

MAUI CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

TESTIMONY

**Maui Cattlemen's
Association**

PO Box 473

Kula, HI 96790

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and Officers**

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**Sustaining
ranching
communities in
Hawaii**

EAR Committee
Council of the County of Maui

Tuesday January 26, 2016
Council Chamber, 8th Floor
200 South High Street, Wailuku, Hawaii

Chair: Council Member Don Guzman
Vice Chair: Council Member Elle Cochran
Members of the EAR Committee

Good afternoon Maui County Council Members, My name is William Jacintho, President of the Maui Cattlemen's Association. The Maui Cattlemen's Association is an organization representing small and large livestock producers in Maui County including Molokai and Lanai.

We are in full support of any additional options that provide income to Ranchers and Farmers, in order to survive in this challenging business. The Ag Working Group has worked many hours on an Ag Tourism Bill, and the Association **supports** legitimate Ag Tourism. This is a niche, that only a certain amount and type of tourist is interested in. Abuse would hurt the intent, and the experience would not be the same for the visitor. Yes there will be challenges with cheats in a bill like this, but please don't jeopardize the opportunity for those who truly are farmers, and can utilize this form of additional farm income to sustain their business.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. You may reach the Maui Cattlemen's Association through the address provided above.

Sincerely,

William Jacintho, President

RECEIVED AT EAR MEETING ON 1/26/16
submitted by Sydney Smith