

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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THE HONORABLE JESSICA WOOLEY, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2014
State of Hawai'i

March 13, 2014

RE: S.B. 2026, S.D. 1; RELATING TO ANIMAL CRUELTY.

Chair Wooley, Vice-Chair Onishi and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu submits the following testimony in support of S.B. 2026, S.D. 1.

The purpose of S.B. 2026, S.D. 1, is to prohibit the slaughtering or trafficking of dogs or cats for human consumption; accordingly, this bill would amend the definition of a "pet animal" for purposes of animal cruelty, to eliminate any potential conflict with this new prohibition. The Department believes this statute would work hand-in-hand with Hawai'i's existing animal cruelty laws, which already provide felony penalties for torture, mutilation or poisoning of pet animals—including dogs and cats—and equine animals.

For the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu supports the passage of S.B. 2026, S.D. 1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES



HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL

To: Honorable Chair Wooley and Committee Members
House Agriculture Committee, 930am, Room 312

March 13, 2014

From: Inga Gibson, Hawaii State Director, The Humane Society of the United States-Humane Society International, PO Box 891131, Honolulu, HI 96830, igibson@humanesociety.org

RE: STRONG SUPPORT FOR S.B. 2026 Relating to Animal Cruelty; Slaughter or Trafficking in Dogs or Cats, with consideration of amendments

On behalf of The Humane Society of the United States' members and supporters across Hawaii and The HSUS's international arm, Humane Society International (HSI), we urge your support of S.B. 2026, and the proposed amendments, based on the following:

- To keep with the existing definition of “pet animal” in HRS 711-1100, we suggest expanding the proposed bill to “pet animals”, with the qualifier for pet pigs, rabbits, guinea pigs and caged birds, “so long as not bred for consumption.”
- We support the position of the Honolulu Prosecuting Attorney that this law complements existing animal cruelty laws, and provides for their discretion in charging from this, or other existing animal cruelty laws, dependent upon the individual case and evidence.
- More than 60 percent of Hawaii households own dogs or cats who are considered “pets” and members of the family. The overwhelming majority of Hawaii residents abhor the practice of dog or cat slaughter for human consumption.
- Unlike farm animals who are bred and raised for consumption, dogs and cats who are slaughtered and subsequently sold for consumption are often lost or stolen pets or acquired from the internet or free to good home advertisements.
- Unlike farm animals, neither the United States Department of Agriculture nor the Hawaii Department of Agriculture recognizes nor regulates the slaughter or sale of dogs and cats.
- Despite our strong anti-cruelty laws, dog slaughter for human consumption continues to occur across Hawaii as current law requires that the perpetrator be caught in the act of killing the dog or cat. Furthermore, there is no law that expressly prohibits the selling, breeding, raising, transporting, trafficking or consumption of dog or cat meat.
- The proposed law would provide local law enforcement and local humane societies the tools necessary to investigate reports of dog slaughter or trafficking. Last year there were 2 incidents of dogs being decapitated with their feet removed, a method used to prepare a dog for consumption. Suspects have yet to be identified in either case.
- The Philippines (1998), Taiwan (2001) and Hong Kong (1950) have long prohibited the trade in dog meat. Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam prohibit the transfer or

transport of dogs for the dog meat trade and are currently strengthening prohibitions on slaughter and consumption. In the U.S., New York, New Jersey, California and other states explicitly prohibit the sale or consumption of pet animals.

- The Muslim/Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist, Hebrew/Judaic, Chinese Mongol, Miao, Tibetan, Yao and Yi faiths all prohibit eating dog.
- Slaughtering dogs and cats also poses public health risks to people. While rabies is the most common vector (not present in Hawaii), toxoplasmosis, e-coli, cholera, trichinellosis, and other infectious parasitic, bacterial and zoonotic diseases can be transferred to humans when slaughtering dogs or cats. For more information on the public health issues associated with the dog meat trade, please see the below:

Can dog and cat meat ever be produced humanely?

http://media.wix.com/ugd/19a760_6a1ef886783c45788b0f9ff92215dd50.pdf

“... No country in the world has developed a humane way of supplying dogs and cats for human consumption, and the methods of slaughter cause immense suffering for the animals. In addition, as no country has explicitly legalised the dog and cat meat industries, wherever its consumption is popular, it is either illegal or takes place without specific regulation.”

GMS countries pledge to end dog meat eating

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/GMS-countries-pledge-to-end-dog-meat-eating-30213985.html>

“Countries are failing to comply with their own national animal disease prevention measures, and are not following recommendations for rabies control and elimination by organisations such as the World Health Organisation and the World Organisation for Animal Health and the [dog meat] trade has been linked to outbreaks of trichinellosis, cholera and rabies. The World Health Organisation recently cited the trade as a contributing factor in recent outbreaks of rabies in Indonesia and cholera in Vietnam.”

Five percent of Nigerian dog meat tainted with rabies: study

<http://www.theglobaldispatch.com/five-percent-of-nigerian-dog-meat-tainted-with-rabies-study-45020/>

“The GARC reports, because dog meat is habitually consumed, and local butchers are unable to screen out infected animals and remove them from the food supply, the handling of infected dog meat may have implications on regional public health. There is potential for virus transfer if fluids or nervous tissues of infected animals come into contact with breaks in the skin before the meat is cooked.”

Lethal risks associated with preparing dog meat

<http://www.news-medical.net/news/2009/03/16/46971.aspx>

“When the researchers investigated whether the patients had come into contact with infected animals in the preceding months, they found that both had been involved in preparing and eating animals which may have been infected. In the first patient's case, he had prepared and eaten a dog that had been killed in a road traffic accident; rabid dogs were known to inhabit the neighbourhood. The second patient had butchered and eaten a cat that had been sick for a number of days.”

Survey on the illegal dog meat industry

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/207840620/KARA-Dog-Meat-Report-English-1-Survey-on-the-dog-meat-industry-and-possible-measures-to-end-the-dog-meat-trade-in-South-Korea>

Comprehensive discussion on breeding and transportation of dogs, analysis of zoonotic disease and parasitic transmission, conditions of dogs kept for slaughter, slaughter methods, implications of stress on dogs contributing to food-borne illness, etc.

In closing, pets provide us with so much; comfort, security, safety, assisting us with disabilities, improving our health and longevity and more. Pets deserve our protection and we urge your support for SB2026, and your consideration of the above-proposed amendments.



Hawaiian Humane Society
People for animals. Animals for people.

2700 Waiialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
808.946.2187 • hawaiianhumane.org

March 13, 2014

Representative Jessica Wooley, Chair
Representative Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Agriculture
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Testimony in support of SB 2026, SD1 Relating to Animal Cruelty

I am Mary Steiner, Policy Advocate for the Hawaiian Humane Society. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 2026, SD1.

The purpose of SB 2026 SD1 is to prohibit the slaughtering or trafficking of dogs or cats for human consumption. The Hawaiian Humane Society supports this bill.

The slaughter of cats and dogs is inhumane, and results in great suffering. While the number of reported cases to our organization are few, each one is very distressing. We believe the only acceptable method of intentional death for cats and dogs is humane euthanasia following the AVMA panel on euthanasia.

On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society I would like to thank you for your consideration. I hope you will pass SB 2026, SD1.

onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 8:43 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2026 on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM*

SB2026

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for AGR on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Hawaii Cattlemen's Council	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 9:00 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: icare@saveananimal.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2026 on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM

SB2026

Submitted on: 3/12/2014
Testimony for AGR on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Miedtke-Wolf	Save An Animal	Support	No

Comments: Please support this Bill. We need to move out of the dark ages and into the 21st century. This bill will greatly reduce the risk of our pets being stolen and tortured as a food... and make us a better society...

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onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 3:54 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2026 on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM*

SB2026

Submitted on: 3/12/2014

Testimony for AGR on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: MrColdNoodles . <huff.tc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 9:42 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: SB2026

I SUPPORT SB2026 to protect pets!

Tracy Pufahl

onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 6:17 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Nekokichigai@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2026 on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM

SB2026

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for AGR on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suzanne Watanabe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Consuming dogs and cats is cruel! We do not live in a 3rd World country; we have supermarkets all over the place which sell meat to people who consume meat. Why would they resort to consuming household pets? And those who raise dogs and cats for consumption are not going to raise them in sanitary conditions or provide untainted food - they want to make as much money off of these animals as possible. Culture or no culture, eating pets is barbaric!

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onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 12:37 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2026 on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM

SB2026

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for AGR on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Moran	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly support this bill. It is time to make this the law of Hawaii. Majority of us have dogs & cats as pets. Dogs do so much good for humans as service dogs to help humans in so many ways right here in Hawaii. Just the latest as we see the spread of the dreaded Little Fire Ants (LFA) between islands, we learn that best way to detect them is with a trained dog. Be pono. Pass this bill please. Mahalo.

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onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: Lacy Martin <lacymartin17@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 9:12 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2026 to protect pets!!!

onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: Beth Jasinski <jasinski.beth@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 8:52 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2026 to protect pets

I would like to protest against slaughtering animals for human consumption. Dogs and cats are not meant for eating. They are pets that deserve love and respect. They have feelings just like humans. Do we kill humans and eat them? NO, therefor we should not kill pets to eat them. If were allowed to kill them for consumption, legalize the killing of humans to eat them.

onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 10:20 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: h2ocolorbarbara@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2026 on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM

SB2026

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for AGR on Mar 13, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
barbara steinberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill that bans slaughter and consumption of dog and cats. These animals are companion animals , therefore I see us humans responsible for their welfare and to protect them from any harm and speak and act in their defense. I urge you to speak for them because they have no voice. We must all do our part to defend these helpless living creatures.

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Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: Alexis Jamison <jamisona@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 8:45 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2026 to protect pets!

I support SB2026 to protect explicitly prohibit the slaughter or sale of pets for human consumption. Please vote in favor of it!

Thank you,
Alexis E. Jamison
Mililani, HI

onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: leslie.labrava@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 7:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: SB2026

I resolutely support; please pass!

Leslie Kornblatt
Haiku, Maui

Sent from my iPad

onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: INSPIREVISION@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 4:50 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: *****SPAM***** SB 2026 - SUPPORT

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members:

Position: Support SB2026

Dogs and Cats are not only our friends and family members, but they went to war along side our military to protect our nation and sacrificed their lives.

Dogs play an important role in our very freedom that gives us the right to stand here and speak our point of view without fear... as well as aid soldiers, military operations, ultimately helping to protect our country, you and I, from attack.

[Celebrate our Military Canine Heroes | Ian Somerhalder Foundation](#)

Excerpts from article: "Military service dogs have finally been recognized by the government as an integral and beloved part of our nations's military team...we are finally recognizing them on a national scale by creating the first national monument to pay tribute to military dogs."

"Historically, dogs became a formal part of our military shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Dog owners across the United States were asked to donate quality animals..."

Seargent Military Police Officer Ann Rosenbaum said "We relied on dogs everyday and it was definitely motivating to have a dog with us, not just because of the protection they provided, but because it was almost like having a piece of home with us."

"These amazing creatures risk their lives to protect and serve alongside our troops in both the United States and in combat zones around the world. Thousands of dogs have given their lives during their service. It is fitting that they should be rewarded, honored and remembered just like every other troop who sacrifices their life to service of our country. This monument will forever show our nation's gratitude to the amazing dogs that serve to protect the United States".

[? Military Working Dog Monument Dedication Ceremony - YouTube](#)

[The Dog That Cornered Osama Bin Laden ... not your standard K9...nor is the gear they wear?.. - YouTube](#)

[Military Dogs: A Salute to our Heroes on Memorial Day | Pet Travel Blog - International Dog and Cat Travel](#)

ALSO...

[cat heroes: military working cats on Pinterest](#)

[No Dog Left Behind : American Heroes Channel](#)

Today they provide a sense of normalcy at the end of a very abnormal day on the battlefield. They also give hope and something to live for, for military suffering from PTSD.

Americans recognize the special place dogs and cats have in our lives as companions, family members, therapy, assistance, rescue animals and family protectors and defenders of our freedoms.

Our love affair with dogs and cats can be seen by so many efforts by groups and individuals who strive to make it a better world for these animals.

[Gary Michelson, L.A.'s Richest Animal Lover, Offers \\$25 Million to Whoever Invents Non-Surgical Spaying Method | The Informer](#)

"Michelsen's generosity is born of the pity he feels for the 3-4 million animals euthanized each year in U.S. shelters"

The following is an excerpt from an editorial by the Star Bulletin editors in 2004. (Note: Caddy was brutally stabbed and butchered for dogmeat in 2007, we all remember).

[Honolulu Star-Bulletin Editorial - Our Opinion](#)



Editorials

Monday, August 23, 2004

[OUR OPINION]

Ban dog meat sales to prevent torture

THE ISSUE

Honolulu police are investigating reports of dog meat being sold at various spots on Oahu.

ASIAN countries have recognized in recent years that the killing of dogs and cats for meat is unacceptable in civilized society. Trade in dog or cat meat is so unthinkable in Hawaii that legislators have felt no need to make it illegal, but that has changed. Reports [that dog meat has been sold](#) in Kalihi, Waianae and downtown Honolulu should result in prompt legislation to ban this repulsive trade before it gains a foothold.

A neuroscientist had been studying the brain activities of dogs put through an MRI scanner for two years.

<http://www.lifewithdogs.tv/2013/11/dogs-are-people-too/>

In 2013, Neuroscientist Gregory Berns said,

"Now, after training and scanning a dozen dogs, my one inescapable conclusion is this: dogs are people, too." He also said,

"The ability to experience positive emotions, like love and attachment, would mean that dogs have a level of sentience comparable to that of a human child. And this ability suggests a rethinking of how we treat dogs."

On July of 2012, Scientists declared that non human animals such as mammals and birds were conscious beings. (dogs, cats are mammals etc.).

[Animals are conscious and should be treated as such - opinion - 24 September 2012 - New Scientist#.UuJfUHH6e1s](#)

Mark Bekoff, who studies animals emotions, writes, "I hope the declaration will be used to protect animals from being treated abusively and inhumanely.

In the past, references to cultural or racial discrimination very sadly confused the REAL issue - CRUELTY TO ANIMALS. However, many Asian countries such as the Philippines, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and technically in South Korea have outlawed this horrible practice, but such practices continues illegally today.

In 2012, Weixian County, a province in China, has banned the slaughter and consumption of dogmeat as well.- [Groundbreaking regulation bans consumption of dog meat in Weixian County, China and promotes the human-canine bond | National China to ban eating cats and dogs](#)

[Dog Meat Protest: Local Group Demonstrates Against South Korea's Consumption of Dogs And Cats](#)

Remembering Caddy:

We remember Caddy, the 8 month old German Sheperd/Labrador mix, like a child to the Manuma family, stolen from Moanalua Golf Course and butchered for a meal.

- Kristine Yoo, prosecutor for Caddy's case said, "This is not about anybody's culture, it's not about anyone's eating habits," she said. "It's about cruelty to animals." [2 Hawaii men plead guilty to animal cruelty in eating of family's pet dog](#) (statement originally from that link, however the link contents has been updated with other news)
- Judge Randall Lee in Caddy's case said, "In this particular case the egregiousness of this crime to an innocent animal is dispicable," [Animal Abuse: Dog stolen, slaughtered for food - Moanalua Valley, HI | Pet-Abuse.Com Animal Cruelty Database](#) (case updates).

Please protect these animals, they are deeply deeply loved in Hawaii and in the mainland USA, and the military. And we owe a lot to these animals. In listening to tapes of dogs being killed crying in tapes published by Animals Asia in Asia, I personally find any argument indefensible. We should find other ways of satisfying human needs, without hurting and being horribly cruel to dogs and cats.

<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/world/judge-bans-peruvian-town-annual-cat-eating-festival-article-1.1486233> This is a recent example of a cat eating ban due to its cruelty and safety concerns despite being a very old tradition.

Please move forward and pass SB2026.

Thank you,
Jane Shiraki
Honolulu, Hawaii

TO: Chair of House Committee on Agriculture
Chair of House Committee on Judiciary
Representative Clift Tsuji

SB 2026 Relating to Animal Cruelty

March 13, 2014 9:30 am in Ag Room 312.

My name is Kevin and I support SB 2026 which prohibits the slaughtering or trafficking of dogs or cats for human consumption. I feel that in inhumane to slaughter and traffic these innocent dogs and cats for human consumption.

In closing, Please pass SB 2026 into law. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



March 12, 2014

Testimony in Support of SB 2026

Rep. Woolsey and Members of the House Agriculture Committee:

The Pacific Pet Alliance is a Hawai'i non-profit organization that promotes responsible pet ownership through education and advocacy.

The Pacific Pet Alliance respectfully asks this Honorable Committee to support HB 2368 because dogs and cats are not and should not be considered as meat animals in contemporary Western societies. They are our pets and companions.

The Pacific Pet Alliance values dogs and cats for the positive effect their presence has on our daily lives.

The Pacific Pet Alliance also requests a technical correction to SB 2026.

We request that on Page 3, Lines 3-6 be amended to include the italicized section:

“Traffics dogs or cats or dogs or cat products” means breeds, raises, sells, offers for sale, exchanges, transports, transfers, receives, trades, or bairters dogs or cats or dog or cat products for the purpose of *human consumption*.

We believe it is necessary to amend this definition so that it cannot be interpreted to define as “trafficking” accepted veterinary and animal husbandry practices that may include the use, exchange, transport, and receipt of blood, biopsied material, semen, tissue, and other parts of living cats and dogs for diagnostic and other accepted purposes, or the use, exchange, transport, and receipt of carcasses or parts of carcasses for necropsy and other accepted purposes.

We also believe it is necessary to amend this section so that the practices of breeding, raising, selling, offering for sale, transporting, transferring and

receiving cats and dogs for purposes other than human consumption shall not be defined as “trafficking.”

The Pacific Pet Alliance respectfully asks this Honorable Committee to support SB 2026 with our suggested amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

PACIFIC PET ALLIANCE

Lynn Muramaru, President