
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE COUNTIES TO DISCONTINUE THE USE OF CARBON MONOXIDE TO
EUTHANIZE ANIMALS.

1 WHEREAS, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, and
2 tasteless gas used to euthanize animals in gas chambers; and
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4 WHEREAS, use of carbon monoxide is not a humane method for
5 euthanizing animals; and
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7 WHEREAS, elderly, young, and sick animals are more
8 susceptible to gas-related trauma because they breathe and
9 circulate oxygen and carbon monoxide differently from healthy
10 adult animals, causing a resistance to oxygen deficiency; and
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12 WHEREAS, carbon monoxide can take half an hour to kill an
13 animal and causes an animal's vital organs to shut down before
14 the loss of consciousness; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Humane Society of the United States has
17 condemned the use of carbon monoxide for euthanizing shelter
18 animals; and
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20 WHEREAS, animal shelter workers using carbon monoxide have
21 been injured and asphyxiated due to faulty gas chambers; and
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23 WHEREAS, shelter workers who experience repeated exposure
24 to carbon monoxide, even at low levels, are placed at long-term
25 risks for cancer, infertility, and heart disease; and
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27 WHEREAS, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the
28 Humane Society of the United States, and the American Humane
29 Association have stated that injection is a more humane and the
30 preferred method of euthanasia; and
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1 WHEREAS, euthanasia by injection causes loss of conscious
2 in five seconds, death within five minutes, and more
3 importantly, causes the animal to lose consciousness before
4 vital organs stop operating; and


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6 WHEREAS, euthanasia by injection is safer for animal
7 shelter workers to use and is less costly to implement than
8 carbon monoxide; now, therefore,

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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
12 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the counties are
13 urged to require all animal shelters they contract with to cease
14 using carbon monoxide and instead use euthanasia by injection
15 for all animals the shelters must euthanize; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each county is requested to
18 submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days
19 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2014 on its
20 progress toward stopping the use of carbon monoxide by animal
21 shelters, along with any proposed legislation; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of each
25 county.

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OFFERED BY: 

FEB - 4 2013

