

testimony

From: Cathy [selkie@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 10, 2008 5:36 PM
To: testimony
Subject: SB3146: related to Crimes (human consumption of dogs and cats)

Please deliver testimony to Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee for hearing on Tuesday at 9:00 am in Conference Room 016. Mahalo!

Chair Taniguchi and Vice Chair Hee and Members of the JDL Committee:
re: SB3146
position: support with amendments

Animal Rights Hawai'i supports the intent of SB3146, to make the killing of dogs and cats for human consumption illegal. However, we feel that Senator Hee's bill, SB 3222, would be more effective in protecting those animals. We suggest adding language to make the consumption of cats and dogs a felony, as well as including horses to the list of pets protected under the new felony animal cruelty statute.

The sad fate of Caddy, a beloved companion dog, who was stolen and slaughtered as food before Christmas, 2007, is reason enough to legislate an end to the killing of pets for food. In the past, Animal Rights Hawai'i has intervened to remove dogs destined for food from certain death; we have worked with USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service inspectors to investigate complaints of dog slaughter; sadly, USDA does not regulate the trade in dog or cat flesh; USDA does not recognize companion animal flesh for human consumption, although they have received many reports of cases of slaughter. This allows a large puka in federal law, and in state law. The cruel killing continues and will continue unless you, the Legislature takes a stand against this cruelty.

This is not a racist proposal. Although there are many cultures that consider dogs and cats as comestibles, we feel that the long history of animal protection in America, beginning with the Massachusetts Bay Colony 400 years ago, should inform lawmaking in the United States. Please vote favorably on this bill, with amendments.

With aloha,
Cathy Goeggel
Director, Research and Investigations
Animal Rights Hawai'i
PO Box 10845
Honolulu, HI 96816
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fax: 866.508.2997
www.animalrightshawaii.com
selkie@hawaii.rr.com

testimony

From: Joel Fischer [jfischer@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2008 7:37 PM
To: testimony
Subject: SB3146; JDL; 2/12; 9AM; Rm 016

Importance: High

SB3146, Relating to Crimes
JDL; Chair, Sen Taniguchi, Vice Chair, Sen Hee

PLEASE PASS THIS BILL WITH AMENDMENT.

I am very grateful to Senaotr Hee for introducing this bill and to Senator Taniguchi for hearing it.

Every single legislator knows why this bill is important. Recent events involving the kidnapping of a beloved pet dog and then eating him have schocked the community. There have been many other reports over the years of the killing and eating of pets. This awful practice must stop!

In many ways, this bill is a bill about empathy for everyone in Hawai'i nei who truly loves an animal as part of their family. We must protect all pet animals and their families and work to ensure that pets are kept solely as pets, not as a source of food!

REQUESTED AMENDMENT: I ask that you consider changing the wording of this bill to make the eating of pets a FELONY rather than a misdemeanor. The act of eating an intelligent, sensitive pet animal is so horrendous that the community must be put on notice that this practice will not be tolerated!

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Aloha, joel

Dr. Joel Fischer, ACSW
President, 19-3, Democratic Party

Professor
University of Hawai'i, School of Social Work Henke Hall Honolulu, HI 96822

"It is reasonable that everyone who asks justice should DO justice."
Thomas Jefferson

"There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but one must take it because one's conscience tells one that it is right."
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Never, never, never quit."
Winston Churchill

testimony

From: barbara ikeda [barbaraikeda@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2008 5:45 PM
To: testimony
Subject: s.b.3146 Eating our pets????

The hearing on Tuesday Feb. 12th for S.B. 3146, relating to eating our pets; please submit this testimony; Is there another state that would even have a need for such a bill? S.B. 3146 could be stronger, include other pets like horses and even use words like, "The unlicensed, untaxed and uninspected slaughter of pets for human consumption." The word, "Felony" should be included, too.
Barbara Ikeda 1414 10th av Hon Hi 734-3358

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testimony

From: kuulei [kuuleikiliona@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 10, 2008 9:53 PM
To: testimony
Subject: SB 3146- testimony

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 3146

TO: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Ku'u lei A. Kilona, private citizen

Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Conf. room 016

One copy of testimony to Room 219

Dear Committee Chair Taniguchi and Vice Chair, Hee along with Committee Members,

This testimony is in support of SB 3146 and offers a couple amendments. Please include "pet turtle" in the definition of pet animal, along with "service animals."

Because turtles were once commonly eaten in the islands, I am often having to guard my pet turtle from people wanting to boil it.

I am also suggesting the inclusion of the term "service animals," because the animal is considered an extension of the person who utilizes one. The general term "service animal" is appropriate here, because a variety of animals are utilized, whereas, there was a time when only dogs were used.

I have not checked in the HRS to see if "service animals" are already covered under Hawaii law.

Mahalo for the opportunity to give written testimony.

Sincerely,

Ku'u lei A. Kilona
(sent via email: kuuleikiliona@hawaii.rr.com)

testimony

From: Aloha4animals2@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2008 10:55 AM
To: testimony
Cc: puaa@hawaii.rr.com; potteringpuck@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3146 - Banning Killing of Dogs & Cats for Human Consumption

Chair Taniguchi and Vice Chair Hee and Members of the JDL Committee:

re: SB3146

Position: Support with Amendments

The news of CADDY'S DEATH AND THE VICIOUS WAY IN WHICH CADDY WAS KILLED, was heartbreaking! I too would have gladly given a free meal to the family, in order to spare the life of this loving and beautiful 8 month old dog.

Cruelty to animals is widespread in this world, so sickeningly shocking in some areas where no laws are there to protect them. I had come to the conclusion long ago that we are not civilized as long as the treatment of animals is as cruel as it is.

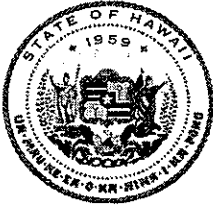
Why should it be a matter of debate to implement compassion and kindness and to fellow earthlings? I support the intent of SB3146, to make the killing of dogs and cats for human consumption illegal. However, Senator Hee's bill, SB 3222, would be more effective in protecting those animals. Please add suggest adding language to make the consumption of cats and dogs a felony, as well as including horses to the list of pets protected under the new felony animal cruelty statute.

More than half of Hawaii's population are pet owners. Please remember, if all of them were aware that this bill was being proposed, you would be flooded with testimony of their love for their pets and their commitment to protect them. Strays should not be forgotten, they are sufferng without a home, and should be protected from further cruelty as well.

Aloha is for animals too. They share this world with us. Our captivation for them is expressed with stuffed animals, artsy pictures of animals, cartoons, films, pictures splashed everywhere, but all these could never replace the wonder that a living animal's life bring. They are smart enough to know their names and understand our commands...sit, stay etc. **We ought to be smart enough to understand their cries of pain, suffering, cries for help. Animals cannot speak English, so we humans must step up, and acknowledge we understand and will help.**

Aloha4animals2,
Jane Shiraki
Honolulu, Hawaii

The year's hottest artists on the red carpet at the Grammy Awards. [AOL Music takes you there.](#)



**Office of the Public Defender
State of Hawaii**

Timothy Ho, Chief Deputy Public Defender

**Testimony of the Office of the Public Defender,
State of Hawaii to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor**



LATE

February 12, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

RE: S.B. 3146: Relating To Crimes

Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

This measure would make the consumption of a cat or dog a misdemeanor offense punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a two thousand dollar fine.

The Office of the Public Defender opposes S.B. 3146.

This measure amounts to racial and cultural discrimination. The human consumption of cats or dogs, while seemingly disgusting to the general public who are used to seeing these animals as house pets, are culturally acceptable to minority of our population. The consumption of beef by hindus and pork by jews are prohibited by their religion. They may have the same reaction to our consumption of beef or pork that some of us have about eating cats or dogs. Yet we would never think of passing legislation to prohibit the human consumption of pork or beef because it's consumption is accepted by the majority of our population. How far would a bill banning the human consumption of pork or beef go? Would the bill even be given a hearing?

I myself have had a chance to eat rabbit, deer, frogs, buffalo, dried lizards and sea turtle (before it became illegal), all very tasty food. I would never consider eating a cat or a dog. Does this mean no one else should eat cats or dogs?

Yes, we see cats and dogs as pets. The torturing, mutilation or poisoning of any "pet" animal is already prohibited and constitutes the offense of Cruelty to Animals in the First Degree, a class C felony. The slaughtering of any pet, not just a dog or cat is prohibited in this section. The men who took the dog from the Moanalua Golf Club are being prosecuted under this law.

We oppose S.B. 3146. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

testimony

From: Kawehi Yim [kyim@hawaiianhumane.org]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2008 9:20 PM
To: testimony
Subject: SB3146 --RELATING TO CRIMES

LATE

February 11, 2008

Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Hearing Date: February 12, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

SUBJECT: Regarding SB 3146 – Relating to Crimes

FROM: Kawehi Yim, The Hawaiian Humane Society

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Members of the Committee,


As a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), the Hawaiian Humane Society supports legislation that strengthens Hawaii’s animal welfare laws to alleviate suffering and protects all animals.

Respectfully submitted,

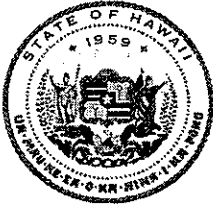
Kawehi Yim
Community Relations Director
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2700 Waiālae Avenue
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State of Hawaii**

Timothy Ho, Chief Deputy Public Defender

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