
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS AND THE HAWAIIAN HUMANE
SOCIETY TO IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE PET PROTECTION PROGRAM
FOR DOGS AND CATS.

1 WHEREAS, there are more than three hundred fifty-three
2 million animal companions in the United States, and more than
3 sixty-one per cent of households own a pet; and
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5 WHEREAS, pets, specifically dogs and cats, are purchased or
6 obtained from multiple sources, such as pet stores, breeders,
7 animal shelters, and adoption agencies; and
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9 WHEREAS, certain breeders are driven by the profit motive
10 and in some cases, do not take precautionary measures to protect
11 newborn dogs and cats from diseases or genetic predispositions;
12 and
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14 WHEREAS, some breeders are professionals who treat and care
15 for their animals, and others breed dogs and cats for a certain
16 appearance or size, with the result that many live uncomfortable
17 tragic lives because their bodily and brain functions are
18 inhibited; and
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20 WHEREAS, the State has an interest in protecting the
21 welfare of dogs and cats from cruelty and exploitation, as well
22 as protecting Hawaii's consumers from less-than-reputable pet
23 breeders and dealers; and
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25 WHEREAS, a comprehensive pet protection program would
26 provide protection for consumers from unscrupulous breeders and
27 protect animals, prior to purchase or adoption, from unsanitary
28 living and breeding conditions; now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
31 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
32 of 2009, that the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs,
33 the Board of Veterinary Examiners and the Hawaiian Humane



1 Society are requested to implement, within the extent of their
2 authority, a comprehensive pet protection program for dogs and
3 cats along the lines of House Bill No. 1842 (2009), which was
4 introduced during the Regular Session of 2009; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is requested that the
7 Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Board of Veterinary
8 Examiners and the Hawaiian Humane Society consider the following
9 elements in a comprehensive pet protection program for dogs and
10 cats:
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- 12 (1) Requiring a pet dealer to provide spaying, neutering,
13 and licensing law information to a buyer upon
14 purchase;
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- 16 (2) Requiring all dogs and cats, prior to purchase or
17 sale, to be examined by a licensed veterinarian;
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- 19 (3) Requiring a pet dealer to furnish a complete medical
20 history to a buyer upon the purchase of a dog or cat,
21 including breeder information, birth date,
22 immunization and worming records, illness or disease
23 history, and the breed of the animal;
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- 25 (4) Requiring a pet dealer to refund the purchase price or
26 pay medical expenses to a customer who obtains a
27 written certification from a licensed veterinarian,
28 within fifteen days of purchase, that the animal is
29 ill or, within one year of the date of purchase, that
30 animal has a fatal or life threatening disease;
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- 32 (5) Requiring breeding and pet care standards, including
33 fire protection, sanitation, water and adequate
34 nutrition, adequate living space, socialization,
35 exercise, and prompt veterinary care; and
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- 37 (6) Providing penalties and remedies for violations of the
38 pet protection program; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Commerce and
41 Consumer Affairs is requested to report on the progress of
42 implementing the comprehensive pet protection program to the
43 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
44 the Regular Session of 2010; and





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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Chairperson of the Board of Veterinary Examiners and the Executive Director of the Hawaiian Humane Society.

OFFERED BY:







MAR 18 2009

