



**Office of the Public Defender  
State of Hawaii  
Timothy Ho, Chief Deputy Public Defender**



**Testimony of the Office of the Public Defender,  
State of Hawaii to the House Committee on Judiciary**

March 22, 2013 2:00 p.m.

S.B. No. 978: RELATING TO THE PENAL CODE

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

The Office of the Public Defender opposes S.B. 978.

This measure would impose a mandatory one-year term of imprisonment for anyone convicted of Animal Cruelty in the Second Degree involving five or more pet animals. This measure was submitted as a reaction to the sentence that was imposed in the Waimanalo puppy mill case. We understand that many people were disappointed with the sentence imposed in the puppy mill case. However, disappointment and anger as a result of a single case should never be the impetus to propose wholesale changes to our criminal justice system. Our system must remain flexible in order to be applied on a case-by-case basis. The court should have the discretion to take all factors into account when rendering a sentence on a defendant. Animal cruelty offenses should not be treated differently.

Under this measure, a person convicted of Animal Cruelty in the Second Degree involving five or more pet animals could potentially be sentenced to more jail time than a person convicted of Animal Cruelty in the First Degree, which does not carry a mandatory jail sentence. A person convicted of Animal Cruelty in the Second Degree for four pet animals would not face any mandatory time, even if the acts perpetrated upon the four pets were more heinous than someone else who abused five or more pets. A person would face more jail time for abusing their pets than abusing a family or household member.

Furthermore, the language which appears on page 4, line 9, "The court may impose consecutive terms," is unnecessary. The court is already authorized to sentence any defendant to consecutive terms of imprisonment under §706-668.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The court, in determining whether or not to sentence a defendant to consecutive or concurrent terms of imprisonment, must consider the factors set forth in §706-606, H.R.S.

In the puppy mill case, the court could have sentenced the defendant to consecutive one-year jail terms, but didn't. Judge Kim gave a detailed explanation of his sentence. The defendant was given a six month jail sentence. With credit for time served, he was released soon after his court hearing. The defendant in this case was convicted of a

crime. He was incarcerated for six months, and extradited from Nevada to Hawaii. The extradition, in and of itself, was an unusual procedure for a misdemeanor offense. Due to the cost of transportation, the extradition process is usually reserved for notorious felony offenses. Again, while many people were unhappy with the result, someone was held responsible for the way the dogs were treated. The amount of publicity generated by this case has led to a much greater awareness of the perils of dog breeding in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this measure.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

ALII PLACE  
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 547-7400 • FAX: (808) 547-7515

KEITH M. KANESHIRO  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

ARMINA A. CHING  
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



**THE HONORABLE KARL RHOADS, CHAIR  
HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2013  
State of Hawai'i**

March 22, 2013

**RE: S.B. 978; RELATING TO THE PENAL CODE.**

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu, submits the following testimony in support of Senate Bill 978.

The purpose of S.B. 978 is to impose a mandatory sentence of one year of imprisonment on a defendant convicted of cruelty to animals in the second degree against five (5) or more pet animals in one instance.

In a recent case before the Circuit Court of the First Circuit (State of Hawaii v. David Lee Becker, Cr. No. 12-1-1202), the defendant pled "no contest" to 153 counts of cruelty to animals in the second degree. Each count was based on the defendant's actions against a separate dog (i.e. 153 dogs in total), and each count carried a maximum penalty of up to one year imprisonment, which could be imposed consecutively. Due to the extraordinary magnitude of the defendant's offenses, victimizing 153 pet animals to that extent, the Department recommended a total sentence of five (5) years imprisonment.

Although the defendant had pled to all 153 counts of cruelty to animals in the second degree, the trial court opined that all 153 counts "probably should have been charged in a single count," such that the case would be "less legally serious than that of a person accused of shoplifting a \$300 pair of sunglasses." The Department respectfully disagrees with the court's assessment, and strongly believes that S.B. 978 will provide appropriate guidance in future animal cruelty cases impacting numerous pet animals.

For the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu, supports S.B. 978. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



# Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

2700 Waiālae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826  
808.946.2187 • [hawaiianhumane.org](http://hawaiianhumane.org)

**To:** Representative Rhoads, Chair of the Committee on Judiciary, Representative Har, Vice Chair, and Committee Members

House Committee on Judiciary (JUD)  
March 22, 2013, 2:00 p.m., Room 325

**Submitted by:** Jennifer J. Han, Policy Advocate  
Hawaiian Humane Society, [jhan@hawaiianhumane.org](mailto:jhan@hawaiianhumane.org)

**Date:** March 20, 2013

**RE:** **Support SB978;  
Relating to the Penal Code – Mandatory One-Year Sentence**

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The Hawaiian Humane Society supports the passage of Senate Bill 978 as we strive for stronger sentences and related-penalties on those convicted of animal cruelty.

This bill ensures that those who are convicted of second degree animal cruelty where there are five or more pet animal victims will receive a minimum one-year in jail. Persons who have been convicted of such abhorrent crimes with helpless, multiple victims deserve an appropriate sentence of imprisonment. Animals are voiceless victims who need the protection of our laws.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 978. On behalf of Hawaiian Humane Society, I ask for your support in passing this measure.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES**

TO: Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Har and Committee Members

House Judiciary Committee, 3-22-13, 200pm, Rm 325

**RE: SB978, Testimony in SUPPORT; Relating to the Penal Code; Animal Cruelty**

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

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Dear Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Har and Committee Members,

On behalf of our members and supporters in Hawaii we thank the Committee for its consideration of SB978; which we support, and that would set a mandatory minimum jail term upon an animal cruelty conviction involving five or more animals.

Research in the fields of criminology, psychology and sociology have long demonstrated that those who abuse animals, especially numerous animals or animals of varying species, are more likely to escalate to violence against humans or engage in other criminal activities.

We support a jail term for egregious offenses involving multiple animals in addition to counseling and rehabilitation and a prohibition on the ownership or possession of animals post-conviction. Sentencing involving incarceration may also serve as a deterrent for others who may consider committing similar crimes against animals, or people. Finally, strong sentences send a clear message to the community that violence, whether against animal or person, will not be tolerated in our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Hawaii legislators

Hawaii state capitol

Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear sirs,

I am writing regarding s.b.978. I am against the bill as written. I am writing for my companies Petland and Pets Pacifica Inc. I am not writing for Hawaii advisory committee plants and animals. Upon review of the testimony, I suggest the bill be revised to limit the specification to pet dogs. More people are raising their own food which often serve as pets like their grandparents did. As the government lowers the quality standards on raising human food by increasing overcrowding, increasing unsanitary conditions, feeding more feeds generally unfit for human consumption, and tainted by more hormones and medications you can expect more locals turning to raising some of their own food which can also be a pet. Petland now sells more chicks than any other breed of birds when available. Food fish, like tilapia, are popular with many pet stores. When the tilapia niloticus is approved I suspect it will sell very well because the grow out period is only 6 months. Unfortunately, animals are not born labeled as pets, pests, or food. They can be any of these. They are not mutually exclusive universes.

Pet animals can be a public health issue such as rabies in dogs, toxoplasmosis in cats, and tuberculosis in birds. As these diseases develop medication resistance, pets may need to die to avoid more human and animal deaths.

I also suggest concrete definitions of violation terms such as overdrives, overloads, tortures, torments, beats, causes bodily injury, or starves. With so many different animals, setting up these definitions seems too difficult. I know what an overdrive is on a car but am not sure how it would be applied to a dog, cat, rabbit, bird, or fish. Overloading makes sense but without definitions for each animal and size, the applications would seem arbitrary.

"Causes bodily injury" also seems arbitrary. For instance, the Hawaiian Humane Society kills dogs and cats based on breed, and other conditions. They imprison them on porous concrete with pores filled with water, urine, and solid waste. They call that humane while taking home over \$150,000 annual pay checks. "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone."

Many pets are overweight. Starving is necessary in some cases to reduce their weight, cure diabetes, or reduce joint problems.

Many pet animals such as cats, rats, birds, pigs, mice, and rabbits are considered pests in some areas. Honolulu nearly burned to the ground in 1900 ridding rats that carried bubonic plague. Diseases such as tuberculosis, e. coli, and salmonella once considered cured are increasingly resistant to antibiotics and cures. The animal vectors may sometimes need to be killed if they threaten human or other animal life.

Animal pests learn like diseases to overcome our controls. For instance, I had a problem with a neighbor's cat eating my pet fish. I caught the cat in a safety trap, turned over to the owner who

immediately released the cat. The cat learned not to go into the safety trap once it had been caught that first time; however, it went on to catch and eat more of my pet fish.

The University of Hawaii has a problem with cats roaming the campus. Clearly they survive by being fed by people who think they are their pets. Unfortunately, the cats are becoming more numerous and carry diseases such as toxoplasmosis. Should UH officials who decide to possibly kill cats be sentenced to mandatory sentences for protecting the health of UH students? A similar cat problem exists in Haleiwa, Diamond Head and several other areas of the state.

Similarly in the past, Honolulu had a problem with rats in Chinatown carrying the plague. Should health officials tell concerned restaurant owners in the future they may face mandatory jail time if they hurt the rats because they may be someone's pet?

Clearly the "confines or causes to be confined" part of legislation should be defined. A major problem with some cat owners is they believe confinement is inhumane to cats. Unfortunately, a few cat owners do not like to imprison their cats and let them roam freely outside. The loose pet cats can sometimes present a problem for neighbors and the community. The loose cats often eat bird eggs. The state of Hawaii wants to protect some of those endangered bird species.

Even dogs can sometimes be pests. A pack of dogs has been suspected in killing endangered seabirds on Oahu. When I was younger, a pack of dogs severely hurt my pet cow on the family farm. A pig hunting dog also attacked my sister's rabbit in my mom's yard when I was younger. I think we should be allowed to control the invading dogs on our property to protect our pets or family without facing mandatory jail time.

Rats, mice and cockroaches are kept as pets. Why should the homeowner not be allowed the continued right to protect their family and home from diseases by killing rats, mice and cockroaches without a licensed pet control operator?

How does one tell whether feeding mice to owls at the zoo constitutes a mandatory jail time offense? How does one tell whether one will face jail time for feeding fish to other fish or animals that eat fish? How does one go fishing with live bait that may be someone's idea of a pet?

Rabbits were a problem on Haleakala. Reasonable people should not face unreasonable mandatory penalties for reasonable pest control operations.

Some people feed cats, pigeons, doves, pigs and other animals kept outdoors which could also be considered pets to those feeding them. How can their neighbors or even government agencies decide which are indeed pets and which are pests? Who wants to serve a mandatory jail time for reducing the feral pig, dove, pigeon, cat or rabbit population where it is a problem?

Torments also needs defining. My dog is tormented by neighbors walking in front of my house causing her to bark. Should the neighbor walking by five dogs be subject to mandatory imprisonment?

Due to state regulations, Petland isolates newly imported birds for 30 days. When they first arrive they are more crowded due to the need to isolate them from other birds. We have gotten complaints from a few individuals over the years because they felt they were overcrowded. We usually just make adjustments in space when we hear the concern. We do not wish to raise costs so high when complying with state regulations that people cannot afford to purchase those birds when the 30 days are up. Neither do we want to go to jail for each overcrowded canary or parakeet. Many pet shops just gave up offering imported birds due to the onerous cost of complying.

Increasingly genetically modified organisms and transplants brings confusion of animals definitions. Recently, the University of Hawaii medical school requested importing rodents with human brain cells. Similar modifications occur with corn having bacillus thuringiensis bacterial genes, fish having squid genes, mice having squid genes, and transplants. Judges should be given the flexibility to decide issues based on the details. Simple answers are often hard to apply to the complex world we live in -- fairness and equity does not often exist in a world of black and white.

Hawaii state law makes importing some pets illegal such as mixes of dog and wolf. In some cases the state should have the option of putting down illegal entries rather than have taxpayer foot\_bill for shipping them away.

Unfortunately as the state, city, and federal governments try to raise taxes, they not only raise revenues but also reduce income for people. Higher taxes result in less affordable pest control operator expenses as real income declines, so many do it themselves. Higher taxes result in people who wish to eat food raised to their grandparents standards which often means raising animals as both pets and food sources. This bill should focus on dogs and not the whole pet animal kingdom. The trends of our increasing local poverty, increasing disease resistance to medications, increasing risks of diseases like tuberculosis and SARS reaching the state due to high visitor count, increasing transplants, decreasing food production standards, and increasing genetically mixed organisms are working against simple rules with mandatory sentences such as proposed in this bill.

Kenneth Matsui

President

Petland and Pets Pacifica Inc.



**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aimee Nuss	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Allan Schildknecht	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We've provided foster care for several of the Puppy Mill case puppies as well as for others and it hurts to see them get away free after the treatment those animals had. It took three months for one puppy to even come to use, she was so scared of people after the treatment she received in the Puppy Mill. PLEASE SUPPORT THIS BILL.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Amanda Hembree	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andie	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
andrea galvin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrea Hamblin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrew Connell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Arin Duarte	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Audrey Lake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbie Parkin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Benda Okazaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bert Y. Furuike	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Why does this bill have to be for five (5) or more animals? Should be 1 (ONE) or more.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Beverly Llewellyn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bonnie Osaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brandi Castillo	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brenda Ohama	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brett Lum	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Yannutz	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brooke Mizuno	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is our responsibility to look out for the well-being of animals, especially domesticated animals that rely on their owners for survival.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
carol lee	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
carol nishiyama	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carol Ogata	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carol Suyderhoud	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carolyn Knoll	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Definitely important!!

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Caron Nakamura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cathryn Griffith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cecily Ling	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Celiamarie Moore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chelsea Kentris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
cheryl renfer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
cheryl Thielen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please stop the animal cruelty The animals have no VOICE and need you to be that Voice Remember DOG is GOD its is spelled this way for A reason

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christin Matsushige	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. Animal cruelty should not be tolerated. Stronger laws will help deter violation. Animals deserve our compassion. Thank you.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cindi Flating	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Colleen Otsuka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
corinne uehara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cynthia Clough	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Unless we enforce our laws correctly, the behavior against life will continue. Who we are is reflected in how we treat animals. Please pass this bill. Thank you.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cynthia Okido	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Fukao	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Morisato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Viola	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
DARYL S NEKOBA	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Davin Kovaloff	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dayna Furusawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Deborah Bukala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Deborah Oshiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Why does it have to be 5 or more? Why can't it be one or more? No human or animal should suffer abuse!

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Denise Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I absolutely support this bill.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Diane M Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Cruelty to animals should be treated as a serious offense. Individuals who are indifferent or intentionally cause pain, suffering, neglect need to understand that the responsibility of animal ownership comes with a minimum standards of care. There are studies that show a strong correlation between animal abuse and abuse of family members or violence towards others. PLEASE pass this bill and protect the animals and send a strong message to those who abuse animals that society will not tolerate such cruelty.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Doug lock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
E Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments: There shouldn't be a '5 or more pet animal victims' criteria. Even 1 pet animal victim should get the person(s) a jail sentence. I would support more than 1 year jail sentence as well. Thank you!

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
EJ Kam	Individual	Support	No

Comments: "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated. I hold that, the more helpless a creature, the more entitled it is to protection by man from the cruelty of man" Gandhi

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Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Elaine Chiu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Emily Roberson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is supported by all local and national animal welfare organizations. Please pass this bill!

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Evan Kuester	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Faith Lebb	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Animal abuse often leads to human abuse. Please act for creatures who vacant defend thselves!

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Faith Mahaulu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gayle Puou	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support the mandatory jail sentence bill.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ginger Kolonick	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ginger Konno	Hawaiian Humane Society	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Glenn Otaguro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To Whom It May Concern,**

**I would like to submit my testimony in support of SB978. It is our responsibility to protect those who cannot speak for themselves. I own 1 Dog and 2 Cats and I could never imagine neglecting or doing anything harmful towards them. I feel that it takes a very disturbed individual to harm an animal that is defenseless. Please pass SB 978 and make the penalty for animal cruelty stronger.**

**Sincerely,**

**Gregory Doi Jr.**

**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
hamid jahanmir	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill and believe that it should imposes a mandatory sentence of MORE than one year of imprisonment on anyone convicted of cruelty to even one animal.

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Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Heather Wawrzenski	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hideko Muramatsu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ivy Castellanos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ivy Hawkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jacque Le Blanc	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
jacqueline just	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jamie Ikeda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jamie Louis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
jan davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need to speak up and stand up for those who cannot defend themselves! These horrible inhumane people who commit these acts upon defenseless animals have got be dealt with aggressively. Won't you please show and express your humanity by passing this bill.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Janet Clark	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Janine Delacourt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Janine Wiehl	Individual	Support	No

Comments: With so many cases of animal cruelty in this state mostly because of the desire for small pocket dogs and the mild climate we have in Hawaii there must be a harsher penalty for those people who breed puppy mills. We have had in the past such a massive amount of animals dumped on the pet store which should never have been born. Animals kept in cages for only breeding purposes and in poor health with many health issues passed on. I support the Mandatory Jail Sentence Bill which would require a minimum 1 year jail sentence for those persons convicted of animal cruelty where there are 5 or more pet animal victims. Something must be done to protect those victims.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Janis Kusatsu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jason Cadiz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Burkle	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this Bill. The innocent animals of Hawaii need to be protected.  
Thank You

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jessica Dunn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jessie Pennington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jill Merl	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jo-Ann Fujita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joey Ann Kempson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Judy Eko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julie Ray	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Our island animals are so fortunate to have the HI Humane Society advocating on their furry behalf. Thank you to the sincere lawmakers for protecting the animals and ignorant families that would purchase their family pet from abusive mass breeding facilities.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
June Chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kahanu Ponimoi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
karen krasniewski	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kate Butts	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kate Linton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kathleen McKnight	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Cruelty to animals is criminal the animals have no choice ....Felons need to be incarcerated for there adverse actions on animals.....

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kathryn Thomas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kathy Takayama	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I personally feel that much harsher penalties must be imposed upon those who can cause harm or neglect any animal.

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Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Katrina kaahaaina	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I believe that people should be punished with longer jail time for animal abuse and animal cruelty!!

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaypee Soh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelley Streadbeck	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keoni Vaughn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members, I urge you to recommend passing this bill as it addresses a specific type of animal cruelty offender. It is a universal understanding that animal cruelty is awful; this bill specifically targets those offenders who prey on multiple pet victims. This bill is not only appropriately punitive but also deterrent. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 978. Sincerely, Keoni Vaughn

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**SB978**

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristin Davidson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristin Herrick	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laura Gerwitz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
LEILA ISHIKI	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda O'Neill	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda Ross	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Fowler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lois Kelsey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lola Colombe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lopaka Biondine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Loretta Allen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: People are the caretakers of Gods creatures. If people are cruel to animals they need to be held accountable and the risk of jail will deter cruelty.

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Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lori Tomita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lorraine Shaughnessy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Representative Rhoads and Committee members, Please support the Mandatory Jail Sentence Bill (SB 978). It is crucial we send a strong message that our community values and respects animals. Individuals who are found guilty in a court of law of multiple counts of animal cruelty should face jail time. They need to understand that cruel acts against animals are not tolerated by this community. Help Hawaii become a state that does not accept inhumane treatment of animals. We must be a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves and ensure justice is served when people do commit crimes against animals. Aloha, Lorraine Shaughnessy 4132 Napali Place Honolulu, HI 96816

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Madeline L. Harcourt	HI Humane Society	Support	No

Comments: Anyone who abuses a poor, defenseless animal should be imprisoned at the very least! I am in complete support of this bill. Thank you

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Malia Hollmann	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marc Nadon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marcia Muraoka-Dunn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marie Owens	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in strong support of this bill as I think we need much tougher animal cruelty laws in Hawaii. Animal cruelty should definitely be punished with jail time. I also believe this law will definitely help discourage puppy mills in Hawaii too. Thank you for your time. Marie Owens

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary E Wilson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need to protect innocent animals! Animal cruelty needs to be punished!

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maurice Needham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mayumi Levesque	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael H Alexander	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michele Goeas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michele Higa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michelle bowerman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Lewis	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Ray	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Myra Lam	Individual	Support	No

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Hanks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Natalie Lukashevsky	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
NatalieCady	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Peter Kowen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel Ariola	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randi Keipper	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
rebecca choy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Renee Martinson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rho Hiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ritsuko Tomari	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rob Church	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jessica Mahoney	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I absolutely support this and any law strengthening penalties against those who knowingly abuse animals, of any kind and those associated with the abuse who do not stop or report it. While animals have been placed on this Earth for our food and companionship, and we as humans rank higher than them on the food chain, we do not have the right to do whatever we please with them. They deserve our respect at the very least, especially coming from breeders who make money off of them. We know from a psychological stand point, that the hands that abuse animals are the same hands that go on to abuse humans. These people need to pay for their crimes against animals. They need help dealing with their mental instabilities. It's not very hard to see several ways, in any situation, to treat animals better. These people simply choose not to. It's a choice that should come with a hefty penalty. Just because the animals abuse can't speak to tell you of their horrors, doesn't make them any less real. They are living beings just as deserving of their life as we are. Penalize those who abuse their rights.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laren	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Patricia Bentley	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
robin yamamoto	hawaiian humane society	Support	No

Comments: aniaml neglect as well as abuse is not something that children should view as acceptable. make the adults responsible so children will also be so in the future

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Roland Shanklin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Samantha Curtis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Scott Okazaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sheryl Kincaid	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need serious consequences for those who hurt animals.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Skye Morrison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stacey Fukuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stacey Nagata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stacey S.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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March 20, 2013

Representative Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Representative Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary

**Re: Testimony on SB978, Relating to the Penal Code**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

I support the passage of SB978 which would impose a mandatory sentence of one year of imprisonment on a defendant convicted of cruelty to animals in the second degree involving five or more pet animals in any one instance. Cruelty to animals in the second degree, as defined in Hawaii Revised Statutes section 711-1109, involves perpetrators who act intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly to harm an animal in such a way that would not be considered reasonable negligence or understandable or excusable ignorance.

Any person who is convicted of cruelty to animals in the second degree should *at least* be made to serve a year of imprisonment if the act for which they were convicted involved five or more animals. At that point, there is more going on than just animal cruelty and the perpetrator needs to suffer a consequence that will hopefully serve to make them seriously weigh any decision to continue with the same activity or behavior in the future.

According to a report compiled by the Animal Legal Defense Fund ([www.aldf.org](http://www.aldf.org)) that assessed the strength of each jurisdiction's animal protection laws, Hawaii ranked #43 out of the 50 states for 2012. We were recognized as one of seven states who for the first time enacted a felony penalty for cases involving extreme animal cruelty. The report ranks states (and the District of Columbia and U.S. territories) based on their cumulative scores to 42 study questions covering 15 distinct animal protection laws categories. By including a mandatory minimum sentence for those convicted of cruelty to animals in the second degree involving five or more pet animals in any one instance to our animal law repertoire in the State of Hawaii, I believe that the passage of this measure would be a positive step toward rising out of the bottom tier.

I strongly believe that the passage of this bill is a necessary step to take in order to improve the lives of pet animals in Hawaii, and I urge you to support the passage of SB978 relating to the penal code.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

/s/Stacy Takekawa, Esq.

**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephanie Docekal	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Steven Prieto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please help residents of Hawaii end animal cruelty and the inhumanity of "puppy mills"

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stuart CLithero	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Rather than a year in jail I would also support having them spend a week in a tiny outdoor cage with no bedding, putrid water, minimal food and nowhere to defecate or urinate. I doubt they would ever treat an animal that way again.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sybil Hamada	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tammy Uy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Animal abuse is an indication of how that particular abuser would treat another human. I have been a victim of abuse — and my abuser didn't think twice about hurting our animals. Please help put a stop to this. In addition to the animals, it is about strengthening the community. Thank you.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tanya David	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Animals have just as much of a right to live on this earth and in our society. We as humans and advocates of liberty and freedom should punish those who act against those founding principles.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tiffany Siegfried	Hawaiian Humane Society	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tina Kimmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tracy Shigemura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Val Hironaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Valerie Miehlsstein	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Vernon Ling	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Violet Iuta	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Warren C. Amaral	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rhegan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ROBERT SOUZA	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dorian K. Lovell	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: IN STRONG AND UNWAVERING SUPPORT!!! PLEASE PASS THIS BILL--IN NO OTHER STATE THAN OURS WOULD A LEVEL OF NEGLECT & CRUELTY BE TOLERATED AS IT IS IN OURS!! LET OUR VOICE BE HEARD--AND MAKE A RESENTENCING OCCUR FOR ABUSERS OF ANIMALS SUCH AS THE LANDMARK WAIMANALO PUPPY MILL CASE OF 2 YRS AGO!! THOSE ACTS OF DEATH & ATROCITIES AGAINST ANIMALS WENT TOTALLY AND SHAMEFULLY UNPROSECUTED JUSTLY--WHAT MESSAGE DOES THAT SEND THE ENTIRE STATE OF HAWAII??? IT SENDS THE MESSAGE THAT "GO ON, ABUSE & NEGLECT ANIMALS--NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO YOU--YOU WILL GO AWAY UNSCATHED...FURTHER, YOU CAN KEEP ON GOING WITH IT"... ENOUGH ALREADY...ENOUGH!

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Katy Gassaway	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shari	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jasmine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brent Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristen Hightower	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Animal cruelty almost always precedes human cruelty. Protect the innocent and punish the offenders!

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brandy Straatman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
leslie takaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Margaret_Helen Jones	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Our animal friends supply us all with unconditional love. They deserve the same from us! What perfect creatures they are. Penalties for those who do not "get" this should suffer the same fate our precious furry and feathered friends do. I support you completely!

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barb Janoski	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Animals, especially those in puppy mills, are helpless until humans look out for their welfare. Please pass this bill, so incarceration of those who mistreat animals will be long enough and harsh enough to PREVENT abuse of animals.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lauren Carson	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Please pass this law. We must be the voice for the innocent who don't have a voice. It's the right thing to do.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Weiling Tseng	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Terry Joiner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dennis Y. Fujii	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I wholeheartedly support SB 978 as amended to prosecute anyone who mistreats animal as a criminal.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Emiko Tanaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Victoria Sandoval	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carolyn Knoll	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Shoma	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brandy Varvel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerrit Osborne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Anyone who has seen the victim of animal abuse will certainly vote for this bill. It is, in my estimation, a "no brainer."

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Deborah Wilson	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I strongly support this bill which purpose is to protect animals .

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alexis Dehesa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann Marie Kirk	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Support SB 978

03/22/2013, 2:00PM, Conference Room #325

To: Committee on Judiciary  
Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Rep. Sharon E Har, Vice Chair

From: Casey Hewes

Re: Support Bill SB 978

I am writing as an individual in strong support of SB 978.

As a citizen of the great state of Hawaii I am very troubled by fellow citizens that think it's permissible to abuse multiple animals. We must take a stand and show all citizens that the state of Hawaii is one of compassion and is animal friendly.

I would like to put a stop to this practice as quickly as possible for the sake of the animals and the citizens of Hawaii. As a devoted pet owner I simply can't imagine subjecting my pet to abuse. I hope you can help me stop other pets from this malicious treatment.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Casey Hewes". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Casey Hewes  
(808) 454 - 7381  
caseyh246@gmail.com

**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
diane blastic	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Fawn Liebengood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Francia Hamnett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ginger Chock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Iris Iwami	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
JOHNNY KELLY	Individual	Support	No

Comments: PLEASE PASS THIS BILL!

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Judith Mick	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is time for Hawaii to take a strong stand against animal cruelty. We simply must speak for those who can not speak for themselves. It is pono to do so. Mahalo.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Diana Woods	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I understand animal cruelty is a key indicator of indifference to human suffering as well. Therefore no culture should support animal cruelty by failing to significantly punish offenders.

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Submitted on: 3/21/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelly Boudreau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I was appalled last year when David Lee Becker was able to walk free after the short and long-term harm he had done to numerous innocent animals. Anyone who's viewed the pictures of the poor dogs at that puppy mill can see the sadness and suffering in their eyes. It is our responsibility, as a community, to stand up for them. This law, requiring mandatory jail time for animal cruelty, is the least we can do to hold those responsible for such abuse accountable and attempt to decentivize others who may not care about the welfare of these animals.

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Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Loriann Kira	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/21/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maja Clark	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill is needed as a further deterrent against acts of animal cruelty. If a perpetrator's conscience alone cannot prevent the cruel act, one can hope that cognizance of harsher consequences will. I urge you to pass this Bill on behalf of countless innocent animals who need our protection. Thank you.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Margaret Sueoka	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this law. We need laws that will give our animals greater protection.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
margene ayers	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Markl	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hello: Your support makes the difference of making accountable an abuser to innocent creature so hopefully they will have to be accountable for their cruelty rather than get away with that cruelty cycle. Again you are the only hope of those that cannot speak and get help and who endure horrors. Please step up to stop this and make them accountable. No feeling beings ever deserve this. Your vote and help to make this law makes this a safer place for all. Thank you.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mato, Charlene	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mi Kosasa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please continue your good work in protecting the lives of our animal friends who depend on us all the time.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nanci Kosten	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Raychel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Janoski	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Punishment for animal abusers needs to be severe.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments: "As a culture we would like to believe that we have outgrown our tolerance for the deliberate torture and murder of innocents." .Research tells us that animal abuse is a prelude to abuse of family member or other human violence. I believe that imposing a prison sentence before the behavior escalates to harming people would be prudent.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Woo-Schaffer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: One year is not enough, but better than nothing.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Suyin Phillips	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tiffany Sugawara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Vivian S. Toellner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support the humane treatment of animals. Cruelty cannot be allowed. We humans suffer too, if we allow this to happen. Respect for life needs to be a priority in our society.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William Harris, M.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David McArthur	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this important bill..... Mahalo

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeanne Joiner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
May Tyrrell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
anna meng	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dallas Marie Cabalse	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support SB 978.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dawn Yadao	Individual	Support	No

Comments: ONE animal subjected to cruelty is a crime! Abuse is abuse, whether a person or a pet. Punishment of harming a dependant should be maximized in order to make it known it will not be tolerated and hopefully prevent it as much as possible.

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
debra barboza	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Judie Racine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
robert chaison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joanna Amberger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill because it imposes significant penalties for those who abuse innocent and helpless animals, which is unfortunately all too common in Hawaii. The penalty will give these abusers pause before they put these animals in these conditions.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tina Bounds	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I, Tina Bounds, strongly support SB978.

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Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrea Chow	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: How can anyone in their right mind condone cruelty to animals? Pass any bill that protects animals from Humans. Part of the profile for psychopaths is cruelty to animals. People in Hawaii do not want to be in the psychopath profile. We are for the most part a gentle bunch and respect the creatures with which we share the earth. Until there are significant consequences for those who are cruel to animals, this cruelty will continue. Boundaries and rules are required to prevent soulless, moneymongers from being cruel.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christine Russo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support SB978, as I believe harsher penalties definitely need to address animal cruelty.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ginger Towle	West Hawaii Humane Society	Support	No

Comments: This is the very least we should do!! We need to make people accountable for their actions!! We need to speak for those who cannot. There should be no questions about supporting this law, it is just common sense!! Ginger Towle, President, WHHS

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ginny Tiu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Please support SB978. We do need mandatory sentencing and cannot leave it to the discretion of the judge because unfortunately, we have judges like Glenn Kim, who so obviously had total disregard for the suffering inflicted on those dogs. He said the law did not require him to impose any penalty, and so I ask those of you who can change the law and offer some kind of justice and protection for these helpless and vulnerable creatures, to please do the humane thing for these animals. They have the same capacity for pain as we do. Thank you. Ginny Tiu

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jane Shiraki	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii continues to be listed in the top ten worst states for animal abuse laws in the 2012 annual report by ALDF (Animal Legal Defense Fund).[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/12/27/animal-cruelty-laws-2012-aldf\\_n\\_2316950.html#slide=1916276](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/12/27/animal-cruelty-laws-2012-aldf_n_2316950.html#slide=1916276) Past reports indicate some progress, as we are no longer listed in the worst 5. Why can't we be the best state instead of one of the worst? Animal abuse incidences are not a reflection of animals, it is a reflection of the people.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
mike moran	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Only licenses professionals perform operations for all species. period.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Bounds	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I, Robert Bounds, support SB978.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Victoria Anderso	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ron Gose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christina Kam	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ashley Albritton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eric Farris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jami Farris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dana Jones	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sandra L Tamashiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alice Saul	Individual	Support	No

Comments: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair Rep. Della Au Belatti Rep. Chris Lee Rep. Tom Brower Rep. Clift Tsuji Rep. Rida T.R. Cabanilla Rep. Jessica Wooley Rep. Mele Carroll Rep. Bob McDermott Rep. Ken Ito Rep. Cynthia Thielen Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami Dear Members of the Committee on Judiciary: I am writing with reference to SB978 to support its passage. This bill provides means that I consider the very least we can do to address instances of animal cruelty. If we don't recognize these as criminal acts with some measure of accountability on behalf of victims that can not protect themselves or speak on their own behalf, we seriously have to examine who we are as a community. Please pass this measure. Thank you.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 22, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Ewen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB978. Please pass into law.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 28, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gail Howell	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Animal abuse seems like a culture thing here- beside of all the roosters fights in my neiborhood in Waialua. I haved had my pets (cats) killed, shot, poison, hurt just by my neighbors cause they dont like cats nothing has been done I have save a few cats around my neighborhood, got many fixed and know one said Thank You- instaed now I have a 3 leg cat from being shot another one with a steel leg being shoot from my own backyard this needs to end- this ahs cost me tons of money but I love my pets and animals. where is the love for the animals? I have never lived in such a hated place before. Hawaii needs help!

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 28, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
khenn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/22/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 28, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
melissa davidson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/22/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 28, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jean Bennett	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

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I want to tell you a story to illustrate the support I have for the bill and why I support it from personal experience with some pretty rough characters from my days working offshore.

People do not change their behaviors unless "the pain of staying the same is GREATER than the pain of change".

If someone is abusing animals, they need a harsher wake up call that most of us feel is needed for us. There is no use reasoning with such persons!

I once had a situation at work: I worked on a ship with mostly all men (I was a female copilot) and one of the men was a real hardnosed guy. He just kept picking and picking at me day after day. I tried everything to get him to change what he was doing, to no avail. Then one day, I had had enough, and I got tough. I decided to give him a dose of his own medicine...with no anger or hatred, just a plain and simple objective lesson. I found the one thing that bothered him the most (in his case the fact that he could not pass the captain's tests). "For someone that cant pass a simple test, you sure have a big mouth!" I told him when he gave me that day's attack. He was struck- I actually did something to him, and stood up for what was right!

Do you know what? He stopped his behavior. He acted much better to me from then on. Years later, he actually told someone he respected me! I was floored to realize that some people have respect for only one thing: power. It is a realization that behavior has to have consequences. That comment from me pinpointing his weakness was power used judiciously.

A jail time is judicious use of power to someone who is base enough and low enough in their thinking to abuse animals. It may be the ONLY thing they respect.

**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/23/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 28, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
R. Sebastian	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Honorable Committee Members, I am a law enforcement officer for the state of hawaii. I strongly support this bill. We as humans should treat our pet animals with the same love, compassion as we treat others. I do not believe that there are cruel pets. Just cruel human masters. This bill is just a step forward to provide some form of safety, security, and a sense of humanity for those those who are victims of cruel acts. It gives a voice for the innocent voiceless. Please consider this quote from Ghandi "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way in which its animals are treated". We as a society should strive for that path. Thank you.

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 28, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Naomi Egami	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 28, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tish Rothwell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Poorly written legislation.

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**LATE**

**SB978**

Submitted on: 3/28/2013

Testimony for JUD on Mar 28, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ferol Kolons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Pass this bill and end inhumane animal cruelty once and for all.

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