Mencher, a 33 yr industry veteran we believe HFC is sufficiently qualified and experienced to

undertake the proposed farm expansion and are positioned for success. The GoFarm Hawaii team supports this project and is ready to assist the HFC with their future business consulting needs.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me at [janelnoy@hawaii.edu](mailto:janelnoy@hawaii.edu) if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



Janel Yamamoto  
Director  
GoFarm Hawai'i



67-332 Kaiea Pl.  
Waialua, HI 96791-9501  
808-383-4481  
[www.NSEVP.org](http://www.NSEVP.org)

Date: November 25, 2022

Chairperson Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser  
Hawaii Board of Agriculture

Dear Chairperson,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter of support for a long-term State lease for Hawaii Fish Company Inc.'s lease on the approximate 148 acre quarry site adjacent to Dillingham Airfield to develop the integrated aquaculture and aquaponics farm in Mokuleia that they have long envisioned.

As the Food Safety Director for NorthShore Economic Vitality Partnership (NSEVP) my organization has a vested interest in the development of agriculture and ag-related businesses, including aquaculture, an integral component of sustainable food production for our islands.

In 2013, with broad community support, we conducted an economic analysis of the North Shore region (<https://nsevp.org/developing-a-shared-agenda/>). In our report we identified the Sustainable Agriculture & Working Landscape cluster as the fastest growing sector of the regional economy, accountable for 36 percent job growth between 2001-2011. While not as large as the North Shore Experience cluster (tourism), the Sustainable Agriculture & Working Landscape cluster was found to be growing at 4.8 percent annually, more than two-times the growth of the Tourism cluster (1.8%). Hawai'i Fish Company's expansion plans will contribute to the growth of this sector and help preserve the rural and agricultural legacy that is so important to our community.

Moreover, there are considerable state and county policies and directives that make their current effort more relevant. Substantial shifts in state policy in 2021 will spur increases in institutional purchasing of local produce by the state and nonprofit businesses. Act 175 (2021) requires the Hawai'i Department of Education to source 30% of food served in public schools from local producers by 2030, and Act 176 mandates local purchasing goals for all state departments, aiming for 50% local sourcing by 2050. These measures pave the way for market solutions to facilitate local purchasing by all state institutions. Collectively, these actions open new market opportunities for small producers. The State constitution holds that the State must "promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands." (Article XI, Section III) and the North Shore





67-332 Kaiea Pl.  
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808-383-4481  
[www.NSEVP.org](http://www.NSEVP.org)

Date: November 25, 2022

Sustainable Communities Plan specifically identifies the proposed site as a center for aquaculture. All levels of government appear committed to support this lease request.

Finally, in spite of efforts spanning over 30 years to secure a long-term lease from the state, Hawaii Fish Company has persisted. They have conducted pilot-scale production operations and carried out innovative research in aquaculture. Their farm-raised fish have long been recognized for their quality and consistency, and they have participated in many aquaponics collaborations nationally and in state. They joined the Hawaii GroupGAP program in 2020 and achieved USDA Harmonized GAP food safety certification for their greens production in 2021, joining a small and elite group of producers in the state who meet the USDA GAP compliance measures. They have continued to give to the community, through service to local organizations such as YMCA Camp Erdman, Camp Mokuleia, and the Mokuleia Community Association.

In closing, I could not endorse a stronger candidate for a long-term lease from the state, preferable for 65 years, as allowed by Act 232 of 2011, in recognition of the high up-front costs of aquaculture development. I have complete confidence in the ability of Hawaii Fish Company to execute its proposed expansion and strongly urge the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to grant them a long-term lease. This is an opportunity for the state to help build a strong, tax-generating aquaculture company, increase jobs in agriculture on the North Shore, and increase the amount of locally produced food needed to insure resiliency in the future. Now is the time.

Sincerely,

Melissa Rhoden  
Food Safety Director, North Shore EVP

**"C.3. Request Approval for Conversion of Revocable Permit No. S-6814 to a New General Lease for Ronald P. Weidenbach dba Hawaii Fish Company".**



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII°  
WEST O'AHU

November 23, 2022

Hawaii Department of Agriculture  
1428 S. King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Re: Support for Hawaii Fish Company's Long-Term Lease Application

Dear Chairperson Shimabukuro-Geiser,

I am writing to demonstrate my strong support for Hawaii Fish Company (HFC) in their application for a long-term lease of the Dillingham quarry site. My support is consistent with my position as a Professor of Business Management at the University of Hawai'i - West Oahu, where I have received multiple local and national awards for my work with local agribusinesses in Hawaii, Japan, Tahiti, and China.

For almost ten years I have assisted HFC and the Weidenbach family with various projects to promote sustainable agriculture in Hawaii. Their very capable multigenerational team has over 100 years of experience in the industry and has received more than 25 Federal and State research awards, including the U.S. SBA Tibbetts/Small Business Innovation Research Hall of Fame Award. They are well-respected members of the North Shore community with a long history of advocacy for responsible agriculture in Hawaii.

As mentioned in SB 1511 Act 232 (signed 2011), no agribusiness can operate in a sustainable manner without the stability offered by a long-term lease. It is a prerequisite to raise capital for necessary investments in infrastructure, facilities, and personnel. More importantly, it allows the agribusiness to pursue a long-term sustainable business model which is essential for responsible agriculture. HFC meets Act 232's prerequisite of "experienced farmer" and qualifies for the maximum 65-year lease with the option for renewal.

The Weidenbach family has served as model stewards of Hawaii's natural resources and unique agricultural community. They have dedicated over 25 years to the care and conservation of the former quarry site, so it seems right and just to grant them the opportunity to pursue their vision of a sustainable aquaculture facility. If you have any question regarding my support, please contact me at [ksakuda@hawaii.edu](mailto:ksakuda@hawaii.edu).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Sakuda'.

Keith Sakuda  
Professor of Management & International Relations  
University of Hawai'i – West Oahu



November 25, 2022

Chairperson Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser  
Hawai'i Board of Agriculture  
Hale Waiolama Board Room  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512  
[HDOA.BOARD.TESTIMONY@HAWAII.GOV](mailto:HDOA.BOARD.TESTIMONY@HAWAII.GOV)

**Re: Testimony in Support of C.3. Request Approval for Conversion of Revocable Permit No. S-6814 to a New General Lease for Ronald P. Weidenbach dba Hawaii Fish Company**

My name is Murray Clay, and I am the President of Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono Initiative **supports approval** for conversion of Revocable Permit No. S-6814 to a New General Lease for Ronald P. Weidenbach dba Hawaii Fish Company

Because this project is directly in alignment with our goals to increase local food production, Ulupono supports HFC's expansion efforts. We believe the expansion of HFC's operations will not only help improve Hawai'i's food security by increasing substitutes for the significant imports of seafood and produce consumed in the state, but also create opportunities for rural employment and economic growth.

Established in 1978, HFC is one of Hawai'i's oldest and most experienced aquaculture companies. HFC has been the steward of land contained in the lease application for decades and is a natural candidate for a long-term lease of its existing site and surrounding areas for aquaculture and aquaponics purposes. With a long and positive business track record that includes being selected as Hawai'i's Aquaculture Company of the Year and a Small Business Administration's Tibbitts Award Winner as a national model of excellence for the Small Business Innovation Research Program, HFC is well positioned to succeed in its mission of establishing a larger and more productive and economic aquaculture and aquaponics farm.

For these reasons, we support approval for conversion of Revocable Permit No. S-6814 to a New General Lease for Hawaii Fish Company.

Sincerely,

Murray Clay  
President

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*

999 Bishop Street, Suite 1202 | Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 ☎ 808.544.8960 📠 808.432.9695 | [www.ulupono.com](http://www.ulupono.com)

November 25, 2022

Ms. Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser  
Chairperson  
Hawaii Board of Agriculture  
Department of Agriculture

Dear Ms. Shimabukuro-Geiser:

I am happy to provide a support letter for the Hawaii Fish Company (HFC), North Shore Aquafarm Project (NSAP) for review by the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. I understand HFC is requesting a direct 65-year aquaculture lease for approximately 86 acres of the former North Shore quarry site; including the current 18-acre farm and water-filled quarry/lake under revocable permit.

HFC has developed and successfully conducted commercial fresh water aquaculture for nearly 30 years at this site and I have had the pleasure of knowing this company and its principals for all that time; as Manager of the State Aquaculture Development Program (ADP) and after my retirement in 2006, as a Board Member of the Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association (HAAA). I would like to offer a few comments on the Company's+ relevant experience, innovative plans, and strong commitment to expanding the Hawaii aquaculture industry.

Over the years I have marveled at its application of the principles of aquaculture, business, and aquatic biology to develop the quarry site. Mr. Weidenbach and his family team consistently resolved the many challenges of large-scale farming on this site, e.g., weather extreme, supplying distant markets, and costs of doing business. Moreover, I can vouch that HFC's track record in securing research and business development grants is unmatched in the local community; with multiple grants from the US Department of Agriculture; the High Tech Development Corporation; and the national Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. I am aware these efforts have resulted in HFC receiving several local and national awards, e.g., the prestigious national Tibbets Award.



Lastly, I want to comment on Ron's long and steadfast commitment to develop statewide aquaculture farming for the benefit of all of Hawaii. He has been the long-serving President of the HAAA, during my tenure as Manager of ADP and after, and we have spent many hours working with Legislators and government officials who support expansion of the industry. Further, as the long-serving Chair of the Industry Advisory Council to the Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture (the Regional Center), his farmer-based insights into research objectives have been invaluable in directing applied research. Finally, he has always made time to host international, national, and local VIPs on his farm to show them one successful example of Hawaii aquaculture. All this participation takes precious time away from the business and the family, but it is a clear indication of his life-long commitment to the field and making Hawaii a national leader.

In conclusion, I urge the Board to approve the plan for the NSAP, including the long-term lease for HFC. The North Shore will benefit economically from this project through job generation and project expenditures. The State will increase the sustainable supplies of farmed seafood and become more self-sufficient. And, Hawaii's international reputation as an aquaculture innovator will be enhanced.

Sincerely,

John Corbin, MS, CFP, AICP  
President  
Aquaculture Planning and Advocacy LLC  
Kaneohe, Hawaii  
Email: [jscorbin@aol.com](mailto:jscorbin@aol.com)  
Phone: 808-239-8316



Testimony for

Item C-4

November 25, 2022

Aloha Board Members,

Our names are Dr. Samantha Keaulana-Scott and Dr. Mapuana Antonio and **we are writing to STRONGLY SUPPORT Milton Coleman, Jr.'s and ohana's request in keeping General Lease No. 3109.** We are both health disparities researchers and our work unpacks how inequities, like LACK OF ACCESS TO LAND, in society impacts Native Hawaiian Health.

Since receiving this parcel of land, 'Ohana Coleman has worked tirelessly to support the Waimānalo community and MANY others across Hawai'i with their sustainable living, growing of food, and offering programs that IMPROVE Native Hawaiian health. The land has fed many of us and provided a place of healing, community connection, and (re)connection to land and identity (all of which contribute LARGELY to Native Hawaiian mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health).

COVID-19 has had a detrimental impact on our Hawaiian families. In a recent study conducted, over 300 Native Hawaiians were surveyed and many were from Waimānalo. The data demonstrated that 31% and 42% of Native Hawaiians suffered from depression and PTSD respectively during the pandemic. Furthermore, 33% and 20% suffered from low food security and very low food security respectively. A moratorium on rent was not enough for most families. Many were and are still hungry on top of dealing with stress and other burdens.

Your board has the opportunity to demonstrate that you care about Hawaiian health, the future of Waimānalo, and Hawaiian families that were largely impacted by the financial and social consequences of the pandemic. To strip 'Ohana Coleman of their lease is to strip them of their health and well being, our health and well being, and the community's health and well being. **Sustainable, healthy living STARTS WITH FAMILIES like 'Ohana Coleman who have dedicated their lives to helping others live sustainably.**

Please join us in supporting this amazing family.

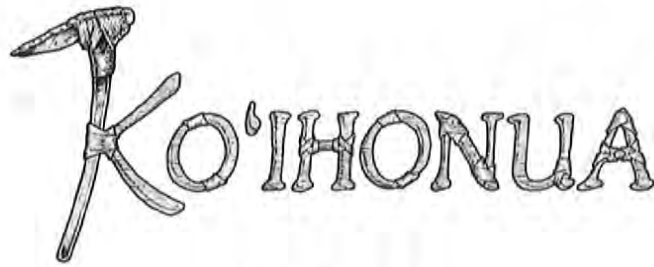
Me ke aloha,



Samantha Keaulana-Scott, PhD  
[sherrera@hawaii.edu](mailto:sherrera@hawaii.edu)  
808-748-1449



Mapuana C.K. Antonio, DrPH



P.O. Box 1229  
Pearl City, HI 96782

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22 November 2022

Hawai'i Board of Agriculture  
Hdoa.board.testimony@hawaii.gov

RE: Testimony regarding Agenda Item C.4. General Lease No. S-3109, Milton Coleman, Jr. Lessee, TMK (1) 4-1-018:048

Aloha Chairperson Shimabukuro-Geiser and members of the Board,

It has come to our organization's attention that the aforementioned lease is subject to termination and we are submitting this testimony in support of Mr. Coleman and his 'ohana. Our organization, Ko'ihonua, is a non-profit dedicated to reclaiming and providing cultural space for our lāhui to learn, practice and engage in Hawaiian traditions and practices. Our mission is to reclaim and restore Hawaiian lands and provide the means and resources for Hawaiians to engage in traditional practices by creating Hawaiian cultural space. We are currently in partnership with Kumuhau Farm and the Pāhonu Wa'a 'Ohana, both of which are run by Mr. Coleman and his 'ohana.

Ko'ihonua has participated in an agroforestry cohort with Kumuhau Farm for the last two years under the guidance and mentorship of Dr. Craig Elevitch through Ke Kula Nui o Waimanalo. During that time, Mr. Coleman and his 'ohana have participated as an active partner, working to reestablish native and food plants on the leased property. The family is an active contributor to the cohort and the Waimanalo community.

Our organization also partners with Pāhonua Wa'a 'Ohana through the use of a wa'a used for community educational programming. Ko'ihonua is looking forward to future partnership and collaboration with Kumuhau Farm and Pāhonu Wa'a 'Ohana and are in the process of sponsoring a \$12,500 micrgrant for equipment, tools, and supplies for agriculture and wood carving.

The value of maintaining an 'ohana with generational roots in the local community and committed to land stewardship is priceless. We request that you please consider giving

[www.koihonua.org](http://www.koihonua.org)  
P.O. Box 1229, Pearl City, Hawai'i 96782  
EIN: 81-4352379



November 25, 2022

Aloha Nui Kakou!

Please accept this letter of strongest support of the Coleman Ohana and their efforts in a sustainable lifestyle by growing food and community on their aina on Kumuhau Street in Waimanalo! Aina Ku'oko'a! This Ohana has worked long and hard to grow food, support community and sustain independence since receiving this parcel! They have opened up this space to countless groups so learning and growing can happen easily and organically in a community setting that is safe and wholesome!

Your desire to cancel this lease puts all of us as a community ten steps backward. Why do you want to do this? Our people need this for health, for healing, for life! Finding a solution in their efforts is a better way of doing business. Not taking away their life and livelihood! You should be looking for ways of supporting families who live and breathe Aloha!

I include these logos of the various programs that our organization provides for the Waimanalo community; and numerous others. I highlight these because the Coleman Ohana are active in every one! Whether they are participants, facilitators, mentors and/or teachers. They participate freely and wholeheartedly! With no expectation of anything in return. Such programs are hard to be successful but not for us in Waimanalo! Because of People like the Colemans! It takes a village. It truly does. And our village, Waimanalo, is here for each other. We support one another. Like you should be supporting them! I ask for your support in finding a solution to the predicament we are in. I give you my support to find success in implementing the solutions. On behalf of God's Country Waimanalo, the Waimanalo Learning Center, and myself I ask for you to support the Coleman Ohana on retaining their aina, Aina Ku'oko'a! Please contact me should you need any input, action, etc. Mahalo!



Ke Akua Pu!

Ilima Ho-Lastimosa

[Ilima888@gmail.com](mailto:Ilima888@gmail.com)

808-499-5055



November 25, 2022

To the Department of Agriculture

I am writing this letter to provide my strongest support for the Coleman 'Ohana to continue their kuleana of stewarding the 'aina on Kumuhau Street to grow food, support the community, and perpetuate Hawaiian cultural practices. My name is Dr. Jane Chung-Do and I am a tenured professor with the University of Hawai'i at Manoa Office of Public Health Studies. I have known the Colemans since 2007 and was immediately blown away by the aloha and wealth of cultural knowledge that they possess. Both Oriana and Junior Coleman are dedicated Hawaiian cultural practitioners, community leaders, and devoted parents to children who are also amazingly talented, skilled, and grounded in their Hawaiian roots. As a family, they are deeply respected by the Waimanalo community and promoting sustainability and building community wellness.

Since receiving their parcel, the Colemans have put forth an immense amount of energy, time, and aloha to cultivating and nurturing have cultivated and nurturing the land. For example, they were participants and served as leaders in the Ulu Pono Mahi 'Aina program, which engages Hawaiian families to build food forests in their yards to feed the community. The Colemans built a food forest that includes many Native and tropical plants including niu, banana, papaya, etc, that will produce over 50lbs of food every year. They are also involved in many community advocacy and civic engagement efforts and generously share their talents and gifts with the rest of of the community. For example, they developed and implemented multiple family and community cultural programs, such as Himeni (choral) and Na Ku Kui Waimanalo (youth advocacy and film-making). Oriana was also pivotal in advocating for the Kaiapuni program (Hawaiian language immersion) at Kailua High School to perpetuate the Hawaiian language. As a public health expert, I truly believe that the Coleman's encompass the definition of public health. They are uplifting the community and perpetuating cultural practices including aloha and malama 'aina, which is vital to environmental sustainability and food security.

The Coleman 'Ohana are amazing people and model community members who are devoted to community betterment including protecting and cultivating the 'aina, which is aligned with the goal of Department of Agriculture to support, enhance, promote, and protect Hawai'i's agriculture. If you are truly dedicated to "Growing Hawai'i's future," I strongly believe supporting the Coleman 'Ohana and their kuleana to the 'aina would be a meaningfully and pono decision.

Mahalo a nui loa,

Jane Chung-Do, DrPH  
Associate Professor and Associate Director  
Office of Public Health Studies  
Thompson School of Social Work & Public Health  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
phone: 808-956-4548  
chungjac@hawaii.edu

Late Testimony

for BOA mtg - 11/29/22

BOARD.TESTIMONY@HAWAII.GOV, phyllis.shimabukuro-geiser@hawaii.gov,  
 aii.gov, amstokes@hawaii.edu

ikuro-Geiser, Board Members, and Dr. Moniz:

imal Welfare Institute (AWI), we would first like to thank the Hawai'i  
 Agriculture (HDOA) for the opportunity to submit testimony on the interisland  
 as well as Dr. Moniz's support of the removal of a 10% deviation allowance  
 from the proposed regulations. We were disappointed that the board opted not  
 other requested amendments, particularly the amendment to §4-16-11(g),  
 required the provision of shade and water for animals waiting at port to be  
 of this amendment, as outlined in our written testimony, was to lessen the risk  
 heat stress. We believe the provision of shade and water will become even  
 average temperatures rise and as the frequency of heat waves increase with the  
 climate change.

Based on our requested amendments at the October 11 Board of Agriculture  
 opinioned that the provision of shade for animals waiting at ports was unnecessary  
 First, interisland shipping standards already require that shipping containers or  
 roof to protect occupants from the sun. Second, in conversations with Dr. C.N.  
 of Hawaii, Dr. Moniz was cautioned against the assumption that shade  
 effective in mitigating heat stress. Though procedural rules did not permit  
 points, we believe that Dr. Lee's concerns may be related to the fact that shade  
 height can in fact decrease air movement and increase moisture accumulation,  
 height.<sup>1-2</sup> However, this relationship between shade height and ventilation also  
 roofs of shipping containers may be a poor method of providing shade under hot  
 in fact increase heat stress. We hope HDOA will review the strong evidence

shaw, A. W. (1994). Heat stress in cattle and the effect of shade on production and behaviour:  
*Journal of Experimental Agriculture*, 34, 285.

N., Cramer, M. C., Cadaret, C. N., Bigler, E. J., Engle, T. E., Wagner, J. J., & Clark, D. L.  
 on cattle well-being in the beef supply chain. *Journal of Animal Science*, 99(2), skaa375.

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# Animal Welfare Institute

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griculture

vision

that proper use of shade improves cattle welfare<sup>3</sup> and, if shade is incorporated in ports in the future, that HDOA will rely on available scientific research about shade design in determining shade material, shade structure height, size of shadow provided by the shade structure, etc.<sup>4</sup>

Finally, Dr. Moniz stated that many discussions with experienced carriers indicated that heat stress in animals waiting at the port was not an issue. This was concerning for AWI because many of the early signs of heat stress are subtle and absent careful observation are commonly overlooked until they progress, and animals are in distress.

Dr. Moniz later conceded that, given the expected rise in average temperatures, the subject of the provision of shade may need to be revisited and stated that “we need to do the research before we start just putting these regulations in place.” He indicated that basic research to determine how climactic conditions affect temperatures and humidity inside transport containers held at port had not been conducted. He suggested that conducting such research, in collaboration with the University of Hawaii, would help HDOA evaluate heat stress severity and the need for shade structures. This call for more information was echoed by Board Member Cabral, who stated that changes should be made if research indicated they were necessary.


Based on this discussion, it is clear that the department does not believe it can make an informed decision on the issue without first gathering relevant data. Accordingly, AWI encourages HDOA to begin conducting the necessary studies of temperature and relative humidity to determine whether shade structures, access to water, or other measures to mitigate heat stress are warranted. Faculty at the University of Hawaii may be ideal partners in such a study, as research on heat stress of cattle in Hawaii already occurs at this institution by Dr. Lee and others. We hope that these studies will be conducted as soon as possible—before mortality due to heat stress occurs, not after. AWI would like to offer its assistance, in whatever capacity would be helpful, with such research.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 446-2146 or [dena@awionline.org](mailto:dena@awionline.org) with any questions or if you would like to schedule a meeting to discuss this important issue.

Sincerely,



Dena Jones  
Director, Farm Animal Program



Gwendolen Reyes-Illg, DVM  
Veterinary Advisor, Farm Animal Program

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<sup>3</sup> Park, R. M., Foster, M., & Daigle, C. L. (2020). A Scoping Review: The impact of housing systems and environmental features on beef cattle welfare. *Animals (an open access journal from MDPI)*, 10(4), 565.  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/ani10040565>

<sup>4</sup> *Id* at 2 provides a brief but thoroughly referenced discussion of important factors in shade design.





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Hawaii Department of Agriculture  
Hawaii Board of Agriculture

November 28, 2022

**RE: Testimony in Support of Request to**

*Review the Request from Dr. Michael Melzer, University of Hawaii, to Shorten or Exempt the Duration of Quarantine for Coffee Leaf Rust-Resistant Coffee Plants, Coffea spp., Subject to Alternative Propagation or Import Procedures, Pursuant to Chapter 4-70-6, Hawaii Administrative Rules.*

Coffee Leaf Rust (CLR) was discovered in Hawaii in October 2020. Since then, the HCA and numerous researchers, regulators and industry stakeholders have been working to mitigate the impacts on Hawaii's coffee industry. We quickly learned that a transition to CLR resistant varieties needs to occur if the industry is to survive. We Also learned that quarantine rules that were put in place to protect Hawaii are working against us. Time is luxury we do not have. We are already seeing yield reductions on Hawaii island as much as 50% overall. As we emerge from the pandemic and are experiencing sharp inflation and supply chain disruptions, this loss in yield is a further, troubling shock to our industry.

Navigating various permitting pathways is ongoing in collaboration with the Department (HDOA). Dr. Melzer's lab at UH has emerged as one of the most expeditious and affordable options to help save Hawaii's coffee industry. We respectfully ask that Dr. Melzer's application be approved and that he be given full support. He certainly has ours.

Hawaii's coffee industry is ranked among Hawaii's highest-value crops. The Hawaii Coffee Association's (HCA) mission is to represent all sectors of the Hawaiian coffee industry, including growers, millers, wholesalers, roasters and retailers located throughout the State of Hawaii. The HCA's primary objective is to increase awareness and consumption of Hawaiian coffees. A major component of HCA's work is the continuing education of members and consumers.

With thanks and respect,

Chris Manfredi  
Executive Director