

**SB2026**

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 CLAYTON HEE, CHAIR**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR**  
**Twenty-Seventh State Legislature**  
**Regular Session of 2014**  
**State of Hawai'i**

January 24, 2014

**RE: S.B. 2026; RELATING TO ANIMAL CRUELTY.**

Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu submits the following testimony in support of S.B. 2026.

The purpose of S.B. 2026 is to prohibit the slaughtering of trafficking of dogs or cats for human consumption. The Department believes this statute would work hand-in-hand with existing animal cruelty laws, which already provide felony penalties for torture, mutilation or poisoning of "pet animals"— including dogs and cats—and equine animals. As a side note, we do note that the current definition a "pet animal," under HRS §711-1100, provides an exception where the animal is "bred for consumption." Should S.B. 2026 pass, we recommend that the Committee consider language to address this inconsistency.

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



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES



**HUMANE SOCIETY**  
INTERNATIONAL

To: Honorable Chair Hee and Committee Members  
Senate Judiciary Committee

January 24, 2014, 10am

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

**RE: STRONG SUPPORT FOR S.B. 2026 Relating to Animal Cruelty; Slaughter or Trafficking in Dogs or Cats**

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

- More than 60 percent of Hawaii households own dogs or cats who are considered “pets” and members of the family. The overwhelming majority of Hawaii residents abhor the practice of dog or cat slaughter for human consumption.
- Unlike farm animals who are bred and raised for consumption, dogs and cats who are slaughtered and subsequently sold for consumption are often lost or stolen pets or acquired from the internet or free to good home advertisements.
- Unlike farm animals, neither the United States Department of Agriculture nor the Hawaii Department of Agriculture recognizes nor regulates the slaughter or sale of dogs and cats. There is no provision in our state or federal constitution that protects any rights relating to the slaughter or consumption of dogs or cats as a recognized cultural practice or as a protected individual right.
- Despite our strong anti-cruelty laws, dog slaughter for human consumption continues to occur across Hawaii as current law requires that the perpetrator be caught in the act of killing the dog or cat. Furthermore, there is no law that expressly prohibits the selling, breeding, raising, transporting, trafficking or consumption of dog or cat meat.
- The proposed law, and its “possession with intent” language, would provide local law enforcement and local humane societies the tools necessary to investigate reports of dog slaughter or trafficking. Last year there were 2 incidents of dogs being decapitated with their feet removed, a method used to prepare a dog for consumption. Suspects have yet to be identified in either case.
- The Philippines (1998), Taiwan (2001) and Hong Kong (1950) have long prohibited the trade in dog meat. Our Humane Society International is currently working with the Governments of Thailand and Vietnam to prohibit the transfer or transport of dogs for the commercial dog meat trade. In the U.S., New York, New Jersey, California and other states explicitly prohibit the sale or consumption of dog (or cat) meat.

- Slaughtering dogs and cats also poses public health risks to people. While rabies is the most common vector (not present in Hawaii), toxoplasmosis, e-coli and other infectious bacterial and zoonotic diseases can be transferred to humans when slaughtering dogs or cats.

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

For more information please see:

<http://www.envirowatch.org/Koko1.htm>

[http://www.hsi.org/issues/dog\\_meat/#id=album-216&num=content-3710](http://www.hsi.org/issues/dog_meat/#id=album-216&num=content-3710)

[New law needed to stop dog meat trade in Hawaii - Mauinews.com ...](#)

[Stop the cruelty of dog meat trade in Hawaii - Mauinews.com | News ...](#)

<http://archives.starbulletin.com/2007/12/19/news/story02.html>

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2026 on Jan 24, 2014 10:00AM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 22, 2014 7:27:58 PM

---

**SB2026**

Submitted on: 1/22/2014

Testimony for JDL on Jan 24, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

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

Comments:

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [care4petservices@yahoo.com](mailto:care4petservices@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2026 on Jan 24, 2014 10:00AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 21, 2014 10:44:40 PM

---

**SB2026**

Submitted on: 1/21/2014

Testimony for JDL on Jan 24, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

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

Comments: I STRONGLY support SB2026. Please do the right thing and prohibit the slaughtering or trafficking of DOGS & CATS for human consumption.

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)