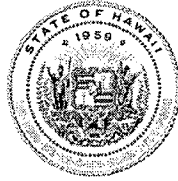


**SB2772**

**SD1**



LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR  
JAMES R. AIONA, JR.  
LT. GOVERNOR

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**PRESENTATION OF  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMPLAINTS OFFICE**

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**TWENTY-FIFTH STATE LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION, 2010**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2010  
11:00 A.M.**

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 2772 S.D.1  
RELATING TO VETERINARY MEDICINE**

**TO THE HONORABLE BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, CHAIR,  
AND TO THE HONORABLE DWIGHT Y. TAKAMINE, VICE CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:**

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Regulated Industries Complaints Office ("RICO") appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony on Senate Bill No. 2772 S.D.1, Relating To Veterinary Medicine. My name is Jo Ann Uchida, RICO's Complaints and Enforcement Officer. RICO offers the following written comments in support of this bill.

Senate Bill No. 2772 S.D.1 authorizes the Board of Veterinary Medicine to revoke or suspend a license or fine a licensee for conduct or practice that is

contrary to recognized principles of medical ethics of the profession as adopted by the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association.

At the present time, RICO prosecutes ethical violations in a variety of ways. A few boards, such as the Hawaii Medical Board, have explicit language in their licensing laws that identifies the applicable ethical standard to be applied. Some boards may reference a particular ethical standard in the course of issuing disciplinary orders.

Most professional licensing laws, however, do not specify a specific ethical standard to be applied. As a result, RICO relies on the language of §436B-19(9), Hawaii Revised Statutes, which prohibits conduct "contrary to recognized standards of ethics for the licensed profession or vocation." The language in this bill that specifies the ethical standard to be applied will remove any ambiguity as to the appropriate ethical standard. For this reason, RICO supports this bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony on Senate Bill No. 2772 S.D.1.

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS**

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2010**

**Friday, February 19, 2010  
11:00 a.m.**

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2772, S.D. 1, RELATING TO  
VETERINARY MEDICINE.**

**TO THE HONORABLE BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:**

My name is Lynn Bhanot, Executive Officer for the Board of Veterinary Examiners ("Board"). I appreciate the opportunity to present written comments on behalf of the Board in strong support of Senate Bill No. 2772, S.D. 1, Relating to Veterinary Medicine.

The purpose of this bill is to amend Section 471-10(b), HRS, by updating the current standards of practice of a licensed veterinarian to include language that recognizes the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association guidelines.

The Board supports Senate Bill No. 2772, S.D. 1 as it will provide clarification and consistency to enforce the veterinary standards of practice.

The Board respectfully requests your Committee's approval and passage of this measure. Thank you for this opportunity to present written comments on Senate Bill No. 2772, S.D. 1.



HAWAII VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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ERIC AKO DVM

Owner, Practitioner, The Pet Doctor

Executive Vice President, Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association

Immediate Past Chair, Board of Veterinary Examiners, State of Hawaii

JGO Committee

19 February 2010

SB2772

Dear Sirs :

Veterinarians are in favor of SB2772.

SB2772 will significantly bring Hawaii law into compliance with current issues. Our rules have not been updated for over 15 years. The American Veterinary Medical Association enjoys the membership of 90% of veterinarians in America. Its Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics have guided our behavior for many, many years, and the profession has earned the public's confidence by following them. Legislating them into law will give them more significance, and allow us to more completely guarantee the delivery of quality services to the public.

Thank-you.