

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
JUDICIARY**

**Friday, February 26, 2016
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2245
RELATING TO ANIMALS**

House Bill 2245 proposes to increase penalties for animal desertion. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

Hawaii's native species evolved over millions of years in an environment devoid of human-introduced animals such as cats and dogs. The release of such animals when no longer wanted as pets, presents a clear threat to Hawaii's native wildlife. Today, 28% of all threatened and endangered species in the United States are located in Hawaii, and 78% of all United States species extinctions have occurred in Hawaii. Discouraging the release of non-native animals into the environment is a necessary component of wildlife conservation in Hawaii.

The Department notes that this measure is complementary to additional legislation this session that would prohibit the feeding and care of unrestrained predators (Senate Bill 2905, Senate Bill 2450, House Bill 2376, and House Bill 2118). A primary impact of these measures is prohibiting the release and care for feral cats. Together, these measures would reduce new introductions into feral cat colonies and prohibit the maintenance of colonies on state lands. The Department supports House Bill 2245 as a disincentive to the release of unwanted pet cats or feral cats.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

February 26, 2016
2:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

HOUSE BILL 2245
RELATING TO ANIMALS

Chairperson Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2245. The bill establishes penalties should a person be found guilty of deserting an animal in their possession and as a result of that desertion, the animal suffers death or substantial bodily injury. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture supports this bill.

Stronger penalties will deter animal abandonment and the potential impact of that action on the health of the animal and the cost to the community. In addition, the Department recommends that the language of the measure be amended to include "the injury and death of livestock caused by abandoned dogs." Abandonment of dogs can lead to feral pack formation that cause significant harm to livestock and wildlife.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Judiciary
Hearing: Friday, February 26, 2016 2 pm
Room 325

In Support of HB 2245 Relating to Animals

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Members of the Committee,

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 2245, which increases penalties for animal desertion. Deserting unwanted cats, dogs, rabbits, and other pets is not only cruel and a threat to human health and safety, it also contributes to the feral animal population and predation of native birds and other species.

Please support HB 2245. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler

Telephone/Fax: 808.593.0255 | email: info@conservehi.org | web: www.conservehi.org
P.O. Box 2923 | Honolulu, HI 96802 | Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 220 | Honolulu, HI 96814

President: Julie Leialoha | Vice President: Koalani Kaulukukui | Secretary: Wayne Tanaka
Treasurer: Ryan Belcher | Directors: Rick Barboza | Anne Huggins Walton
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters



HB2245; animal desertion,

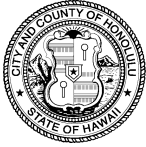
Dear Chair Karl Rhoads and House Judiciary Committee legislators:

Supporters of HAWAII CAT FOUNDATION urge you to support HB 2245, re animal desertion. It raises penalties for the intentional abandonment of a pet animal. Pets depend on people for care and compassion. Abandoned pets may suffer from starvation, injury or cruelty, and need our protection. As a non-profit rescue organization, we have sadly seen too many unfortunate cases of abandoned pet animals. Pets deserve responsible care by their human family, and should never be discarded like trash or left to fend for themselves.

Thank you for your compassion for animals and strong support of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Christin Matsushige, President
HAWAII CAT FOUNDATION
1000 Bishop St Ste 1200
Honolulu HI 96813



MILILANI/ WAIPIO/ MELEMANU NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 25

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
PHONE (808) 527-5749 • FAX (808) 527-5760 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL AND THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LAWS THAT REDUCE EXCESSIVE MOPED NOISE

WHEREAS, there are reportedly more than 36,000 mopeds on Oahu; and

WHEREAS, neighborhood boards across Oahu have reported numerous complaints about excessive moped noise in their communities over the years; and

WHEREAS, excessive moped noise negatively impacts citizens' quality of life as well as the visitor experience, both of which are essential to our state's economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, the majority of excessive vehicle noise is generated by moped owners modifying their engine and/or muffler due to a lack of sufficient control measures and enforcement for this vehicle type; and

WHEREAS, while it is currently illegal to modify a moped exhaust system that increases its noise above the original manufacturer equipment, existing fines are negligible and there is no law allowing officers the ability to submit mopeds to inspections when there is reasonable cause to believe there is a violation; and

WHEREAS, mopeds are not required to display clearly identifiable license plates and, consequently, are difficult for concerned citizens to report them on infractions of law; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Transportation has adopted administrative rules to regulate moped safety inspections, which include within the scope excessive noise from exhaust systems, for counties that make them mandatory; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu does not require moped safety inspections, although its City Council has introduced Bill 83 (2015) to require such inspections; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Mililani/Waipio/Melemanu Neighborhood Board No. 25 requests the Honolulu City Council to adopt Bill 83 (2015) to require annual safety inspections of mopeds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board requests the Hawaii State Legislature to authorize police departments the ability to require moped owners to submit their vehicle to an





MILILANI/ WAIPIO/ MELEMANU NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 25

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
PHONE (808) 527-5749 • FAX (808) 527-5760 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

inspection if there is reasonable cause to believe it is unsafe or not properly equipped as required by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board requests the Hawaii State Legislature to increase the fines for violations of motor and muffler modifications exceeding the manufacturer limits; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board requests the Hawaii State Legislature to statutorily distinguish mopeds from bicycles such that mopeds shall be required to display a clearly identifiable license plate, similar in size to motorcycles, as part of their registration; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City and County of Honolulu; the Director of the City and County Department of Transportation Services, Area legislators, the Director of the State Department of Transportation, and all neighborhood board chairs.

Adopted by Mililani-Waipio-Melemanu Neighborhood Board No. 25 at its regular meeting of January 27, 2016, by a vote of 19-2-1.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard G. Poirier".

Richard G. Poirier, Chair





Hawaiian Humane Society
People for animals. Animals for people.

2700 Waiālae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
808.356.2200 • HawaiianHumane.org

February 26, 2016

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony in Support of House Bill 2245 Relating to Animals

Representative Rhoads, Representative Buenaventura and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaiian Humane Society is pleased to offer this testimony in support of House Bill 2245, a bill that proposes to increase the penalties for animal abandonment.

No one knows the number of pets that are abandoned in Hawaii each year. What we do know is that it is cruel and inhumane. Increasing penalties and improving education are two ways to prevent animal abandonment and suffering. Please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Mary Steiner
Policy Advocate



improving the quality of lives of pets and their people.

Testimony by Alicia Maluafiti, President, Poi Dogs & Popoki
In strong support of HB 2245 Relating to Animals
House Committee on Judiciary
Friday, Feb. 26, 2:00 pm, Room 325

Aloha Chair Rhoads and members of the committee,

My name is Alicia Maluafiti, President of Poi Dogs & Popoki (PDP), and I am testifying in strong support of HB 2245 which increases penalties for animal abandonment. I have been involved in animal rescue for almost 20 years. I was a Director at Hawaiian Humane Society and a founder and president of Oahu Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals before I started PDP.



For those of us doing rescue, animal abandonment is a regular part of our lives. On an evening in Ewa Beach when we were trapping cats to be sterilized at a local beach part, a truck pulled up and the driver got out with a basket and dumped a cat into the parking lot. The cat had a collar but no microchip. We confronted the man and he admitted it was his neighbor's cat. Two years ago, I got a call that 2 mastiff-mix dogs were sitting on the side of the road in Barber's Point – at the same spot every day. They had been there for 3 months and people were feeding them. Typical of dumped dogs – they were waiting for their owner to return. Lucy and Linus now weigh over 100 pounds each and are still with me. Just recently, we picked up a very emaciated pit bull at the golf course. Although microchipped, his owners' contact information was not current. Ozzie is currently living with me and recovering from his ordeal.



And in January, a woman dumped a mommy dog and her puppy on Paakea Rd. in Nanakuli – tying the mommy to the fence but allowing the puppy to roam on a busy road where many animals are often hit. The owner of the property (a PDP board member) had surveillance cameras and was able to get the make of the car and license plate number). Within hours after posting photos of the car and the dogs all over social, we had the name and address of the owner of the car and found out she DID own these dogs and DID dump them in Nanakuli. Hawaiian Humane Society was called and the woman was cited. We are supporting the prosecution of this woman to deter other people from dumping animals but we need greater penalties as well along with a mandate for microchip identification to track down irresponsible owners.

PDP ends up covering the health care expenses of all these animals that we rescue which has a financial impact on us. While the toll on their lives has been an emotional one, we will continue to care for them because the alternative is likely euthanasia. And while some may be sick or face serious health challenges, we believe they deserve better. At a minimum – they deserve shelter from the elements, fresh water and food, and a little TLC after struggling to survive.

Please help us hold these people accountable for their lack of compassion and caring. Mahalo for your consideration.



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

**TO: Honorable Chair Rhoads and Vice-Chair San Buenaventura
House Judiciary Committees
February 26, 2pm**

**FROM: Inga Gibson, Hawaii Senior State Director, The Humane Society of the
United States, igibson@humanesociety.org, 808.354.3211**

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB2245; Relating to animals, pet abandonment

On behalf of The Humane Society of the United States members and supporters across Hawaii we urge your support of HB2245, which would increase the penalties for the intentional abandonment of a pet animal, and your consideration of a clarifying amendment below.

Pets depend on people for care and compassion. Abandoned pets can become the victim of starvation, disease, injury, death or cruelty. Abandoned pets who are unsterilized may also reproduce and contribute to pet overpopulation, which increases the financial burden on animal care and control agencies and taxpayers. Abandoned pets, such as hunting dogs, have been known to harm native wildlife. Further, in looking at abandonment laws across the nation, Hawaii's law is one of the weakest in the nation, only a petty misdemeanor with a fine of \$50. Other states classify abandonment as a misdemeanor or even a felony.

The purpose of this measure is to encourage pet owners who must find a home for their pet to work with local shelters and rescue groups on rehoming options, and not to simply abandon or desert their pets. Pets are family members and there are resources to help keep pets in their home and strengthen the human-animal bond.

We appreciate the committee's consideration of the below clarifying amendment that desertion shall not apply to the release of an animal as part of a population management program, which has the intent of helping the animals. While caregivers conducting trap-neuter-return management programs return to care for their animals, this amendment would further protect wildlife rehabilitators who may release animals as part of a population management program.

"[+]§143-2.6[+] **Animal desertion.** (a) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any animal or any person in possession of an animal that belongs to another person to leave the animal without the intention of returning to it.

(b) Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor[+] and subject to a fine of \$1,000 in addition to any other penalties; provided that if, as a result of the desertion,

the animal suffers death or substantial bodily injury, the person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a penalty of \$2,000 in addition to any other penalties; provided further that each violation shall constitute a separate offense ~~per animal~~."

(c) this section shall not apply to the release of an animal as part of a population management program.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Aloha,

I would like to submit my support of HB2245, which penalizes those caught deserting their pets. I assist with a feral cat colony (and earlier on submitted testimony opposing SB2450), and a huge part of the problem with the numbers of cats are those who dump their unneutered pets. It is an awful thing to do to your pet, and really spikes the number of feral animals all over the state. If this is addressed, all while making it easier and cost effective to neuter pets, the population increases in feral animals will decrease, as long as the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) efforts are also supported. A HUMANE solution is what I and many others are hoping and working towards.

Mahalo for your time.

Lee A. Cuccia

Kailua, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 12:02 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: stacey88s@Yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stacey Spirz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: People dump their animals knowing there are not stiff fines, that Hawaii lacks laws for our animals. It's time to change that and make these people have to pay for letting go their animal on the side of the road.

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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 11:50 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: ollo1188@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support increasing penalties for pet abandonment and an increased focus on enforcement. Many of Hawaii's compassionate citizens devote A LOT of time and \$ rescuing these abandoned animals. Pet abandonment has become an epidemic..... that needs to stop!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 4:36 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: sawonglaw@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM*

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandie Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 3:51 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: bizkellam@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM*

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Kellam	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 7:28 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: rkush98@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM*

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randall Kushima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 9:53 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: sue@kauaibeach.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill to increase penalties for the intentional abandonment of a pet. I witness the abandonment of cats on Kauai frequently. Rather than take the time to do the right thing and fix their pets people just dump the wanted kittens. The homeless cat situation is serious and can only be resolved by neutering animals and stoping the flow into neighborhoods and parks.

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To: Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair
Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair

Date: February 23, 2016

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Dee Morikawa
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Richard P. Creagan	Rep. Gregg Takayama
Rep. Mark J. Hashem	Rep. Justin H. Woodson
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Chris Lee	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

From: Wayne Niide

Subject: HB 2245

I respectfully ask that you support House Bill 2245.

The abandonment of animals, mostly dogs and cats contribute to increased animal control costs, animal suffering, overpopulation and increased euthanasia at local animal shelters. Abandoned animals are often subject to illness, injury, starvation, disease, attacks by other animals, and even worst targeted by human cruelty. Abandoned animals may also harm native wildlife. Stronger penalties are needed to encourage pet owners to work with local shelters, animal control contractors and Trap Neuter Return Manage (TNRM) programs. This will provide a humane means by which a pet can be re-homed, strengthen pet retention and the human-animal bond, and protect pet owners and the animals themselves.

Thank you for your support!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 8:15 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: shilohtech@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shiloh Francis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. It is extremely important to increase the penalties for animal abandonment in order to deter animal abandonment. Additionally, there needs to be a way to crack down on the animal abandonment that happens with proper surveillance.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 8:08 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: jamisona@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alexis E. Jamison	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. The pet overpopulation on this island is exacerbated by those who abandon their animals. Many people will just dump unwanted cats, dogs, kittens, and puppies for other people to deal with. Many of these animals are unsterilized, which leads to new litters, and new animals needing assistance from the local shelters and good samaritans. Animal abandonment is cruel and needs to be punished to the fullest extent of the law. In addition, the government should seriously consider putting up surveillance cameras in areas that have high amounts of animal abandonment, in order to ensure that animal abandonment can be punished. Without adequate surveillance or proof of abandonment, it will be very difficult to impose penalties. Thank you for your time.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 7:53 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Moran	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha JUD committee- Mike Moran from Kihei in strong support this Friday 2/26 for HB2245 Forget manaini fines- how strong can we make this? \$1000. fine?- jail time? Please wake up this humans who do not get what pono means. Mahalo, Mike

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 11:04 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: aasato645@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM*

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alyssa Asato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 10:51 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: darolee@hoeisf.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darolee Prewitt	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Increasing penalties for intentional abandonment is a great start to decreasing the amount of feral animals in Hawaii. Please pass this bill

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 12:21 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: viviansuet@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vivian S. Toellner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, From SB 2512: Animal desertion. (a) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any animal or any person in possession of an animal that belongs to another person to leave the animal without the intention of returning to it. (b) Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor[;] and subject to a fine of \$1,000 in addition to any other penalties; provided that if, as a result of the desertion, the animal suffers death or substantial bodily injury, the person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a penalty of \$2,000 in addition to any other penalties; provided further that each violation per animal shall constitute a separate offense." Would also add, community service to animal rescue groups, sanctuaries, and shelters. Let them see the suffering their actions cause; and the dedicated people volunteering to ease animal suffering and pain. In other words, educate, make aware of the harm their actions cause and the community expense. Please also support low cost / no cost spay/neuter and humane education State wide, for a true long lasting solution ! Aloha & Mahalo, Most Sincerely,

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 12:44 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: tonyhunstiger@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tony hunstiger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill is a needed protection for pet animals. It provides legal consequences for those irresponsible pet owners who intentionally abandon animals in their care. The humane treatment of animals is a cornerstone of a civilized society. We must embrace and support this bill in order to protect the islands pet animals. Thank you for your support.

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Aloha,

I, Ocean Ramsey, a resident of the state of Hawaii and a pet owner am in support of:

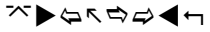
HB2245; animal desertion, raises penalties for the intentional abandonment of a pet animal.

Pets depend on people for care and compassion. Abandoned pets may suffer from starvation, injury or cruelty, and need our protection. Please pass this legislation to encourage people to take the responsibility they should already have taken when they purchased or adopted a pet. Please help stop animal cruelty and encourage people to be better citizens and stewards.

Mahalo nui loa,

Ocean Ramsey

waterinspired@yahoo.com



Dear Representatives:

Too many insensitive and immoral people are abandoning pets all over Hawaii. This creates problems. I am fully in favor of increased penalties and stronger enforcement. I do not want Hawai`i to be known as 'the heartless state.'
This bill goes in the right direction.

Edwin Frank Golinski Lesperance
Retired Cultural Anthropologist
aka Ka`onohi`ula`okahōkūmiomio`ehiku
Disabled Vietnam Combat Veteran

spirit@hawaii.rr.com



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 1:53 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: carolinesdelano@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM*

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Delano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

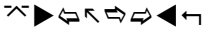
Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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To whom it may concern,

I believe increasing penalties for individuals who abandon the pets would be the first step to solve Hawaii's cat overpopulation problem as well as one more step to fight animal cruelty. I strongly support this bill.

Best Regards,
Laura Jakubaityte
Hawaii resident and animal rights supporter



Please support this bill. It is important on several levels. Until we learn, as a society, to be accountable for our treatment of others - both human and non-human animals - we will fail to grow. When members of society feel that it is acceptable, i.e. there is no accountability for abandoning a living creature that they formerly chose to keep as part of their family, then such irresponsible and reckless behavior will continue. This bill represents the necessity of educating people that living creatures are not disposable items, and that there will be consequences for refusing to take responsibility for their actions, and as such it benefits all of us. Thank you.

Alex Loefstedt

Aloha,

I am in support of bill HB2245 that increase the penalties for intentional abandonment of pets. As a pet owner of 2 wonderful cats, I do NOT support the dumping of animals at public place or anywhere, when we have support systems in place to assistance. Many people disregard animals in the process of relocation or because they do not have adequate training to live in a current household.

Please leverage stricter penalties on those who think is it OK to dump pets like trash

Mahalo, Anjanette Thomas

I support increased penalties for those who abandon pets. I work with a colony at a business next to military housing and have had multiple friendly cats dumped at the colony. It is unfair to the animal and the burden is shifted to the colony caregiver who has stabilized through fixing all the cats. People who have dumped cats and have been caught have said they are afraid the humane society will put them down. Abandonment is a social problem and requires outreach to reduce.

I fully support HB2245 and hope you will as well.

Thank you
Jessica Dunn

Moanalua Area



Please support this bill. I'm ashamed of Hawaii due to the huge amount of abandonment (I do rescue so I see it all the time and I have rescued many dogs that were "dumped", as we call it in rescue) and weak laws regarding animals.

Abandoning a pet is the same as a human abandoning a human baby (to the pet). The pet considers their humans as their family.

Rosemary Karlsson
PO Box 492266
Keaau, HI 96749
808-966-6589



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 2:24 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM*

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Please support this important piece of legislation. Too many pets get abandoned by their owners here in the islands. Cat populations have exploded because people simply dump them when they become inconvenient, and let's face it the current laws deter no-one. The current fifty dollar petty misdemeanor is a complete joke. This bill needs to be passed so people actually have a penalty when they abandon their pets. I urge you to support HB2245

Tim Dow



Dear Sir or Madam,

Please accept my support for this bill.

Karen Delfo



Aloha ~

I don't think it needs to be said that we are responsible to take care of more vulnerable species, who cannot speak for themselves. Who would turn a vulnerable child out on the streets? No one with kindness and decency in their hearts, and the same is true for animals. Let's all rise to the higher place of humanity that does unto other species what we would wish to be done for ourselves in the same situation -- protection, compassion, safety, meeting of basic needs.

Thank you for supporting this bill that helps take care of animals and makes us better people for having passed it.

Linda Leveen

Aloha Representatives- Next to outright physical abuse, what could be worse than abandoning a helpless animal? Pretty much nothing I can think of. Over the past 40 years, my family has rescued numerous dogs that became special members of our ohana. Two in particular, who were both found wandering near the Kailua Dump and in need of medical care, became extra special. They just needed love and attention and spent the next 15 or so years with us welcoming others (human, canine, and feline) into our home. We have a really bad problem in Hawaii that needs attention now. I hope you will find in your hearts to stand up for those beings who need your help.

Judy Mick

SUPPORTING Testimony for HB 2245

HB2245

Measure Title: RELATING TO ANIMALS.

Report Title: Animal Desertion; Penalties; Fines

Description: Increases penalties for animal desertion.

Companion: [SB2512](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: JUD

Introducer(s): HASHEM, ICHIYAMA, KEOHOKALOLE, LOPRESTI, TAKAYAMA, YAMASHITA

I am writing to **SUPPORT** HB2245 that will increase penalties for animal desertion.

Animal desertion is the lowest of the low and people who abandon their animals have a special place in hell waiting for them.

Abandoned animals that were once pets are left outside to fend for themselves. They do not have any food source and are basically left to die from starvation and disease. People who abandon their animals need to be caught and prosecuted with stiff fine or jail time.

Please pass HB 2245. Thank you very much for your support!

Julie Chen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 1:18 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: lyreb777@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/25/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
beryl	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The only way to curb the feral population of dogs and cats is to stop the abandonment of animals. Without stronger penalties, irresponsible people will continue to "drop off" unwanted pets leaving them to suffer and die. Hawaii needs to be more compassionate towards these animals and support the true victims.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 7:42 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: crr@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM*

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
carole richelieu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 7:18 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: Navaroh001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Helene P Navaro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly support HB2245. In order to curtail overpopulation of animals living on the street whether cats or dogs, this is a Great First Step. Please help the homeless animals by approving this so very important Bill HB2245. Pets Abandonments should be fine with heavy penalties and considering it a serious crime for repeat offenders. Thank you for your consideration.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 2:50 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: octopus@maui.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM*

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rene Umberger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 5:17 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: vanderso@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

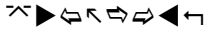
Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please strongly support this bill!

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FW: HB2245; animal desertion

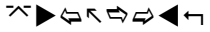
Aloha,

Please vote to raise penalties for intentional animal desertion in Hawaii. There is too much abuse of innocent animals here, it is appalling to see them in the streets. Please help ease the suffering by holding people accountable.

Thank you,

Suzanne Stjern



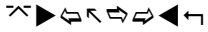


FW: JUD 2-26-16 HB2245 Support

I strongly support HB2245. Abandoned pets have learned to depend on people for food - they cannot fend for themselves. Shelters on Oahu alone take in tens of thousands of stray animals every year, creating a large financial burden and serious animal welfare issue. Mahalo.

Carolyn Naun, D.V.M., Arms of Aloha LLC: Pet Hospice , Pain Management , and In-home Euthanasia
armsofaloha.com | 435-3006 | Find us on [Yelp](#) and [Facebook](#)





FW: JUD 2-26-16 HB2245 Support

I support this bill HB2245 animal desertion.

HB2245; animal desertion, raises penalties for the intentional abandonment of a pet animal. Pets depend on people for care and compassion. Abandoned pets may suffer from starvation, injury or cruelty, and need our protection (see [KITV](#) piece). **Chair Karl Rhoads' House Judiciary Committee is considering this bill Friday, February 26 at 2pm. Please email "JUD 2-26-16 HB2245 Support" to JUDTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov (*for those wishing to attend or testify, we'll be meeting**

NancyJ Hitzemann

nhitz@hawaii.rr.com

75-668 Koiula Place Kailua Kona HI 96740

808 329 4337



LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 9:21 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM*

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/25/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 6:41 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: michelle@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM

HB2245

Submitted on: 2/25/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Pillen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB 2245 as a way to deter animal cruelty.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2016 9:52 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: Lauryt.J@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2245 on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM



HB2245

Submitted on: 2/26/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 26, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Jakubaityte	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe increasing penalties for individuals who abandon the pets would be the first step to solve Hawaii's cat overpopulation problem as well as one more step to fight animal cruelty. I strongly support this bill.

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