HB1133, HD2, SD1

TESTIMONY BY KALBERT K. YOUNG DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE STATE OF HAWAII TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR HOUSE BILL NO. 1133, H.D.2, PROPOSED S.D. 2

April 3, 2012

RELATING TO ANIMALS

HB 1133, H.D. 2, Proposed S.D. 2, establishes a Spay and Neuter Special Fund to be administered by the Department of Budget and Finance (Department) and establishes an advisory committee (Committee) to assist the Department in determining the criteria and procedures for disbursements from the special fund. The bill also allows funds from an income tax check-off to be deposited into the special fund.

Although the Department recognizes the benefits of a spay and neuter program, we cannot support this bill because the Department does not have sufficient resources to administer such a program. The Department is finding it difficult to provide adequate administrative support to its existing programs and agencies. There were a number of other committees/task forces that were historically created and assigned to the Department of Budget and Finance for which the Department struggled to provide adequate support. We recognize that it is not fair to the committee or task force members – nor, does it do justice to the important function the committee or task force is working on - to have them supported by a Department that does not have adequate resource capabilities.

The Department anticipates that the administrative services needed to set up the Committee and assist with implementing the program would, at a minimum, involve appointing the Committee members, coordinating the initial meeting, advising the

Committee of Hawaii's Sunshine Laws and other State and Federal ethics laws, advise the Committee on matters regarding procurement laws/procedures, and explaining State accounting rules/procedures. The Department would also be required to review and assist the Committee with its budget, review all expenditures as well as enter such transactions into the State accounting system. Any procurement needed for the program would require reviews and processing by the Department. The Department may also be responsible for posting the meeting agendas, taking minutes and making sure that the minutes are properly posted. Further, it would be helpful to have a Department representative in attendance at all Committee meetings.

The Department is currently challenged with limited and diminished staff resources as a result of budget reductions over of the last four fiscal years and, as such, has difficulty providing adequate administrative support to its existing programs and agencies. This is particularly evident in trying to adequately support the small number of boards currently assigned to the Department. Conservatively, we estimate that a single additional position added to staff in the Department could provide the necessary support services described above. This new position would be required to have knowledge of the State accounting rules/processes, and procurement laws/procedures, familiarity with the State ethic laws, the ability to perform other general administrative duties, and some basic understanding of the operational premise for the Committee. However, it is unlikely that this position would be fully utilized for the spay and neuter special fund program. In addition, we believe it unlikely that someone with all the required skill sets would be willing to work on a part time basis. Therefore, please be advised that the Department would selfishly ask for general funds to make this position

full time and use this position in large part to assist with the Department's backlog of accounting work and other primary core functions.

The salary for an SR20, Step A will require a total of \$57,358 for payroll expenses (\$41,040 plus fringe benefits of \$16,318). The position would also require a computer, monitor, software and a telephone with an estimated total non-recurring cost of approximately \$1,600.00. There would also be some minor recurring cost for supplies which are estimated at around \$100-\$200 and recurring expenses for telephone line charges and annual software license renewals of \$150.

We have been informed by Department of Taxation (DOTAX) that the average annual revenue generated from the income tax check-off contribution of \$2 is around \$60,000 and \$125,000 for a check-off contribution of \$5. The cost of adding additional staff to the Department, expenses for the Committee such as reimbursement for interisland travel, and additional costs to DOTAX associated with adding an additional contribution option to the State's income tax return may exceed the total revenue contributions. Therefore, it does not appear to be economically practical to create a new committee to administer this new spay and neuter special fund program.

If it is decided to add an additional income tax return check-off option for a spay and neuter program, perhaps a more fiscally feasible approach would be to grant an amount equivalent to the anticipated contributions directly to the non-profit humane society located in each county for the intended purpose. This would minimize the duplicative cost of administering a new spay and neuter program and allow the various humane society non-profits to expand their existing spay and neuter programs.

Further, as a matter of general policy, the department does not support the creation of special funds which do not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Special or revolving funds should: 1) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program; 2) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 3) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. In regards to HB 1133, H.B.2, S.B. 2, it is difficult to determine whether the fund will be self-sustaining.

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>hawaiikimls@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 9:25:28 PM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kim Staley

Organization: Hui Pono Holoholona E-mail: hawaiikimls@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 4/1/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>cnc3@hawaii.edu</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 10:59:30 PM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Christin Matsushige
Organization: Hawaii Cat Foundation

E-mail: cnc3@hawaii.edu Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:

Please support this bill to create a spay-neuter tax check off program to reduce pet-overpopulation across Hawaii. Spaying/neutering pets reduces animal control costs to taxpayers, and is the most humane solution to pet overpopulation. Having low cost or free spay/neuter options for the public is essential to ensuring that more pets will be sterilized.

Mahalo!



Dear Chairman Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members,

My name is Theresa Donnelly, and I am the owner of Hawaii Military Pets, an online resource with 1,400 Facebook fans and numerous web hits to our blog. We educate on responsible pet ownership among Hawaii military pet owners to reduce military pet abandonment and relinquishment. I am also the secretary of Boxer Club of Hawaii, which educates on responsible breeding throughout the state.

I am writing in support of HB 1133, HD2, SD1 relating to veterinary medicine. I own a dog breed which has customarily had cropped ears. I really cannot believe that we don't have a law prohibiting home cropping and docking. This is a medical procedure which should ONLY be done on those have the proper training. We are not doing right be our animals if we neglect to hold those accountable doing these acts. Not too long ago, I heard about a Pit Bull breeder doing these surgeries from his home and rescues dealing with the disastrous results. This must end.

I also strongly support a spay/neuter fund. Right now, we have so many military families and others who need these services, but cannot afford them. The military veterinarians do not provide spay/neuter and this is such a critical surgery to prevent unwanted animals. Having this special fund saves animal's lives by not having them end up at a shelter with no home.

Please support this very important measure.

Thank you.

Theresa Donnelly Owner, Hawaii Military Pets Secretary, Boxer Club of Hawaii 3021 Anderson Ave Honolulu, HI 96818 (808)-388-3423

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>annmarie@hawaii.rr.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 10:17:21 PM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ann Marie Kirk
Organization: Individual

E-mail: annmarie@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments: Aloha,

Please support this important bill for our animals across the State of Hawai'i.

In many families in Hawai'i, our families include our furry animal members. These family members deserve the best care and aloha we can give them. This bill makes sure they do receive the best care by veterinarians who are licensed and trained to do the delicate type of veterinary work like ear cropping and tail docking when our animals are young.

In addition, creating a spay-neuter tax check off program helps to make sure we don't have an over-population problem of animals in Hawai'i. It makes sense for our island communities.

Please support HB 1133.

Mahalo, Ann Marie Kirk

Maunalua, O'ahu

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>ckhonolulu@hotmail.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Monday, April 02, 2012 7:57:05 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: cynthia king
Organization: Individual

E-mail: ckhonolulu@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 4/2/2012

Comments:

We say we are a visiting industry and that the aloha spirit is WHY tourists should continue to come to Hawaii, MANY of those people, in fact, MOST of these tourist, (I have been in Hawaii for 45 years), own a RESCUED ANIMAL. MANY of these tourist and repetitive visitors WANT to become residents, which strengthens our ECONOMY GROWTH, BUT THEY WON" T, and sometimes WON'T return to Hawaii EVER AGAIN, because of the absence of LAWS TO PROTECT ANIMALS IN HAWAII. It is UNFATHOMABLE that THE STATE OF HAWAII DOES NOT HAVE THESE REVISIONS APPROVED on BEHALF OF ALL OF THE ANIMAL KINGDOM, WHICH INCLUDES THE RESIDENTS AND FUTURE RESIDENTS AND VISITORS WITH THEIR PETS. MY DOGS ARE SEEN AND MEET TOURIST ON A DAILY BASIS, MANY WHO WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THE LAWS IN HAWAII FOR ANIMALS, BECause they want to move here. I tell them the story of my Max, who is rescued from a Kauai puppy mill, the inhumane and lawless filthy condition of the room used to spay, neuter, destroy and ABUSE animals they produced for sale, which was found in one of our MANY DRUG RAIDS. He has very few teeth and a sway back from being trapped in a cage for 3 years that was to small for him to sit up. He knows only how to lay down. I will continue to express the paramount nature of abuse of animals in Hawaii, because of the lack of Hawaii Laws to Protect them, except on a much louder level if these laws are not properly secured, TODAY.

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: woolwahine@gmail.com

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Saturday, March 31, 2012 5:08:20 PM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dana Jones
Organization: Individual

E-mail: woolwahine@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/31/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>dianeblastic@hotmail.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Monday, April 02, 2012 9:24:52 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diane Blastic
Organization: Individual

E-mail: dianeblastic@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 4/2/2012

Comments:

Please prohibit NON-veterinarians from performing surgery on pet dogs and cats, including ear cropping and tail docking. This is cruel and often brutal procedure when done in home. Create a spay-neuter tax check off program to reduce pet-overpopulation across Hawaii".

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>owlit1@gmail.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Monday, April 02, 2012 12:43:40 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Frances Pueo
Organization: Hui Pono Holoholona

E-mail: owlit1@gmail.com Submitted on: 4/2/2012

Comments:

I, France Pueo support HB1133 HD2 SD1, which will prohibit non-Veterinarians from performing animal cruelty (which it is) when cropping and docking tails of dogs. These types of surgeries should only be done under sterile conditions, the animal should be under anesthesia (part of pain management) and prescribed specific antibiotics to prevent first and secondary infection to these wound sites. Place yourself in what these animals would feel: So image someone holding you down without anesthesia and cutting at your ears, (you hoping they cut correctly) and then chopping off your finger (since you don't have a tail) because that is the intense horror and pain these animals are subjected to when done by a non-Veterinarian.

To: JDLTestimony
Cc: g2@hokua.org

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Monday, April 02, 2012 1:03:18 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ginny Tiu
Organization: Individual
E-mail: g2@hokua.org
Submitted on: 4/2/2012

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

A friend of mine's dog was operated on by a non-licensed indivdual.

This poor animal suffered much, as no anesthesia was given, and the site became infected. Please support this bill, that will help to minimize such practice and the pain inflicted on these helpless animals. Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Aloha, Ginny Tiu

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>jenniferc@oha.org</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Monday, April 02, 2012 8:56:53 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jennifer Chiwa
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jenniferc@oha.org
Submitted on: 4/2/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: jennylinmorris@hotmail.com

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Monday, April 02, 2012 8:33:54 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jennifer Morris
Organization: Individual

E-mail: jennylinmorris@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 4/2/2012

Comments:

I believe any type of invasive cuts to an animal, including cropping of ears, tails or anything else, should be performed by a licensed vet to protect the animal.

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>felinitous@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM **Date:** Saturday, March 31, 2012 11:59:18 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mary James
Organization: Individual
E-mail: felinitous@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/31/2012

Comments:

I support the income tax check-off for spay/neuter procedures; but please retain the provisions prohibiting ear cropping and tail docking unless performed by a veterinarian. These are painful procedures and the government should not condone them being done by anyone other than a professional veterinarian who can legally provide pain management and perform the surgery correctly with little risk to the animals. Both provisions fit within the title of the bill and could be passed together.

Thanks for your support of those who care for animals and the animals themselves.

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>mmmmahalo2000@aol.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Saturday, March 31, 2012 6:46:07 PM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mike Moran
Organization: Individual

E-mail: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com

Submitted on: 3/31/2012

Comments:

Please insure only trained educated professionals are performing surgery on all companion animals, while creating a spay-neuter check off system. Spay Neuter is the acknowlegded system to reduce

animal overpopulation

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>mele11111@yahoo.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Monday, April 02, 2012 8:32:15 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nancy Shah
Organization: Individual

E-mail: mele11111@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 4/2/2012

Comments:

Please support both major provisions in HB 1133. Disallowing non-veterinarians to perform simple but often painful surgery cats and dogs is a humane provision, while establishing a spay-neuter tax check off program in a civilized and voluntary answer toward reducing pet overpopulation in Hawaii. Thank you for your attention. Nancy Shah.

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>octopus@maui.net</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM **Date:** Saturday, March 31, 2012 10:51:07 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Rene Umberger
Organization: Individual
E-mail: octopus@maui.net
Submitted on: 3/31/2012

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee members, Please pass this important bill for animal welfare! Mahalo,

Rene Umberger

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM **Date:** Saturday, March 31, 2012 11:46:44 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016 Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Rosemary Karlsson

Organization: Individual

E-mail: rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/31/2012

Comments:

Only vets should provide surgical procedures.

To: JDLTestimony

Cc: <u>aloharunner@hotmail.com</u>

 Subject:
 Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

 Date:
 Saturday, March 31, 2012 12:00:08 PM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016 Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Stephanie McLaughlin

Organization: Individual

E-mail: aloharunner@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/31/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>fullhouse@hawaii.rr.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Monday, April 02, 2012 8:54:22 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Susan Matsui
Organization: Individual

E-mail: fullhouse@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 4/2/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>sue@kauaibeach.com</u>

 Subject:
 Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

 Date:
 Saturday, March 31, 2012 10:20:20 PM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Susan Scott
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sue@kauaibeach.com
Submitted on: 3/31/2012

Comments:

Please support this bill prohibiting non-vets from doing surgery on dogs or cats. I am also urging your support to create a spay neuter tax donation box which would held decrease the number of homeless cats and dogs and lessen the large numbers that are euthanized every year.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov From:

JDLTestimony To:

care4petservices@yahoo.com Cc:

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 10:52:26 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016 Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Tina Bounds Organization: Individual

E-mail: care4petservices@yahoo.com Submitted on: 4/1/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov From:

JDLTestimony To:

Cc: starfire-retreat@hawaii.rr.com

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM Date: Saturday, March 31, 2012 11:47:56 AM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016 Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Torun and David Almer

Organization: Individual

E-mail: starfire-retreat@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 3/31/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>viviansuet@hotmail.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB1133 on 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM

Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 12:08:02 PM

Testimony for JDL 4/3/2012 9:30:00 AM HB1133

Conference room: 016 Testifier position:

Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Vivian S. Toellner

Organization: Individual E-mail: viviansuet@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 4/1/2012

Comments:

Aloha, Animal Cruelty seems to know no bounds. The standards we set need to be high. Hawaii is the land of Aloha. Is paradise for the animals too? With many new persons moving to Hawaii, the rules of conduct need to be in writing and given out to new arrivals. What may have been acceptible where from, is not allowed here in beautiful Hawaii. We cannot pay to have our hair even cut by someone without a license. Why do we let our animals be cut on by people without licenses. Standards need to be in place. Follow the money too: do these cut rate places have business licenses? pay excise tax? zoned to do business? insured? legal recourse? Please support this bill and all bills that would improve the treatment of animals in Hawaii, making Hawaii a Humane leader in the US and around the world! Mahalo.