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GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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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, March 18, 2016
2:00 pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

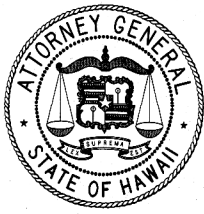
**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2512, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO ANIMALS**

Senate Bill 2512, Senate Draft 1 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 was complementary to additional legislation this session that would have prohibited the release, feeding and care of unrestrained predators (dogs, cats, mongoose, and rodents) on all state lands (Senate Bill 2905, Senate Bill 2450, House Bill 2376, House Bill 2118). A primary impact addressed in each of those measures is the release and care of feral cats. Together with Senate Bill 2512, Senate Draft 1, these measures would reduce new introductions into feral cat colonies and prohibit the maintenance of colonies on state lands. While the bills referring to feeding of predators are no longer active this session, the Department supports Senate Bill 2512, Senate Draft 1 as a disincentive for pet owners to contribute to cat colonies.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, 2016**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:
S.B. NO. 2512, S.D. 1, RELATING TO ANIMALS.

BEFORE THE:
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

DATE: Friday, March 18, 2016 **TIME:** 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 325

TESTIFIER(S): Douglas S. Chin, Attorney General, or
Landon M.M. Murata, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (“Department”) appreciates the intent of this bill and submits the following comments and proposed amendments.

The purpose of this bill is to increase the penalties for the offense of animal desertion in order to more adequately deter the conduct prohibited by section 143-2.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”). The bill essentially establishes two offenses under the general label “animal desertion;” one petty misdemeanor offense and one misdemeanor offense. In the bill, petty misdemeanor animal desertion does not represent any change from the current statute. Misdemeanor animal desertion occurs if, as a result of committing petty misdemeanor animal desertion, the animal suffers death or substantial bodily injury. The Department submits comments and proposed amendments addressing concerns with the clarity and enforceability of the bill.

Regarding the clarity of the bill, neither the bill nor the current statute is clear as to what is meant by the term “animal.” Chapter 143, HRS, does not define the term “animal” and it appears the term is only used in two places: (1) section 143-2.6 relating to animal desertion; and (2) section 143-2.5 relating to the authority of the counties to regulate animals other than dogs. The remaining sections of chapter 143 appear to regulate, address, or otherwise apply only to dogs. There are at least two other chapters in the HRS where the term “animal” is defined. In chapter 150A (Plant and Non-Domestic Animal Quarantine and Microorganism Import), HRS, “animal” is defined as “any invertebrate or vertebrate species of the animal kingdom including but not limited to mammal, bird, fish, reptile, mollusk, crustacean, insect, mite, and nematode,

other than common domestic animal such as dog and cat.” In chapter 711, HRS, the chapter where the animal cruelty statutes are located, “animal” is defined to include “every living creature, except a human being.” Both of these definitions appear to be broader and more inclusive than the drafters seem to intend given the first sentence in section 1 of the bill specifically mentions “primarily dogs and cats,” and the last sentence of that same paragraph uses the terms “pet” and “pet owner.”

With respect to the enforceability of the bill, the Department has two main areas of concern. First, there appears to be a disconnect between the wording in subsection (a), which remains unchanged from the current statute, and the amendments to subsection (b), which establish the misdemeanor animal desertion offense. Subsection (a) makes it unlawful for the owner or possessor on an animal to “leave the animal without the intention of returning to it.” The beginning of subsection (b) makes a violation of subsection (a) a petty misdemeanor. Subsection (b) goes on, however, to establish that “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.” While it appears that the “desertion” referred to in subsection (b) is the conduct described in subsection (a), the wording could be amended to eliminate this disconnect and avoid any confusion.

Second, the phrase “as a result of the desertion” itself creates a proof problem. In order to prevail on the misdemeanor animal desertion, the State would essentially have to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the “desertion” caused the death or substantial bodily injury of the animal. It is unclear as to under what circumstances desertion, by itself, could be said to result in or “cause” the death or substantial bodily injury of an animal. There could be any number of intervening acts or circumstances that would cause this result.

For the purposes of clarity and enforceability, the Department recommends the following changes be made to the bill, consistent with the drafter’s intent to establish both a petty misdemeanor and misdemeanor offense of animal desertion:

First, the Department recommends the entire section on animal desertion be moved from chapter 143 to chapter 711. Chapter 711 already has definitions for the terms “animal,” “equine animal,” and “pet animal.” Additionally, the offense of animal desertion seems to have more in common with the animal cruelty sections of chapter 711 than with the other sections of chapter

143. If animal desertion is moved to chapter 711 then, consistent with the intent of the drafters expressed in section 1 of the bill, the term “animal” can be replaced with the term “pet animal” that is defined in chapter 711 as “a dog, cat, domesticated rabbit, guinea pig, domesticated pig, or caged birds (passeriformes, piciformes, and psittaciformes only) so long as not bred for consumption.”

Second, the Department recommends subsection (a) should be amended to read: “It shall be unlawful for the owner [~~of any animal~~] or [~~any~~] person in possession of [~~an~~] any pet animal [~~that belongs to another person to leave the animal without the intention of returning to it.~~] to desert the pet animal.” A definition for “desert” should then be inserted into section 711-1100 to mean: “to leave without intending to return.” Subsection (b) should be amended to read: “Any person who violates [~~this section~~] subsection (a) shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor[-] and subject to a fine of not less than \$1,000 in addition to any other penalties.” A new subsection (c) should be inserted to read: “Any person who violates subsection (a) and recklessly causes the death or substantial bodily injury of the pet animal shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not less than \$2,000 in addition to any other penalties.” A new subsection (d) should be inserted to read: “Each pet animal deserted and each pet animal that suffers death or substantial bodily injury shall constitute a separate offense.”

Finally, to address situations where a pet animal may be legitimately released or surrendered, the Department recommends inserting the following subsection (e): “This section shall not apply to the release of pet animal as part of a population management program or the surrender of a pet animal to the Hawaiian Humane Society.”

The Department recommends that the above matters be considered and that the suggested changes be made in order to better promote the intent of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 5:03 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM*

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

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**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, March 18, 2016 2 pm
Room 325

In Support of SB 2512 SD 1 Relating to Animals

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

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SB 2512 SD 1, 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 SB 2512 SD 1. 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





Hawaiian Humane Society
People for animals. Animals for people.

2700 Waialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
808.946.2187 • hawaiianhumane.org

LATE

March 18, 2016

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol
Conference Room 325
425 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB 2512 SD1 Relating to Animals

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and Committee Members:

The Hawaiian Humane Society is pleased to offer this testimony in support of Senate Bill 2512 SD1, 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.

LATE

Testimony by Alicia Maluafiti, President, Poi Dogs & Popoki
In strong support of SB 2512 SD 1 Relating to Animals
House Committee on Judiciary
Friday, Mar. 18, 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 SB 2512 SD 1 which increases penalties for animal abandonment. I have been involved in animal rescue for almost 20 years, 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 at a local beach part to be sterilized as part of Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), 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 just a week ago, we rescued 10 puppies dumped in a box on the side of the road.



We are tired of the dumping. 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 media, 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.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 7:22 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: katc31999@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM*

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katarina Culina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 7:11 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: AKOE002@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM*

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Ako DVM	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SUPPORT OF ANIMAL ABANDONMENT BILLS

SB2512 and 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. Chair Karl Rhoads' House Judiciary Committee. Please email "JUD 2-26-16 HB2245 Support"

Name and Signature	City/Zip	Email
Adriana Camacho - Act.	Waikoloa 96738	itsjustad@comcast.com
Mike Towell / Mr. Towell	Kailua-Kona 96740	mike@telecomgroup.com
HARLEY SELLERS / Sellers	"	
Kelly Hanson	"	KTH764@gmail.com
LYDIA HOEPPNER	KAILUA KONA	LYDIASTOP@GMAIL.COM
PATTY LYNN - Lynn Bryn	HAWAII	Pattybeardsbeards@yahoo.com
PATTY LYNN Satterthorn	HAWAII	satterthornbeards@yahoo.com
Anthony Tomazio / Tomazio	Ocean View	ASmooth4Hawaii@comcast.com
Florence Akhbar / Akhbar	Kailua Kona	
Felicia / Felicia	Kailua-Kona 96740	
CRAVATTA CRAVATTA	KAMUELA	pets@kopelaximal.org
Molly Perednia / M. Perednia	Kamuela	mollyperednia@yahoo.com
Nancy H. Hitzeman	Kailua Kona 96740	nhitz@hawaii.vr.com
DINAH RODGER / Dinah Rodger	Kona	dinah_96740@yahoo.com
Rebecca Clancy / Rebecca Clancy	Waikoloa 96738	REBECCA@REBECCACLANCY.COM
TASI AUTELE / Tasi	Kona 96740	tasi@bigislanddegreeswe.org
Mindy Sue Weith	Waikoloa 96738	mindysueweith@gmail.com
Paula / Paula	Luna Kona 96741	
Capline Arzski / Arzski	Kapaau HI 96755	capline@arzski.net
Lisa DiNatale / DiNatale	Kailua Kona HI	dr.DiNatale.TL@comcast.com
Laruni Niskiyama / Niskiyama	HII 96720	laruniapplez@gmail.com
Ashleigh Beecham / Beecham	Capt. Cook, 96704	Ashleighbarn@ yahoo.com
Lisa Olivarez / Olivarez	Capt Cook, 96704	LisaO20@msn.com
Nancy Sakamoto / Sakamoto	Kailua-Kona 96740	Nancy.sakamoto@chre.com
Melinda Denzler / Denzler	Kailua Kona	denzler23@aol.com
Caroline Dinsow / Caroline Dinsow	Capt. Cook	Carolingdinsow@aol.com
Rebecca Pontes / Rebecca Pontes	Kailua Kona	
LAURA BOLLMAN	KK, HI 96740	lbollman@hawaii.earthlink.net
Dale Harrington / Harrington	Kailua Kona 96740	
ilene harrington / Harrington	Kona, 96740	

N. Hitzeman

Mindy Sue Weith

Laura Bollman

1/26/16

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 12:51 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: punalikeke3@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: I SUPPORT THIS BILL, SB2512

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 3:07 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM*

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/16/2016
Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 2:57 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM*

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/16/2016
 Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 7:57 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: vanderso@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Please support this important bill!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 8:38 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: shilohtech@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM*

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 8:37 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: jamisona@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: I strongly support this bill. Please protect our animals.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 7:28 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Aloha Chair & JUD Committee Please support. Purposely choosing to abandon a pet is inhumane. Human are supposed to be guardians . Increased penalties for the practice please. Mike Moran Maui

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 6:09 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: crr@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM*

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 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, March 16, 2016 3:57 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: sawonglaw@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: I support this measure. If anything, I would recommend that the fines be higher. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 3:45 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: octopus@maui.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM*

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

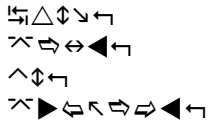
Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

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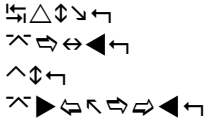
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Michele Rosenblum <mcrhawaii@hawaii.rr.com>
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 1:35 PM
JUDtestimony
HB2245/SB2512

Please vote to pass
HB2245/SB2512
For the sake of decency toward animals.
It is horrifying how some dogs are treated.
Thank you
Michele Rosenblum
Sent from my iPhone





Tim Dow <touchdown72@gmail.com>
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 1:25 PM
JUDtestimony
Support SB2521

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tim Dow <touchdown72@gmail.com>
Date: February 24, 2016 at 5:34:17 PM MST
To: "JUDTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov" <JUDTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>

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 SB2512

Mahalo,
Tim Dow
Waikiki



↑↑ ↖ ↗ ◀ ▶ ▽ ▹ ▸ ▹ ▸ ◀ ▶

⌘ △ ⬆ ⬇ ⬅
⌘ ◀ ▶ ◀ ▶ ◀ ▶
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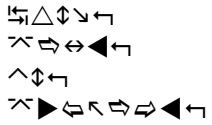
Rachel Siegfried <racheldsiegfried@gmail.com>
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 12:12 PM
JUDtestimony
3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2512; Pet Abandonment

Aloha,

I am in support of SB2512.

Thank you,

Rachel Siegfried

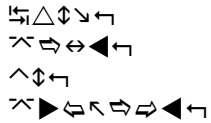


Sue Leonard <sl600sl@yahoo.com>
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 2:29 PM
JUDtestimony
3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2512; Pet abandonment

The key word is "intentional" abandonment. Owner should be cited and monies collected through whatever means, for intentional pet abandonment. Please support SB2512.

Sue Leonard
1425 Liliha Street #11D
Honolulu, HI 96817





Debbi <debbimahilum@yahoo.com>
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 2:31 PM
JUDtestimony
Support Bills HB2245/SB2512

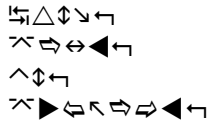
The cruelty of someone leaving their helpless animal chained or tied in a yard to languish and/or starve to death is beyond my comprehension. It is barbaric beyond belief and if they feel that is acceptable, then perhaps that be the requisite punishment for animal cruelty in this manner.

Clearly I am being sardonic to make a point. I would no more do this to an animal than a human; thus, I am unable to understand how ANYONE can abandon an animal. Whether it be on the side of the road or the end of the chain and it needs to be stopped AND eradicated as immediately as possible.

PLEASE support this bill so that we can take a step in the right direction and help those who depend on us to do so.

Sincerely,
Debbi Mahilum

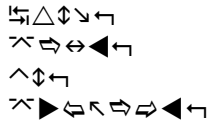




Karen Bryant Duncan <kalekaren@gmail.com>
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 4:41 PM
JUDtestimony
Support HB 2245/SB2512

It is unconscionable that people would abandon dogs to starve to death, and especially leaving these dogs chained or tied up. These dogs have a right to a decent & dignified life, as all creatures do. Dogs that are chained and tied up become aggressive and extremely possessive. It makes walking in the neighborhood uncomfortable. If people can not treat dogs properly, they should not have them. If they get them and abuse them, these people need to be punished. Dogs are social beings that need human companionship.

Karen Duncan
Laupahoehoe, HI 96764



Rosemary Karlsson <rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com>
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 5:27 PM
JUDtestimony
3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2512; Pet abandonment

Penalties for animal abandonment must be increased, it is the same as abandoning a baby or small child on the street. Anyone can call a rescue group to see if they can help, or take the pet to the public shelter. I have rescued many dogs dumped on the street. They are scared, they miss their family, they are confused, they don't understand why their family left them behind. There is nothing 'wrong' with them, they just had lousy 'owners'. I have rescued or fostered 90 dogs in 16 years so I speak from experience. One small dog I rescued was dumped in the woods, far from any house, she was found by someone riding a horse on a trail. The dog weighed 7 pounds and had 3 pounds of matted hair and poop on her (it filled a plastic grocery bag, and I weighed it), she could barely walk as the matted hair is like tying the legs together.

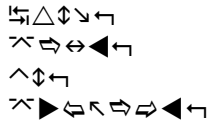
I support the Pets Are Welcome campaign to increase housing that allows pets. Pets are very comforting to almost everyone and help people deal with the stresses of everyday life. I have 3 senior rescue dogs (ages 10-16).

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



Hello Committee Members:

Please support this bill and use your influence to make it law this session. Imagine if you had a home, shelter, food, fresh water and attention and suddenly were dumped in an unfamiliar place. There would be deep shock, betrayal and terror on how to get these things, be safe and not get attacked or injured. It's not like they can just walk to the store and buy these things or a safe place. Many of them if they grew up indoors would not know instinctively any more that if we (who are also of the animal kingdom) were dumped in a distant hostile place with no resources. It would be terrifying. Really the bill should be amended to dump people who are so callous to do this, do it to them. At the very least, make steep fines and penalties for their coldheartedness. Please use your power to make Hawaii become a compassionate model for our fellow creatures. They were created by creation too and have as much right to be on this earth and treated with compassion as we do. Treat the cold hearted people coldheartedly who do such cruel behavior. Please pass this bill and only compassionate problemsolving bills for the animals, not ones that cause them to suffer any more. Thank you.



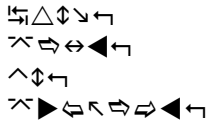
Cayla Martin <cayla.martin@student.chaminade.edu>
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 7:09 PM
JUDtestimony
3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2512; Pet abandonment

To whom it may concern,

Please support this important bill. Oftentimes, people do not realize the harm that they are inflicting on young dogs. They think that since the dog is young, it is strong. But really, this is not always the case. Animal abuse cases are centered around dogs way too often. But we can put a stop to that. Dogs are not meant to be chained up and left alone. They need interaction with humans and other animals too. They are social creatures and therefor do not deserve the punishment that so many people inflict on them. Once again, I urge you to support this bill.

Thank you.
Cayla Martin





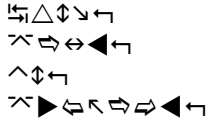
Maryann Overstreet <overst@hawaii.edu>
Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:08 AM
JUDtestimony
Please support SB 2512

Dear House Judiciary Chair Rhoads,

Please support "SB2512; Pet abandonment"!

Aloha,
Maryann Overstreet





Christina Higgins <cmhiggin@hawaii.edu>
Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:38 AM
JUDtestimony
3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2512; Pet abandonment

Please support bill SB2512; Pet abandonment

It is our moral imperative to protect animals; they are at our mercy and we can do better than what we are currently doing.

Christina Higgins
Professor
University of Hawaii at Manoa



LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:08 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: AKOE002@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM*

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/17/2016
Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Ako DVM	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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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 6:00 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: tonyhunstiger@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2512 on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM

SB2512

Submitted on: 3/17/2016
Testimony for JUD on Mar 18, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: I support this bill as it gives protection to helpless animals. These animals depend on the highest qualities in people for their survival. We must provide consequences for those who do not respect and provide for our "best friends."

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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LATE

SUPPORTING Testimony for SB2512 SD1

SB2512 SD1

Submit Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO ANIMALS.

Report Title: Animal Desertion; Penalties; Fines

Description: Increases penalties and establishes a fine for animal desertion. (SD1)

Companion: [HB2245](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: JUD, FIN

Introducer(s): RIVIERE, SHIMABUKURO, Keith-Agaran, Kim, L. Thielen

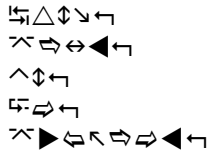
I am writing to **SUPPORT** SB2512 that will increase penalties for animal desertion.

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 SB2512. Thank you very much for your support!

Julie Chen



Ginger Towle <towle@hawaiiintel.net>
Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:02 AM
JUDtestimony
Inga Gibson
SB2512, Pet abandonment - 3/18/16 SUPPORT

To - Chair Rhoads - House Judiciary

SB2512 increases Penalties for intentionally abandoning a pet.

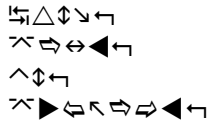
We need to do everything in our power to make people understand that abandoning a pet is not the O.K. We will continue to try and educate and hopefully we can get their attention by increased legislation.

Please Support and pass this current Bill.

Thank you,

Ginger Towle, President
West Hawaii Humane Society
Box 1208
Kailua-Kona, Hi. 96745
808-329-2051





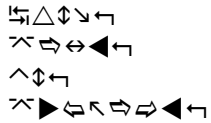
Brenda Clark <brendarc@hawaii.edu>
Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:14 PM
JUDtestimony
3-18-16 SUPPORT SB2512; Pet abandonment

Aloha,

I am writing in support of SB2512 to increase penalties for abandoning a pet. Having a pet is a choice and a commitment that should be respected for the entire life of the animal.

Thank you,
-Brenda Clark





Debi Bradley <luvmysbt@gmail.com>
Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:21 PM
JUDtestimony
I Support Bills HB2245/SB2512

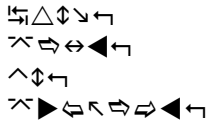
Aloha strongly support Bills HB2245/SB2512 and know that we need to strengthen our laws here in Hawaii regarding the treatment of animals. I am disgusted almost on a daily basis as to how our animals are treated, left out on a chain, abandoned, and tortured. Most often the people that torture animals will move on to mistreat their partners or children. Something needs to be done. Please the animals need to be heard. We are their voice!!

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

– **Mahatma Gandhi**

Debi Bradley
74-5540 Kaiwi St.
PMB 392
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
808-937-8844
luvmysbt@gmail.com





Etta Karth <etta@hawaii.edu>
Thursday, March 17, 2016 12:49 PM
JUDtestimony
Support Bills HB2245/SB2512

Aloha,

I am writing in support of bills HB2245 and SB2512.

I am overwhelmed with animal rescue and are sickened by the lack of enforcement for abandonment and animal abuse on the Island of Hawaii.

Etta Karth

