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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ANIMALS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that healthy dogs and  
2 cats that have been used for testing the performance, safety, or  
3 quality of a product, or for scientific, medical, or educational  
4 research or testing, deserve to enjoy their lives and be well  
5 cared for in a humane environment upon completion of those  
6 purposes.

7           The purpose of this Act is to require a research facility  
8 that intends to euthanize a dog or cat for any purpose other  
9 than scientific, medical, or educational research to make that  
10 animal available for adoption prior to euthanizing the animal if  
11 the animal is suitable for adoption.

12           SECTION 2. Chapter 143, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
14 and to read as follows:

15           "§143-       Adoption of dogs and cats in lieu of euthanasia.

16           (a) A research facility that intends to euthanize a dog or cat  
17           for any purpose other than scientific, medical, or educational



1 research, before euthanizing the dog or cat, shall offer the dog  
2 or cat for adoption if the dog or cat is appropriate for  
3 adoption. For the purpose of carrying out this subsection, a  
4 research facility may offer the dog or cat for adoption through  
5 a program of the research facility or enter into a collaborative  
6 agreement with an animal shelter that performs the work of an  
7 animal rescue organization; provided that the animal shelter or  
8 animal rescue organization shall be domiciled in the State and  
9 exempt from taxation pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the  
10 Internal Revenue Code, as amended.

11 (b) A research facility and any officer, director,  
12 employee, or agent of the research facility shall be immune from  
13 civil liability for any act or omission relating to the adoption  
14 of a dog or cat pursuant to subsection (a).

15 (c) As used in this section:

16 "Animal rescue organization" means a nonprofit organization  
17 established for the purpose of rescuing animals in need and  
18 finding permanent, adoptive homes for those animals.

19 "Research facility" means an organization that is engaged  
20 in:



# H.B. NO. 3

- 1        (1) Animal research for the purpose of testing the  
2                    performance, safety, or quality of a product; or  
3        (2) Research for scientific, medical, or educational  
4                    purposes."

5        SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

6        SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2018.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Cindy Evans*  
JAN 18 2017



# H.B. NO. 3

**Report Title:**

Dogs and Cats; Research Facilities; Adoption

**Description:**

Requires a research facility that intends to euthanize a dog or cat for any purpose other than scientific, medical, or educational research to make that animal available for adoption prior to euthanizing the animal if the animal is suitable for adoption.

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