



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 Government Operations

February 13, 2009, 9:30 a.m.

RE: S.B. 1222: RELATING TO THE HUMANE TREATMENT OF PET ANIMALS

Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

This measure would make the act of confining a pet animal on public property a misdemeanor offense punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a two thousand dollar fine. This measure would reduce the requisite amount of dogs or cats for animal hoarding from twenty (20) to ten (10).

The Office of the Public Defender opposes S.B. 1222. We believe that this measure targets specific homeless individuals who have been keeping dogs and cats in pet cages on Oahu. These individuals appear to suffer from mental illness, which would make their prosecution difficult, if not fruitless.

We also oppose the proposed language in subsection (2) on page 2 of this measure. We believe that enforcement of animal cruelty laws should be left to animal control officers or law enforcement officials. Leaving enforcement to an organization formed for the prevention of cruelty to animals, which may not be trained the proper restraint of someone who is suffering from a mental illness and/or resisting arrest could potentially lead to an individual on either side being physically harmed. The city and/or state could be civilly liable for any injuries resulting from a botched arrest.

Section 711-1109, Animal Cruelty in the Second Degree proscribes the intentional, knowing or reckless causation of substantial bodily injury or starvation of any animal. The causation of substantial bodily injury or starvation of a single animal is prohibited under the current animal cruelty laws. The offense of animal hoarding would be harder to prove than animal cruelty.

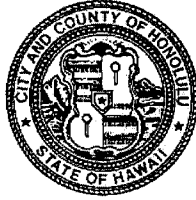
We oppose the reduction in the animal hoarding statute from twenty (20) dogs and/or cats to ten (10). There are many individuals, such as hunters, who possess more than ten dogs or cats and are not "animal hoarders." Twenty dogs or cats are a more appropriate number for a definition of animal hoarding.

We believe that S.B. 1222 unnecessarily duplicates cruelty to animals in the second degree, and is harder to prove. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

DEPARTMENT OF ENTERPRISE SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

777 WARD AVENUE, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814-2166
PHONE: (808) 527-5400 * FAX: (808) 527-5433 * INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov

GOLF COURSE DIVISION*HONOLULU ZOO*NEAL S. BLAISDELL CENTER * WAIKIKI SHELL



MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR

SIDNEY A. QUINTAL
DIRECTOR

HUBERT P. MINN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 12, 2009

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi
And Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Members:

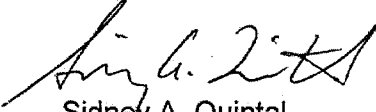
Subject: Senate Bill No. 1222, Relating to the Humane Treatment of Pet Animals

The City and County of Honolulu Department of Enterprise Services is concerned with several items in the existing language of S.B. No. 1222 that create questions and potential problems for the general public, enforcement, and for the Honolulu Zoo in particular. I've listed points below that need clarification.

- The Honolulu Zoo and other recognized institutions having animals on public display need to be exempted from this bill by unambiguous language.
- How is "pet animal" defined? By strict definition fishes in an aquarium are animals in confinement, and that would cause a problem for every public establishment that has an aquarium. Also, while many of the animals in the Honolulu Zoo's collection are non-domestic, we do have goats, cows, guinea pigs, koi, pigs and chickens in continuous confinement that might be considered "pet animals."
- How is "public property" defined? Is this property held by the public through government agencies or does it mean simply property to which the public normally has access? If this property is defined as government land then the Panaewa Zoo in Hilo would also need to be expressly excluded from this bill.
- In SECTION 2 there is no exemption listed for bona fide animal breeders or individuals doing legitimate research.

Thank you for your consideration of our questions and comments. Please contact me if you have any questions or need further expansion on any of these points.

Very truly yours,


Sidney A. Quintal
Acting Director

From: Dr. Becky Rhoades [drbecky@kauaihumane.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2009 3:23 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: SB 1222 Relating To The Humane Treatment of Pet Animals Hearing on February 13, 2009
Attachments: image001.jpg; image003.jpg; image002.jpg



Kauai Humane Society
PO Box 3330
Lihue, Hawaii 96766
(808) 632-0610
www.kauaihumane.org

February 12, 2009

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

HEARING DATE: Friday, February 13, 2009, 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

Re: SB 1222 Relating To The Humane Treatment Of Pet Animals

Dear Chairman Taniguchi and Members of the Committee,

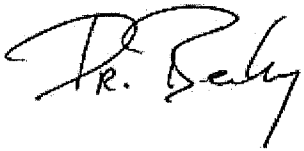
On behalf of the Kauai Humane Society and its 2000 members, we have serious concerns about SB 1222 as written:

- Definition of public property includes any property that is owned by the County, State or Federal governments. As a result, the unintended consequences of this legislation would make any pet animal held in a cage on public property illegal, such as:
 - K-9 dogs kept at HPD holding facility;
 - the State Quarantine Facility at Halawa;
 - Dept. of Agriculture dogs held at the airport;
 - the Hawaiian, Maui and Kona Humane Societies;
 - the homeless population who live on county/state beaches and parks;
 - any pet-friendly emergency shelter during a natural and/or manmade disaster; and
 - any county and/or state agency involved in actively trapping animals for removal;
- Feral cats that are trapped and sterilized are routinely kept in humane traps longer than four hours in order to provide time for them to recover from anesthesia and transported back to their colony by caregivers; and

- The confiscation of animals, as written in this bill, goes against the basics of constitutional law and due process.

We strongly recommend that the legislature convene a task force to further define and discuss this issue along with other minimum standards of pet keeping so that language can be drafted that meets the needs of the community as a whole. While this is statewide legislation, we feel the enforcement of a law such as this needs to be addressed on a county by county basis because of their unique differences.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Rhoades". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Rebecca H. Rhoades, D.V.M.
Executive Director
Kauai Humane Society

From: animal_care_foundation@juno.com
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2009 12:00 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: SB 1222 Testimony

SB 1222 RELATING TO THE HUMANE TREATMENT OF PET ANIMALS.
2/13/09
9:30 a.m.

Committee Members:

Animal CARE Foundation opposes the so-called "hoarder" bill as written.

We oppose it for multiple reasons.

This law is currently sunsetted for July 1, 2011. Passing this bill would remove the sunset provision. The current bill has been repeatedly threatened to be used by HPD, Health Dept., HHS, and regular citizens against animal rescues, animal foster houses, and others - just as I had said it would be when this law was originally passed. The number of prosecutions and convictions is unknown, but it has had a chilling effect on lawful activities of very good people who's only crime is caring about animals. This bill says it takes effect January 1, 2010.

Allowing animals to be confiscated by so-called "humane" societies, like the one here on O`ahu is not doing the animals any favors. The Hawaiian Humane Society is perhaps the biggest animal abuser in the state, violating the state anti cruelty law many times daily. Whether it's baking live animals next to, or in, their incinerator, baking them in their trucks, injecting them with painful caustic drugs in their body cavities, giving them insufficient amounts of anesthesia in surgery, or leaving injured and sick animals untreated causing them a slow, painful, agonizing death, or dragging injured pregnant dogs across pavement, to name a few items, it is hard to see where one is helping them by removing them from one abusive situation and putting them in a far more abusive one.

Reducing the number of animals required to be a "hoarder" to the number ten chills our ability to adopt out animals who need good homes. It has done so on more than a few occasions already. Additionally, ACF has always maintained that using a number is arbitrary and capricious. The people should be judged on the care and condition of the animals and the surrounding circumstances. We believe that the old cruelty law imported from England by way of Massachusetts in 1800's is perfectly good if it was actually used because it speaks to actual conditions and actual harms.

Expanding the law to include public outdoor locations may cause feral cat caretakers who practice trap, neuter, return to be harassed like the rescues and fosterers are now.

In conclusion, someone needs to save the animals from the wonderful and good hearted people trying to save them. Until humane societies, prosecutors, and police, properly enforce animal laws - which they have not done for the most part since the early 1800's, and society's attitudes toward animals change, animals will never be properly protected.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Frank De Giacomo, V.P.
Animal CARE Foundation

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2009 8:13 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Cc: selkie@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1222 on 2/13/2009 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for JGO 2/13/2009 9:30:00 AM SB1222

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Cathy Goeggel
Organization: Animal Rights Hawai'i
Address: PO Box 10845 Honolulu, HI 96816
Phone: 808.941.9476
E-mail: selkie@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/12/2009

Comments:
I will present my comments at the hearing

From: Donna and Scott Sullivan [donascot@aloha.com]
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2009 7:07 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: SB1222 Hearing - February 13, 2009, 9:30 a.m.

To: Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair of Judiciary and government Operations Committee

From: Donna Sullivan, 46-182 Lilipuna Road, Kaneohe, HI 96744

RE: Senate Bill: SB1222 - Hearing (February 13, 2009)

POSITION: Support

I support SB1222 so that animals can be humanely treated and not confined to small cages such is the case of the homeless woman and her cats/chicken/rabbit in Kakaako.

Please see the email below that I sent to the Hawaiian Humane Society.

I too have witnessed this over the years. These animals should have homes where they are kept safe, clean, and have care when they are not well. They should not have to live in small, dirty cages their whole life. Some I saw in cages where the cat cannot stand up and turn around. Some have several cats crowded into a cage.

We need to strengthen the animal cruelty law so that these animals can be helped. They deserve better.

Aloha,

Donna Sullivan

----- Original Message -----

From: Donna and Scott Sullivan
To: hhs@hawaiianhumane.org
Cc: liberate@hawaii.rr.com ; Villaroz@aol.com ; sengaluteria@capitol.hawaii.gov ; repbrower@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2009 12:11 AM
Subject: The Failure of the Hawaiian Humane Society

Aloha,

I taped and watched the 16-minute documentary "The Failure of the Hawaiian Humane Society" this evening. It was disturbing to me because I too have seen the "Cat Woman" on several occasions watering and feeding her cats in Kakaako over the years. It was upsetting for me to see several cats in one cage, but even worse...to see a couple of adult cats in cages where the cat couldn't even stand up or turn around in the cage. Many cages didn't have papers in the bottom so the cat's paws were going through the wiring in the bottom of the cage. The area was smelly and there were lots of flies. The cats were out in the sun with blue tarps covering them. They looked hot. I wanted to stop to talk to her, but my husband told me not to "get involved"! I should never have listened to him.

This "Cat Woman" is hoarding animals in an inhumane manner on a City sidewalk/grassy area. Homes need to be found for these cats and the other animals she has confined. Has anyone from

the Humane Society even tried talking her into giving the cats up so homes could be found? Hopefully, they will be given to a "no kill" facility if the Hawaiian Humane Society doesn't act on this or find homes for them.

If the current laws are the problem, the Hawaiian Humane Society should have representatives at the Capitol lobbying to change those laws. (HB1510 and SB1222 <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/site1/docs/getstatus.asp?query=HB1510%2CSB1222&currpage=1&showstatus=on&showtext=on&showcommrpt=on> should be receiving strong support by you yet in checking, I see no testimony by you nor do I see these bills listed on the Hawaiian Humane Society's website: <http://www.hawaiianhumane.org/animallaws/index.html>.) It is also disappointing that you have not acted in a responsible, business-like manner in answering letters sent to you repeatedly by the Animal Advocate group regarding the "Cat Woman".

Mahalo,

Donna Sullivan
46-182 Lilipuna Road
Kaneohe, HI 96744
donascot@aloha.com

From: Pamela Davis [liberate@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2009 5:41 AM
To: taniguchi6 - Wayne
Subject: Testimony for SB1222

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

FROM: Pamela Davis, President
Animal Advocate Inc.
cell: 779-8713

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of SB1222 (³Humane Treatment of Pet
Animals²)
Hearing Date: Friday, February 13, 2009
Location: Conference Room No. 16, Chamber Level
Time: 9:30 a.m.

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

My name is Pamela Davis, and I am the President of Animal Advocate Inc. here in Honolulu. We are submitting this testimony today (February 9, 2009) in SUPPORT of SB1222.

We have produced a 16-minute documentary on the cruel confinement and inhumane treatment of animals which is taking place in Kakaako, on public property, and within the public right-of-way. We documented this situation using video and photographs, over a period of about one year. We began our efforts in 2007 and ended in December of 2008.

Our documentary premiered on Ōlelo Community Television on February 5, 2009. In addition, an article was printed on the front page of The Honolulu Advertiser on February 9, 2009 regarding this issue. We have received many e-mails and telephone calls regarding our documentary, and people are expressing their support of SB1222. We hope that you will be able to view the video prior to the hearing, which you can do by clicking the following link:

<http://www.animaladvocateinc.org/HHSfailure.htm>

ISSUE

For about 10 years, a homeless woman has been confining cats, kittens, and other animals in small carriers, traps, shopping carts, and cages. We have documented as many as 19 animals at one time. The animals are confined 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and are never let out of the cages. Their lives are spent entirely in small, dirty cages. We have documented flies and feces, and therefore this also represents an ongoing public health issue.

We have obtained records from the City Department of Customer Services and the State Department of Health (Vector Branch) which show that a great many citizens have called, written, and e-mailed the Hawaiian Humane Society (HHS) to express concern about this inhumane confinement over a period of many years. However, the HHS has not removed the animals from the woman's possession.

According to the Director of Operations of the HHS (Rigo Niera), the HHS does not believe the existing statute allows them to confiscate the abused animals. Therefore, SB1222 is proposed, to strengthen the animal cruelty law by adding new language to Section 711-1109,

HRS, to address the cruel confinement of animals on public property. The proposed new language will make clear what cruel and inhumane confinement entails. Without this bill, we do not know how the situation of cruelty can be addressed, because the animal control contractor will not confiscate the animals. And, this has been going on for about 10 years. Please help us put an end to this animal cruelty.

We would also like to mention that we are very concerned about the fact that the animals are breeding. The woman is not just hoarding animals, she is intentionally breeding them with the knowledge that the HHS will come and pick them up. The woman has told us that the HHS puts the kittens up for adoption. Unrestricted breeding should not be allowed, and we are very troubled by this.

SB1222 is not aimed at targeting the homeless of our State to prohibit them from having a companion animal, but is instead meant to address animal cruelty. Many voters are tied to this issue, i.e., prevention of cruelty to animals. Public sentiment about the issue is also demonstrated by the number of calls and complaints about the situation from many citizens over the years, received by government agencies and the HHS.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB1222. Again, on behalf of the many citizens who are concerned about this situation, and on behalf of the abused animals themselves, we ask for your support of this bill.

Sincerely,

Pamela Davis, President
Animal Advocate Inc.

From: barbara ikeda [barbaraikeda@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2009 7:20 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: s.b.1222

In favor of s.b. 1222 friday the 13th feb hoping to promote animal welfare in Hawaii. Barbara Ikeda 95269
waikalani drive mililani 723-2207

From: WinSheltie [winsheltie@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2009 12:09 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: SB1222

I seriously OPPOSE this bill. You are lumping together animals that don't need "rescuing."

- K-9s kept at HPD holding facilities
- Dept of Agriculture dogs held at the airport
- State Quarantine Facility at Halawa
- The outer island Humane Societies
- The homeless population at the parks
- ANY pet-friendly emergency shelter during a natural and/or manmade disaster
- ANY county or state agency involved in actively trapping animals for removal.

Section 2 allows ANY society or organization that CLAIMS to be a "duly incorporated humane society" or organization formed for the prevention of cruelty to enforce laws!!!!

The confiscation of animals, as written in this bill, goes against the basics of constitutional law and due process.

There are current laws in place, animal cruelty law, which works to address animals that are being kept in inhumane and cruel confinement.

This BILL IS NEITHER CONSTITUTIONAL OR NECESSARY.

S. Keleher

TESTIMONY OF GLEN FUKUNAGA IN SUPPORT OF S.B. No. 1222
Relating to the Humane Treatment of Pet Animals
(Written Testimony Only)

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Hearing Date: Friday, February 13, 2009

9:30 a.m. Conference Room 016

Dear Senators,

I am writing in support of S.B. 1222, Relating to the Humane Treatment of Pet Animals. This bill, if enacted, will provide some relief to cats currently being forced to endure conditions of extreme confinement on Ilalo Street in Kakaako. I work at the Department of Health building at 919 Ala Moana Blvd., near where for nearly three years a woman has kept up to 20 cats in cages and shopping carts on the sidewalk of Ilalo Street. These cats are kept in extreme confinement 24 hours a day, under needlessly cruel and inhumane conditions. Despite the woman's claim that she loves and takes good care of the animals, the conditions are filthy, smelly, and deplorable. Many of the cats are kept in shopping carts, and are forced to lie on open wire floors all day. They are never released from the cages, even as the woman relocates from time to time. I see this woman and the cats every day I go to work. I have seen nursing mother cats and kittens stuffed into pet carriers meant to transport single animals to the veterinarian.

I have made numerous complaints to the Hawaiian Humane Society, but they claim they are unable to take action on the confinement of the cats because there is no law on the books that addresses it. They will not act if an animal appears to be healthy. This bill would require this woman and others like her to release the cats from their cages during part of the day. They would, even if tethered, be able to stand, walk, lie and roll over. For brief moments they would be allowed to enjoy the simplest of freedoms we all take for granted.

SB1222 is a step in the right direction in the humane treatment of animals. Please do not be swayed by those that say it unjustly targets the homeless. It does not. I urge your support on this measure.

Thank you.

From: Cookie Nakai [cnakai@hawaiianhumane.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2009 10:18 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Opposed to SB 1222

If we as citizens were as interested in Kathleen's condition as some of us are for her cats, the truth would become apparent that her situation is much more dire. Why are we not crying out to local welfare agencies on her behalf?

Anyone interested in Kathleen knows that she expends much of her energy and most of her money on these animals. She enlists other homeless neighbors to watch over her animals when she has to be away. She is seen regularly cleaning the cages, cleaning the animals, gently cajoling them to behave and stay in line, etc. etc. How "humane" is it to exploit her situation for one agency's political agenda? If they took the time to really understand Kathleen rather than use her as a "Joan of Arc" for their cause, they would never ask her to give "informed consent" knowing that a likely outcome is removal of her beloved animals.

PLEASE DO NOT PASS SB 1222.

Thank you,
Cynthia Nakai

From: Stephen Tabussi [stabussi@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2009 11:14 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: Re: SB 1222; Public Hearing Feb 13, 2009

Re: SB 1222
Public Hearing Feb 13, 2009
OPPOSE

My name is Stephen J. Tabussi, and I am a resident of the City & County of Honolulu. I would like to submit this testimony **OPPOSED** to SB 1222.

There are several reasons why I think this proposed Bill is both unnecessary and perhaps unconstitutional.

1. There are many laws and statutes already in place regulating the confinement and treatment of animals. If anything SB 122 would serve to complicate and confuse enforcement of all relevant statutes, both existing and proposed.
2. There is no evidence of any need to create additional state laws regarding this matter. If the genesis of this Bill is the recent publicity around "Kathleen" in Kakaako, there is really no evidence that her animals are being mistreated. Hers is a sad story, but not an animal cruelty story. Perhaps the plight of her animals would be better mitigated by helping Kathleen.
3. The proposal to allow any self designated or "duly incorporated Humane Society" is an open invitation to chaos. It makes no sense whatsoever to complicate the current enforcement structure with such a vague and open-ended invitation to vigilanteism.
4. Placing a limit on pet ownership and threatening confiscation of animals does put a constitutional question in play. Certainly the State should expect an avalanche of lawsuits on this issue. Can we really afford the cost of litigating such matters at this time of great budget concern?

Thank you for considering my thoughts on this matter.

Stephen J. Tabussi

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2009 11:57 AM
To: JGO Testimony
Cc: jillf2184@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1222 on 2/13/2009 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for JGO 2/13/2009 9:30:00 AM SB1222

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jill Friedman
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jillf2184@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/12/2009

Comments:

I oppose SB1222 for the following reasons:

1--This bill unfairly and inequitably targets homeless people--and in particular one homeless person-- and others who for any reason might have to confine an animal away from home for over 4 hours, while doing nothing to relieve the suffering of thousands of animals--mostly dogs--who spend their entire lives in cages or on chains on private property. This indicates that the intent of the bill is not to protect animals but to protect the sensibilities of people who might be offended by the sight of an animal in a cage. Is it okay to mistreat an animal as long as it's on private property and no one has to look at it? Not at all. All animals--and all animal owners-- deserve equal treatment and protection. If caging of animals for over 4 hours is inhumane it needs to be outlawed on private as well as public property. If not, there's no justification for the law.

2--The bill does not specify the size of the cage relative to the animal. We need a law that would require a minimum size for cages or enclosures in which animals are confined which would apply to all animals, on private property especially because they are being confined constantly, day after day.

3--The bill arbitrarily declares that anyone keeping more than 10 animals is guilty of hoarding. This is not logical or appropriate and does not sufficiently protect animals from mistreatment. It is not the number of animals that a person owns that constitutes hoarding; rather, it is the treatment of the animals. If animals are being kept in small cages or on short chains all the time and not given adequate attention, I would consider it hoarding even if only one animal is subjected to those conditions, because the animal is being stored like property rather than cared for as a living companion. If an owner has many animals and provides good care, attention and exercise, that would not be hoarding.

There are a few people on Kauai who have the space and financial means to provide good homes to more than 10 cats. They adopt homeless adult cats who otherwise might be euthanized. The cats are surgically sterilized and will not reproduce. Cats do not need as much supervision as dogs and the cats can live out their lives comfortably without causing problems. SB1222 would negatively and unnecessarily impact these cats and their compassionate owners.

Allegations of hoarding or mistreatment of animals need to be investigated on a case-by-case basis by the Humane Society to determine whether a particular animal owner is in violation of the law, and whether the animals need to be removed.

From: KARES [pets@kohalaanimal.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2009 4:00 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: SB1222, hearing Feb. 13, 2009, 9:30 a.m.

SB1222, Humane Treatment of Pet Animals

PLEASE DO NOT PASS THIS BILL

Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair of Judiciary and Government Operations Committee:

In large part this bill as been written in response to concerns about the Kaka'ako homeless woman who for years has been abusing an uncontrolled amount of animals by long term confinement. There are existing state agencies and departments that have exacerbated this situation by refusing to do their jobs.

Although I strongly feel tethering or confining any animal for prolonged periods is cruel and abusive **this bill also redefines animal hoarding** and limits the number of "pet animals" as owning 10 cats, dogs or a combination of the two. This has the potential backlash to restrict and punish the many that lovingly rescue abandon and abuse animals; who own and responsibility care for more than 10 animals.

State agencies and departments, such as the Hawaii Humane Society and State Department of Health should be held accountable for the type of situation you have with the Kaka'ako homeless woman. Passing a bill that needlessly ties the hands of responsible citizens trying to care for abused and unwanted animals is irresponsible government.

Regards,

Debbie Cravatta