

Paul M. & Viva Medina

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November 17, 2018

Maui County Council
HHT.committee @mauicounty.us (2 pages)
Attn: Voting Members
Alika Atay, Via Fax: 270-7247
Don S. Guzman, Via Fax: 270-5502
Riki Hokama, Via Fax: 270-7848
Kelly T. King, Via Fax: 270-7639
Mike White, Via Fax: 270-5508

Re: **HHT-43**

Dear Council and Committee Members:

This letter is in strong opposition to HHT-43 scheduled for Monday, November 19, 2018. Any attempt to repeal basic animal welfare laws for livestock and farm animals is not in the best interest of Maui County. It is bad business, not only for agricultural businesses but tourism. Maui does not need to be known as a place where animals are treated inhumanely.

Animal science and good animal husbandry requires shade for livestock. As stated in an article written by Shane Gadberry on the Drovers' website (the Nation's oldest livestock publication), published August 4, 2015:

"...from a welfare perspective cattle instinctively seek relief from the radiant solar heat of the sun during summer, and providing shade affords this opportunity. Use of shade cloth can provide shade to cattle in more intensively managed systems such as rotational grazing or confinement feeding systems. Since cattle seem to spend more time using shade to seek relief from the sun than immersing themselves in water for cooling, speculatively thinking, strategic placement of shade may provide opportunities to reduce environmental damage to stream banks or ponds."

There are many solutions available that will provide adequate shade for cattle, just a couple are:

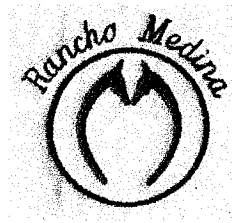
1. Researchers at the university of Missouri's Southwest Center have designed a portable shade to deliver shade for pastured animals. <http://aes.missouri.edu/swcenter/research/index.stm>
2. Solar panels - Researchers at the University of Minnesota's West Central Research and Outreach Center at Morris, have installed solar panels that generate power that also provide cooling shade for cows and heifers. As reported in an article by Jim Drickrell, published September 10, 2018 on the Dairy Herd Management website.

RECEIVED AT HHT MEETING ON 11/19/18

Submitted by Diane Custer

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Shade for livestock is a very solvable issue that can have more benefits than just humane treatment of animals, i.e. solar panels.

From personal experience as retired horse breeders, we know full well that animals seek and need protection from weather conditions. This is a tropical island with weather extremes. The commercially raised livestock are not tropical animals and need extra care to thrive on Maui island.

All animals deserve basic humane protections, and Maui has had those protections in place since 1997. Do not cave in to this special interest request by big business to remove shade laws for cattle. Livestock has been protected by laws and cared for properly for decades on Maui. Any attempt to remove protections for cows and other farm animals is shameful, and will result in cruelty to thousands of animals on Maui.

Maui recently got some very bad publicity for abusive treatment of trail ride horses. Exposure on Social Media of this sort can have a very negative impact on the island's economy. Maui has a valuable reputation as a world class vacation destination, especially for families and the more ecology minded tourist. Livestock can be and should be raised in a humane, caring manner, in line with good animal husbandry and good business practices. Word would spread quickly nationwide on Social Media if the opposite was the reality on Maui.

Do not support HHT-43. Maui is known as the Vally Isle, do not let it become know as the Animal Abuse Isle.

"The greatness of a nation can be judged by the way its animals are treated." Mahatma Gandhi

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Viva Medina

Paul Medina

cc: Via Fax: Office of the Mayor, Alan A. Arakawa, 270-7870