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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A TASK FORCE TO CONDUCT OUTREACH AND  
EDUCATION REGARDING ANIMAL CRUELTY.

1           WHEREAS, dogs in Hawaii and the United States of America  
2 are loyal companions, faithful workers who serve and protect,  
3 and are affectionately known as "man's best friend"; and  
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5           WHEREAS, Hawaii is blessed with K-9 units that have made  
6 several large drug busts at our airports; preventing kilos of  
7 crystal meth from reaching our islands' people; and  
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9           WHEREAS, U.S. Customs and Border Protection has more than  
10 800 canine teams that work with the U.S. Department of Homeland  
11 Security to combat terrorist threats, stop the flow of illegal  
12 narcotics, and detect unreported currency, concealed humans, or  
13 smuggled agriculture products; and  
14

15           WHEREAS, the U.S. Military utilizes dogs to brave  
16 situations in war; finding mines, locating the enemy, and search  
17 and rescue; vital in detecting potential explosives at large  
18 scale events like the Olympics, Presidential debates, and  
19 economic conferences; and  
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21           WHEREAS, people with disabilities in Hawaii rely on dogs to  
22 provide living assistance as guide dogs, hearing dogs, service  
23 dogs, and in other capacities as well; and  
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25           WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), signed  
26 into law in 1990, guarantees people with disabilities the right  
27 to be accompanied by a service animal in all areas open to the  
28 general public; and  
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30           WHEREAS, search and rescue dogs can identify a suspect or  
31 missing person's scent and microscopic particles; dogs have a  
32 superior sense of smell at concentrations of nearly 100 million



1 times lower than humans; extremely valuable in dark situations,  
2 heavy dense woods, disaster debris, and under water; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, working in horrific and distressing emergency  
5 situations disaster search dogs play a key role in finding  
6 survivors and victims of earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes,  
7 fires, explosions, plane and train wrecks; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, in the agricultural field dogs herd and head  
10 cattle and sheep, patrolling boundaries and protecting crops;  
11 and

12  
13 WHEREAS, research shows dogs in the presence of patients  
14 suffering from physical, emotional, and social conditions, aid  
15 in increasing the possibility of recovery; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, dogs help to lower blood pressure, decrease serum  
18 cholesterol, relieve anxiety in people and possess the ability  
19 to sniff out cancer and detect the onset of seizures; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, Hawaii is known throughout the world as home to  
22 people of many ethnicities and cultures, with newcomers to our  
23 shores coming from different countries bringing different values  
24 and perspectives; and

25  
26 WHEREAS, as is the case in any community, without outreach  
27 and education to bring about understanding and appreciation of  
28 differing values, conflict can arise; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, recently there have been several high profile  
31 cases of animal cruelty and consumption of dog in the State,  
32 causing trauma to our children and distress to our community at  
33 large, which holds one of the largest per capita pet dog  
34 ownerships in the nation; now, therefore,

35  
36 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
37 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
38 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that a task force is  
39 requested to be convened to create a strategic and  
40 implementation plan, including potential legislation, to conduct  
41 outreach and education regarding animal cruelty and the  
42 important, positive role and image the dog represents in Hawaii  
43 and the Nation; and  
44



# H.C.R. NO. 285

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the members of the task force  
2 include a representative from the following organizations and  
3 agencies: the Attorney General, the Prosecutor's Office of each  
4 county, the Public Defender, the Police Chiefs of each county,  
5 the Humane Society of Hawaii, the Office of Language Access, and  
6 the Department of Health; and  
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the strategic plan,  
9 implementation plan, and any proposed legislation, be submitted  
10 to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
11 convening of the 2009 Regular Session; and  
12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Attorney General,  
15 the Prosecutor's Office of each county, the Public Defender, the  
16 Police chiefs of each county, the Humane Society of Hawaii, the  
17 Office of Language Access, and the Department of Health.  
18  
19  
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OFFERED BY:



MAR 12 2008

