

# LATE TESTIMONY



## HAWAIIAN HUMANE SOCIETY

2700 Waialae Avenue  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826  
Telephone: 946-2187  
Fax: 955-6034  
www.hawaiianhumane.org

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The Hawaiian Humane Society is dedicated to promoting the human-animal bond and the humane treatment of all animals.

April 6, 2011

Senator Clayton Hec, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

RE: HB243, HD1, proposed SD1, (HSCR418) - Relating to Animal Cruelty

Dear Chair Hec, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

We understand that companion bills SB1068 to HB243, HD1 has passed the Judiciary Committee and will now go to conference. We are in favor of the original HB243, HD1 and therefore, we support the proposed SD1 which requires that cats sold in pet stores must be sterilized. We would further like to suggest that all dogs sold in pet stores must also be sterilized.

Thank you for considering our amendment.

Sincerely Yours,

  
Pamela Burns  
President & CEO

*dogs included*



**Maui Humane Society**

P.O. Box 1047  
Pu'unene, Hawai'i 96784  
PH: 808.877.3680 • F# 808.877.5033  
www.mauihumane.org

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*Paty Brady*

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*Dr. Miyo Kim, DVM*



April 6, 2011

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair & Members of the  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Proposed SD1 relating to Animal Cruelty

Dear Chair Hee and Committee Members;

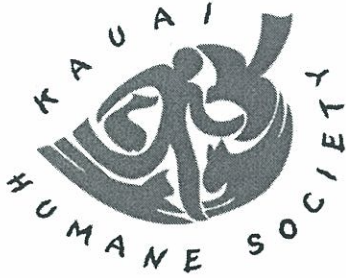
I am writing on behalf of the Maui Humane Society in support of SD1 which requires that cats sold in pet stores must be sterilized. We would request that the same condition be applied to dogs sold in pet stores as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration of the amendment.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Bouchard, CAWA  
CEO, Maui Humane Society

*The Maui Humane Society is committed to building lifelong bonds between people and animals through education, community outreach and the prevention of cruelty.*



LATE TESTIMONY

3-825 Kaumualii Hwy.  
P.O. Box 3330  
Lihue, Hawaii 96766  
Phone: 808.632.0610  
Fax: 808.632.0727  
www.kauaihumane.org

April 6, 2011

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

RE: HB243, HD1, proposed SD1, (HSCR418)- Relating to Animal Cruelty

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

It is our understanding that the companion bill SB 1068 to HB243, HD1 has passed the House Judiciary Committee. The Kauai Humane Society has been in favor of the original HB243, HD1 and acknowledges that SB 1068 is still viable. We do support the proposed SD1 which requires that cats sold in pet stores must be sterilized. We also, with the other neighbor island Humane Societies, would like to recommend for your consideration, that all dogs sold in the pet stores must also be sterilized.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Orianna Skomoroch  
Interim Executive Director  
Kauai Humane Society



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES

**LATE TESTIMONY**

TO: Honorable Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members  
Senate Judiciary Committee, 4-7-11, 930am, Room 016

**RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 243 HD 1 SD1 with Amendments ; Relating to Animal Cruelty, Feral Cats**

Submitted by: **Inga Gibson**, Hawaii State Director, The Humane Society of the United States,  
P.O. Box 89131, Honolulu, HI 96830, [igibson@hsus.org](mailto:igibson@hsus.org), 808-922-9910

---

On behalf of our more than 50,000 members and supporters of the Humane Society of the United States in Hawaii, we thank you for this opportunity to speak in **support of SB 243 and the Proposed SD 1, with additional amendments for your consideration.**

**HB243 HD1 Suggested amendments:**

As drafted, we believe a loophole may be created to allow for the killing of a pet animal if the pet's owner provides legal authority or consent. For example, in domestic violence cases we often see abusers threaten and intimidate their victims using family pets. Under the proposed, an abuser could kill a pet animal belonging to another family member then threaten the pet's owner to provide consent for the killing; potentially absolving the abuser from his or her act of cruelty. To close this loophole we suggest the following changes:

Page 1; Section (1) line 10, (b):

**(b) Kills or attempts to kill any pet animal belonging to another person, without first obtaining legal authority or the consent of that person.**

**Proposed SD 1 Suggested Amendments:**

Although we disagree with some of the background information related to feral cats provided in the preamble of the proposed SD1, **we strongly support the Proposed SD1 language and intent with the below suggested amendment.** Pet overpopulation, specifically cat overpopulation is a tremendous issue in Hawaii and across the country. Millions of cats are euthanized at shelters nationwide due to the lack of homes for these animals. Furthermore, unsterilized cats are often abandoned or allowed to roam, adding to the pet overpopulation crisis and in some cases, posing a risk to native wildlife. In addition, this provision would not impact professional cat breeders or fanciers selling unsterilized animals as legitimate breeders do not sell cats at pet stores or retail facilities. We also suggest that the reference to "pet retailer" be removed as there is currently no definition in 711-1100, to read:

Page 2; Section (1) line 16:

**"Pet retailer" means any person, partnership firm, or corporation that sells pet animals, as that term is defined in section 711-1100, to customers through a store operation.**

It may also need to be clarified that this shall not apply to bona fide humane societies, animal shelters and animal rescue groups who "adopt" out animals, although the vast majority of animals are sterilized prior to adoption unless ill, injured or too young to undergo surgical

sterilization. These exemptions should *not* apply to retailers, who should not engage in the selling of kittens to the public who are under 8 weeks of age, or any cats who are ill or injured.

We urge your support of the proposed SD1 and your consideration of the above-amendments.

# LATE TESTIMONY

**From:** Regina DoDaro [edgy4cat@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 5:36 PM  
**To:** JDLEstimony  
**Subject:** Fwd: Hearing tomorrow 930am HB243- unsterilized cat sale

I, Regina DoDaro, support and approve the following changes to the amendments below...

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **advoCATS Hawaii** <advocatshawaii@aol.com>  
**Date:** Wed, Apr 6, 2011 at 4:36 PM  
**Subject:** Hearing tomorrow 930am HB243- unsterilized cat sale  
**To:** AdvoCATS Hawaii <advocatshawaii@aol.com>

Aloha Friends of AdvoCATS,

If you do not have time to send an e-mail or fax please call Senator Hee's office 808-586-7330  
Tell him to approve the amendments on these Bills.  
Even if you read this early tomorrow please call!!

You can actually just forward the Bill's from below.

Testimony -  
Judiciary and Labor Committee  
Senator Clayton Hee - Chair  
Hearing - 9:30 a.m., April 7, 2011  
Room 16  
State Capitol

PLEASE CALL AND PASS THIS INFO TO EVERYONE YOU KNOW! NUMBERS COUNT!!!!

Sorry for the short notice; an amendment (proposed SD1) was just added to HB 243, below, that would prohibit the sale of unsterilized cats in retail pet stores (yeah!). This was taken from a bill introduced earlier this session but was never granted a hearing. We're also suggesting another amendment to the HD 1, per my testimony below.

Please advise of any concerns otherwise, hope you will all support!

Thanks, Inga

Submit testimony here: [JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Current bill: [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243\\_HD1\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243_HD1_.pdf)

Proposed amendment (cat sale): [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243\\_SD1\\_proposed\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243_SD1_proposed_.pdf)

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retailers, who should not engage in the selling of kittens to the public who under 8 weeks of age or cats who are ill or injured.

**Inga Gibson**

Hawaii State Director, Western Regional Office

[igibson@humanesociety.org](mailto:igibson@humanesociety.org)

t [808-922-9910](tel:808-922-9910) f [808-922-9911](tel:808-922-9911)

The Humane Society of the United States

P.O. Box 89131, Honolulu, HI 96830

[humanesociety.org](http://humanesociety.org)

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**From:** Nancy Hitzemann [nhitz@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 4:52 PM  
**To:** JDLTestimony  
**Subject:** Fwd: Hearing tomorrow 930am **HB243-** unsterilized cat sale

Senator Hee,

Please **support** the Proposed SD1 language and intent.

**Nancy Hitzemann**

75 - 668 Koiula lPlace  
Kailua Kona Hi 976740 808 329 4337

Testimony -  
Judiciary and Labor Committee  
Senator Clayton Hee - Chair  
Hearing - 9:30 a.m., April 7, 2011  
Room 16  
State Capitol

Submit testimony here: [JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Current bill: [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243\\_HD1\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243_HD1_.pdf)

Proposed amendment (cat sale): [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243\\_SD1\\_proposed\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243_SD1_proposed_.pdf)

**HB243 HD1 Suggested amendments:**

As drafted, we believe a loophole may be created to allow for the killing of a pet animal if the pet's owner provides legal authority or consent. For example, in domestic violence cases we often see abusers threaten and intimidate their victims using family pets. Under the proposed, an abuser could kill a pet animal belonging to another family member then threaten the pet's owner to provide consent for the killing; potentially absolving the abuser from his or her act of cruelty. To close this loophole we suggest the following changes:

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**Proposed SD 1 Suggested Amendments:**

Although we disagree with some of the background information related to feral cats provided in the preamble of the proposed SD1, **we strongly support the Proposed SD1 language and intent with the below suggested amendment.** Pet overpopulation, specifically cat overpopulation is a tremendous issue in Hawaii and across the country. Millions of cats are euthanized at shelters nationwide due to the lack of homes for these animals. Furthermore, unsterilized cats are often abandoned or allowed to roam, adding to the pet overpopulation crisis and in some cases, posing a risk to native wildlife. In addition, this provision would not impact professional cat breeders or fanciers selling unsterilized animals as legitimate breeders do not sell cats at pet stores or retail facilities. We do suggest that the reference to “pet retailer” be removed as there is currently no definition in 711-1100, to read:

Page 2; Section (1) line 16:

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**Inga Gibson**  
Hawaii State Director, Western Regional Office  
[igibson@humanesociety.org](mailto:igibson@humanesociety.org)  
t 808-922-9910 f 808-922-9911

The Humane Society of the United States  
P.O. Box 89131, Honolulu, HI 96830  
[humanesociety.org](http://humanesociety.org)

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 4:19 PM  
**To:** JDLTestimony  
**Cc:** merwitte@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB243 on 4/7/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/7/2011 9:30:00 AM HB243

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Selene Mersereau  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [merwitte@aol.com](mailto:merwitte@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

**Comments:**

Please support this bill. It is an excellent idea to help with the feral cat population of Hawaii. They need your help. Even unwanted cats and kittens.

---

**From:** Merwite [merwite@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 4:17 PM  
**To:** JDLTestimony  
**Subject:** Support HB 243

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Please support HB 243. Over population of cats on all of the islands is a terrible problem. This would greatly help in the years to come. Please support his bill.

Aloha, Selene Mersereau.

---

**From:** Pam Longenecker [mahina2@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 2:37 PM  
**To:** JDLTestimony  
**Subject:** HB 243

## LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Members,

HB 243 is an absolute MUST for the state of Hawaii. Its cat overpopulation is not only due to abandonment of pets by transient personnel, but abandonment of UNSTERILIZED felines. Add to that the constant influx of unaltered cats by retailers and the often subsequent litters born (for a multitude of NONSENSE reasons, from the desire to witness the "miracle" of birth, the "need" for a cat to have a litter before altering, the "desire" of the feline to experience motherhood, etc.) which makes for a never-ending flood of unwanted animals who are often subjected to cruelty and ultimately death simply because they exist.

PREVENTING births through sterilization is the MOST humane act Hawaii can take. As Hawaii is a archipelago, the only way animals continue to proliferate (because they certainly cannot swim here) is because humans import them and/or allow procreation. Trap, Neuter, Return, and Manage (TNRM) is a FABULOUS program that helps tremendously among the feral population, but it needs the active assistance of HB 243.

No one should have the RIGHT to breed felines, whom are sold privately and supplied to traditional retail stores, when so many are euthanized. Do not let anyone cry "I do it because I love the breed." They may love the breed, but they also love the cash flow the sales provide (as a matter of fact, federally, "breeders who sell to the public...are considered 'retail pet stores'." And although it leaves it up to the state and consumer to regulate, it would stand to reason this bill should also be extended to them, both as supplier to brick-and-mortar establishments and as retailers in their own right). <http://www.aspca.org/fight-animal-cruelty/advocacy-center/animal-laws-about-the-issues/puppy-mill.aspx> I personally witnessed two breeders while living on Oahu. One kept her studs locked in cages and her house was overrun with cats, feces and urine. Another had all his "\$40,000" Persians locked in tiny filthy cages, boxes filled with diarrhea and completely disgusting water/food dishes (if there were any at all. And yes, the Hawaiian Humane Society was alerted.). These cats are not "lucky to live Hawaii."

Regardless of who this bill ultimately addresses, store fronts or private sales, or both, ANY advancement to ensure the sterilization of the Hawaiian feline population, domesticated and feral, IS the MOST proper and humane step Hawaii can take to make the islands live up to their "paradise" moniker.

As an active volunteer in the endeavors to provide humane feline population control, I WHOLEHEARTEDLY AND MOST SINCERELY ask you to support HB 243.

Sincerely,  
Pam Longenecker

# LATE TESTIMONY

Thank you all for your time and consideration,

Cat overpopulation is an avoidable and unfortunate situation to be in. This bill is a great idea and could easily and humanely prevent an ongoing issue. Starving, fighting, native bird declines and disease are all problems with just letting it go. Please pass this bill with all reasonable speed and without loopholes for businesses trying to cut costs.

Thanks you

Mr. Ferguson

New Hampshire, USA

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 12:21 PM  
**To:** JDLTestimony  
**Cc:** anitabanana@hawaiiintel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB243 on 4/7/2011 9:30:00 AM

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Testimony for JDL 4/7/2011 9:30:00 AM HB243

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: anita wintner  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [anitabanana@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:anitabanana@hawaiiintel.net)  
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:  
I fully support this bill. Mahalo, Anita

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 12:27 PM  
**To:** JDLEstimony  
**Cc:** confair@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB243 on 4/7/2011 9:30:00 AM

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Testimony for JDL 4/7/2011 9:30:00 AM HB243

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Renee Confair Sensano  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [confair@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:confair@hawaiiantel.net)  
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

**Comments:**

As a member of World Wildlife Federation, Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Society, Cat Friends, and others.....I support HB243. I hope stiff penalties & fines, or even jail time are associated with the final outcome. Cruelty to animals MUST stop.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Renee Confair Sensano



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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 3:39 PM  
**To:** JDLEstimony  
**Cc:** web@cartoonistforchrist.org  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB243 on 4/7/2011 9:30:00 AM

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Testimony for JDL 4/7/2011 9:30:00 AM HB243

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Lee McIntosh  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [web@cartoonistforchrist.org](mailto:web@cartoonistforchrist.org)  
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labour:

Aloha, my name is Lee McIntosh. I live in Kau on the Big Island. I am not in favor of HB 243, which prevents retailers from selling unsterilized cats. Why is the Legislature concerned about the suffering of the feral cat population? People, primarily residents of Hawaii, should be your main concern! This bill prevents responsible cat owners from being able to purchase an unsterilized cat. The feral cat population is a County issue. The County can combat feral cats by shoring up existing programs to capture and dispose of feral cats if homes cannot be found. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 243.

LATE TESTIMONY

**From:** Ginger Towle [towle@hawaiiintel.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 2:55 PM  
**To:** JDLTestimony  
**Subject:** Fwd: Hearing April 7th, 930am HB243- unsterilized cat sale

JDL Testimony  
Senator Hee Chair  
Hearing - April 7, 2011  
9:30A.M., Room 16  
State Capitol  
Senator Hee and Committee.

Please approve the following suggested amendments. It is not only the right but the humane thing to do!! Please lets try and close the loopholes and show some aloha spirit to our furry friends. It is our job to protect them.

Current bill: [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243\\_HD1\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243_HD1_.pdf)

Proposed amendment (cat sale): [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243\\_SD1\\_proposed\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Bills/HB243_SD1_proposed_.pdf)

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to retailers, who should not engage in the selling of kittens to the public who under 8 weeks of age or cats who are ill or injured.

I would like to add that we concur totally with Inga Gibson's testimony!

Ginger towle - President  
West Hawaii Humane Society  
Box 2695, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745  
phone 808-329-2051

**From:** Denise [onewahine@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2011 4:43 AM  
**To:** JDLEstimony  
**Subject:** HB243

**To Senator Clayton Hee - Chair**

I strongly support the Proposed SD1 language and intent with the below suggested amendment. Pet overpopulation, specifically cat overpopulation is a tremendous issue in Hawaii and across the country. Millions of cats are euthanized at shelters nationwide due to the lack of homes for these animals. Furthermore, unsterilized cats are often abandoned or allowed to roam, adding to the pet overpopulation crisis and in some cases, posing a risk to native wildlife. In addition, this provision would not impact professional cat breeders or fanciers selling unsterilized animals as legitimate breeders do not sell cats at pet stores or retail facilities. We do suggest that the reference to "pet retailer" be removed as there is currently no definition in 711-1100, to read:

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**Thank You for your support**

**Denise Towle**

**Kailua Kona, HI**

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**From:** trishahansen [trishahansen@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 10:56 PM  
**To:** JDLTestimony  
**Subject:** HB 243

I support HB 243 and its amendment to prohibit sale of unsterilized cats by a Pet Store. We have a huge problem in Hawaii and all over the country because of cat over population. Please assist and helping pass this bill

Thank You.

Trisha Hansen

73-4832 Anini st.

Kailua Kona, Hi. 96740

[TrishaHansen@aol.com](mailto:TrishaHansen@aol.com)

**From:** Danielle Hollenbeck [Danielle.Hollenbeck@hilton.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2011 7:22 AM  
**To:** JDLEstimony  
**Subject:** Cat Sterilization

I completely agree that cats for sale in pet shops need to be sterilized before the sale. I am now up to 18 cats myself, four of which are my loving house cats. The others are feral and have come from the neighborhood from people who don't spay and neuter their cats. Thanks to the Advocats, I have been able to have all the ferals spayed or neutered for free. I do try to donate what I can to their non-profit organization. Whatever I catch in my traps, whether they belong to the neighbors, or have been born out of neglectful owners, gets spayed or neutered. These are not show cats for breeding purposes, so why not have them spayed or neutered. So many people think it's great to let their children watch a mother cat give birth and care for her young, and then they are all left to fend for themselves because the cost of a vet to spay or neuter is too expensive. I had twin neighbor boys that had two Siamese cats (not purebred), they moved, and now the cats are roaming free in my neighborhood. Before the family moved, the twins told me they were going to let them have babies, and they were so excited about that. I tried to tell them they need to spay / neuter the cats, but they were clueless. Before you know it, there will be more babies in the neighborhood. Because the people who are feeding them now, do not neuter their dogs, they are not going to neuter these cats. Advocats will not neuter domesticated pets for free, so we will have another cat explosion. My only hope is that they do breed some Siamese looking cats, because they will be easier to find homes for, as opposed to ugly cats, but as we all know, the female will breed with many different males and produce many varieties of kittens who will be unwanted. Children should be taught in school from a young age to not abuse any animal and also about spaying and neutering your animals. It is just sad that the veterinarians charge so much for this service. I know the Humane Society used to give out certificates, but not sure if they still do this or not. Thank you for reading this email.

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