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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY SHELTERS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The Legislature finds that in the wake of  
2 Hurricane Katrina, a category five hurricane that hit New  
3 Orleans on August 31, 2005, serious concerns were raised over  
4 the adequacy and availability of emergency shelters and the  
5 ability of these shelters to accommodate the needs of evacuees.  
6 In addition to the problems encountered by evacuees, however,  
7 there were the challenges faced by some residents who remained  
8 in their homes before, during, and after the hurricane. Many of  
9 those who refused to evacuate indicated they chose to remain at  
10 home because pets were not allowed at public shelters. Still  
11 others, despite facing life, health, and safety issues after the  
12 hurricane, would not evacuate until they located their missing  
13 pets. As a result, rescue workers had to expend considerable  
14 time, energy, and resources to rescue people and their pets at a  
15 later date.

16           The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
17 defense to conduct a cost benefit analysis of providing  
18 accommodations for pets at public shelter facilities.



1 SECTION 2. The department of defense shall conduct a cost  
2 benefit analysis of providing accommodations for pets at public  
3 shelter facilities. The analysis shall include:

4 (1) Measures that could be taken to encourage private  
5 sector entities to provide pet shelter facilities for  
6 compensation;

7 (2) A review of infrastructure, staffing, equipment, and  
8 logistics costs relating to the housing of pets in  
9 proper cages provided by their owners; and

10 (3) Any other factors the department of defense deems  
11 appropriate and relevant to accommodate the needs of  
12 evacuees with pets.

13 SECTION 3. The department of defense shall submit a report  
14 on its findings, analysis, and recommendations to the governor  
15 and legislature no later than December 31, 2006, including any  
16 necessary proposed legislation to implement the recommendations  
17 contained in the report.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
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HB 2252

**Report Title:**

Emergency Shelter; Animal Shelter

**Description:**

Requires the department of defense to conduct a cost benefit analysis of providing accommodations for pets at public shelters and report to the governor and legislature. Requires that analysis include private sector initiatives to provide pet shelters for compensation.

