

HB493

HD1



Hawaiian Humane Society
People for animals. Animals for people.

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March 18, 2014

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony in Support of House Bill 493 HD1 Relating to Animal Cruelty—Snares and Trapping

The Hawaiian Humane Society supports the passage of House Bill 493 HD1. The purpose of the bill is to protect animals from snares, conibears and leg-hold traps. We find this unregulated means of trapping to be cruel and antiquated.

This law would protect animals in residentially zoned areas who otherwise could fall victim to snares, conibears and leg-hold traps. There are documented incidents where pet dogs and cats have chewed off their own limbs in an attempt to escape hence causing serious bodily injury or death.

We believe the states that already ban the use of steel-jaw traps as well as the 89 countries that prohibit their use are correct. In addition, the American Veterinary Medical Association and the American Animal Hospital Association oppose the use of these traps.

We encourage this committee to pass this bill. Thank you for accepting our testimony.

Mary Steiner
Policy Advocate