
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO EXPLORE STRATEGIES TO ALLOW DOGS
IN PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS AND BARS.

1 WHEREAS, many jurisdictions on the mainland and in Europe
2 allow customers to bring dogs into restaurants and bars; and
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4 WHEREAS, a recent national poll found that more than ninety
5 per cent of pet owners considered their pets to be members of
6 their families; and
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8 WHEREAS, spending time with pets has been found to relieve
9 stress and anger and to have other positive health benefits; and
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11 WHEREAS, sixty per cent of Oahu households include pets,
12 and dog ownership has substantially increased over the last two
13 decades; and
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15 WHEREAS, Hawaii's dog owners seek opportunities to spend
16 quality time with their animals; and
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18 WHEREAS, an important concern for stakeholders is to ensure
19 the safety of service animals if dogs are allowed in restaurants
20 and bars; and
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22 WHEREAS, addressing food safety and health concerns is also
23 of primary importance; now, therefore,
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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
26 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
27 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
28 Health is requested to establish the Dogs in Restaurants and
29 Bars Working Group; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health and
2 the Disability and Communications Access Board is requested to
3 participate in the working group; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
6 requested to invite representatives from the following groups to
7 participate in the working group:
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- 9 (1) Hawaiian Humane Society;
- 10 (2) Humane Society of the United States;
- 11 (3) Hawaii Restaurant Association;
- 12 (4) Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association;
- 13 (5) American Kennel Club; and
- 14 (6) A restaurant that currently allows dogs; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dogs in Restaurants and
16 Bars Working Group is requested to explore strategies and
17 develop recommendations that would allow dogs to be welcomed in
18 participating restaurants and bars while ensuring the health and
19 safety of both humans and animals; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dogs in Restaurants and
22 Bars Working Group is requested to submit a report of its
23 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
24 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
25 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health
29 and the Executive Director of the Disability and Communication
30 Access Board; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health is
33 requested to transmit copies of this Concurrent Resolution to
34 the groups enumerated in this measure.
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