
HOUSE 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
3

4 WHEREAS, use of carbon monoxide is not a humane method for
5 euthanizing animals; and
6

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
11

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
15

16 WHEREAS, the Humane Society of the United States has
17 condemned the use of carbon monoxide for euthanizing shelter
18 animals; and
19

20 WHEREAS, animal shelter workers using carbon monoxide have
21 been injured and asphyxiated due to faulty gas chambers; and
22

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
26

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
31

32 WHEREAS, euthanasia by injection causes loss of conscious
33 in five seconds, death within five minutes, and more
34 importantly, causes the animal to lose consciousness before
35 vital organs stop operating; and

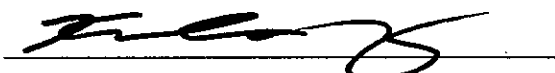


1
2 WHEREAS, euthanasia by injection is safer for animal
3 shelter workers to use and is less costly to implement than
4 carbon monoxide; now, therefore,
5

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

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

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of each county.
21
22
23

OFFERED BY: 

FEB - 4 2013