
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO EXAMINE THE
FEASIBILITY OF BOTH DECOMMISSIONING AND RELOCATING THE
ANIMAL QUARANTINE STATION IN HALAWA VALLEY.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is the only state in the nation that is
2 rabies-free; and

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4 WHEREAS, current Department of Agriculture rules require
5 dogs, cats, and other carnivores originating from the United
6 States and other non-exempted areas, upon arrival in the State,
7 to be confined to a quarantine station for a period up to one
8 hundred twenty days to prevent the introduction of rabies to the
9 State; and

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11 WHEREAS, animals can be quarantined in the Department of
12 Agriculture-operated animal quarantine station in Halawa Valley
13 or in State-approved animal hospitals; and

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15 WHEREAS, there is a history of complaints and concerns
16 relating to the adequacy and upkeep of the animal quarantine
17 station in Halawa Valley; and

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19 WHEREAS, a 2015 article in Honolulu Civil Beat reported
20 that of the pets arriving in Hawaii that require being
21 quarantined, only about ten per cent are housed at the animal
22 quarantine station; and

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24 WHEREAS, the nearly forty acres of land and facilities that
25 make up the animal quarantine station in Halawa Valley may be
26 better suited for purposes other than animal quarantine; and

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28 WHEREAS, other locations in the State may be better suited
29 to quarantine animals coming into the State; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
3 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
4 Agriculture is requested to examine the feasibility of both
5 decommissioning and relocating the animal quarantine station in
6 Halawa Valley, and determining the most suitable course of
7 action; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as part of its examination, the
10 Department of Agriculture consider:

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- 12 (1) Which locations, if any, would be more suitable for an
13 animal quarantine station than the current station at
14 Halawa Valley;
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 - 16 (2) Other Department of Agriculture divisions that could
17 utilize the land and facilities at the animal
18 quarantine station in Halawa Valley;
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 - 20 (3) What actions are needed to decommission the animal
21 quarantine station at Halawa Valley;
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 - 23 (4) What actions are needed to establish and operate an
24 animal quarantine station at a new location;
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 - 26 (5) The amount of time needed to decommission the animal
27 quarantine station at Halawa Valley and subsequently
28 establish and operate an animal quarantine station at
29 a new location; and
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 - 31 (6) How the animals being quarantined at the time of
32 decommissioning would be affected and transferred if
33 the animal quarantine station at Halawa Valley were to
34 be decommissioned; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
37 report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
38 legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior
39 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
42 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
43 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, and the Program Manager
44 of the Animal Quarantine Branch.

