Shortage ID HI162
VMLRP USE ONLY

NIFA **NIFA Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
Form NIFA 2009-0001
OMB Control No. 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 11/30/2016

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be submitted under the authority of the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

This form must be used for Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations to the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP), Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each shortage situation. See the State Animal Health Official (SAHO) section of the VMLRP web site (www.nifa.usda.gov/vmlrp) for the number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Location of Veterinary Shortage: Islands of Oahu and Kauai, Hawaii
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area; must be a logistically feasible veterinary practice service area)

Approximate Center of Shortage Area (or Location of Position if Type III): 99-941 Halawa Valley Street, Aiea, HI 96701
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: High Priority

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty (select one) :

Type III: Public Practice (awardee obligation at least 49% FTE or 19 hr/week)

For Type I or II Private Practice:

Must cover(check at least one)	**May cover**
❑ Beef Cattle	❑ Beef Cattle
❑ Dairy Cattle	❑ Dairy Cattle
❑ Swine	❑ Swine
❑ Poultry	❑ Poultry
❑ Small Ruminant	❑ Small Ruminant
❑ Other: _____	❑ Other: _____

For Type III Public Practice:

Employer: _____ Position Title: _____

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas:

❑ Food Safety
❑ Public Health
❑ Epidemiology
■ Other: Regulatory Field Veterinary Services

(Optional) If the nominator wishes to specify a service time for this shortage situation that is higher than the minimum required for the shortage type checked above, please specify the percent time in the box below (based on a 40-hour work week). Leave the box blank if the service time for this shortage situation is for the minimum percent time of the shortage type indicated.

100 %

Please describe the **importance and objectives** of a veterinarian filling this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 1500 characters).

The importance and objectives of the veterinarian in this shortage situation is to provide regulatory food animal veterinary field services to food animal producers on the islands of Oahu and Kauai. The position also collaborates with University and other State/Federal Officials regarding Oahu and Kauai Counties Food Animal Health. Pigs are a keystone of Polynesian culture and a large percentage of the 50,000 animals slaughtered in the State are either raised in or imported into Oahu. Additionally, the poultry industry of Hawaii is strongest on the island of Oahu with producers of eggs and broilers present. The locally grass finished beef and dairy industries are also poised for a resurgence in the State's endeavor to be more food self sufficient. There are no dedicated food animal veterinarians on either island at this time and as a result this position provides much needed veterinary expertise to livestock producers helping to fill that void. The majority of the swine and poultry production in the State occurs on the island of Oahu where a population of nearly 1 million people consume these locally raised proteins. There are only 2 private practitioners that service Oahu predominately servicing the horse industry with minimal service provided to the food animal industry. On Kauai currently one part time private practitioner provides a select segment of the veterinary care required by the livestock industries. These numbers are tremendously inadequate for our food animal populations. With increased demand for local meat production and the need for greater food security for all of the islands, the primary objective will be to protect the food animal industry from the incursion of foreign and domestic disease outbreaks and to provide general food animal veterinary expertise to the livestock producers on Oahu and Kauai. A secondary role will be to collaborate with University of Hawaii Extension personnel (Agents, Specialists, and Veterinarian) and with State/Federal Veterinary Officials related to food animal health.

Please describe the **activities** of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 1500 characteers or less).

The activities of the veterinarian in this shortage situation will be to provide food animal expertise and regulatory port and field veterinary services to the food animal producers on the islands of Oahu and Kauai. The areas of greatest need for activities are with swine, beef, dairy and poultry production. The position also provides critical foreign animal disease surveillance and diagnostic services to a part of the Contry that experiences a high level of foreign traffic that increases the risk for the incursion of foreign animal diseases. Inversely the State and these counties have geographic isolation and therefor naive animal populations requiring increase efforts in preventing new diseases from what can be significant negative impact on food animal production from otherwise domestic animal diseases and parasites, some with significant public health concerns. This veterinarian will also be interacting with other State and Federal Veterinary Officials, University of Hawaii Extension (Agents, Specialists, and Veterinarian) and private veterinary practitioners to contribute to initiatives to ensure food security and animal health.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 750 characters or less).

Efforts to recruit a regulatory food animal veterinarian have focused on local and national recruiting and by providing assistance with the development of pre-veterinary and veterinary students in hopes of their return to the islands. However, many students do not return because of mainland opportunities and the expense of living in Hawaii, especially the island of Oahu, City and County of Honolulu. Those that do return stay long-term with successful practices, although in companion animal practice due to higher salaries. The ability to recruit a high quality veterinarian for food animal practice would be greatly facilitated with the VMLRP to offset the high cost of living in Oahu and Hawaii in general. Efforts to recruit of this position in the past have resulted in short term commitments of older retired veterinarians retired from previous practice or employment or others that eventually have to leave for higher paying positions or a lower cost of living.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 2000 characters or less).

Food security and sustainability are important issues for the geographically isolated State of Hawaii. Hawaii imports substantial amounts of food, including products that could come from local food animal producers. Economically, the swine industry generates an annual income of $6-$7 million in market hog sales and also contributes to the local economy and employment through pork processing and retail marketing, the feed industry, veterinary supply, and other related activities. For the poultry industry, the high point of production in 1990 saw 227.5 million eggs produced with a value of $16.1 million, numbers that could be attained again in Oahu with adequate support of the industry. The dairy and local grass fed beef production are both making resurgent efforts. The aquaculture industries have made impressive starts and is poised to expand which also requires significant veterinary support. The national average of labor force employed by agriculture is 2%; however, Hawaii's agricultural labor force accounts for ~5% of the population pointing to the importance of these industries both culturally and economically. Additionally, Hawaii is a major location for foreign traffic, tourism and importation of goods, making it susceptible to introduction of foreign animal disease or other animal health threats, including zoonotic diseases of public health concern. Finally, Hawaii serves as a gateway of information and expertise for the Pacific Region and internationally for animal health with numerous visitors attending veterinary continuing education in Hawaii from around the Pacific and globe. If this position is not secured, a downturn in the capacity of Oahu and Kauai County for food animal production could occur due to the ongoing lack of veterinary expertise. Sustainable agriculture requires the inclusion of veterinarians to ensure animal health, food security, and support for Pacific and International veterinary capabilities.

SAHO nominator must check both boxes below in order for NIFA to consider this nomination for official designation

☑ By checking this box, I affirm that this form represents a nomination and is subject to NIFA review and approval.

☑ By checking this box, I affirm that it is my professional opinion that this is a bona fide food supply or public health-related veterinary shortage situation. I affirm due diligence has been invested to identify this area as a shortage situation of at least moderate priority (severity).

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Jason D. Moniz D.V.M.

Title: Veterinary Program Manager

Organization: Hawaii Dept. Of Ag., Div. of Animal

Email: Jason.D.Moniz@Hawaii.gov

Telephone Number: (808) 483-7106
(Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OGFM, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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