



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Wednesday, January 30, 2019 at 1:15 p.m.

By
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And
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SB 233 – RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman and members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 233 with particular emphasis on capital improvements for the animal quarantine holding facility and the detector dog kennels and training facility. We respectfully provide the following information to substantiate our position.

The proper care of animals, in quarantine, or in general is a measure of the level of civilization to which we ascribe. As the college at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa that houses the Animal Science program, we are very supportive of improving and maintaining the quality of the facility where animals must be kept under quarantine before entering the general population in Hawai'i.

Canines, as biosensors, are an important component of biosecurity in Hawai'i and their capacity could be increased in the future to the detection of more than brown tree snakes. We consider developing the capacity for housing of canines and a facility for training a responsible investment in the future of biosecurity for the state of Hawai'i.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testify in support of SB 233.