JAN 2 4 2018

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO EVALUATE THE IMPORT REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESS FOR DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

WHEREAS, Hawaii's current system for importing domestic animals into the state is outdated, complicated, and exploitive; and

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

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WHEREAS, the import process is lengthy, costly, and stressful for both the pet owner and animals; and

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WHEREAS, possible improvements to the process include:

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(1) Updates so that the entire import process can transpire online;

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(2) Discounted rates and special accommodations for service animals; and

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(3) Pricing regulations for veterinarians who do airport checkups on neighbor islands;

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now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, that the Department of Agriculture is encouraged to evaluate the import requirements and process for domestic animals; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture is requested to report to the Legislature, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2019, its findings and any recommendations on how to improve the import

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process for domestic animals to make it easier and more fair while remaining effective in preventing rabies and parasites from entering Hawaii; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture.

OFFERED BY:

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