

HCR 225

HR 195

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION TO CONDUCT
A SURVEY OF ITS MEMBERSHIP ON THE FREQUENCY OF CASES OF RAT
LUNGWORM DISEASE IN ANIMAL COMPANIONS.

1 WHEREAS, zoonotic diseases, also known as zoonoses, are
2 animal diseases that are caused by infections from viruses,
3 bacteria, parasites, or fungi, and can spread between animals
4 and humans; and

5
6 WHEREAS, zoonotic diseases can cause illnesses of varying
7 severity, and even death, to humans; and

8
9 WHEREAS, reports from the Centers for Disease Control and
10 Prevention indicate that zoonotic diseases are very common, and
11 will infect tens of thousands of Americans every year; and

12
13 WHEREAS, zoonotic diseases can be transmitted directly or
14 indirectly to humans through the consumption of contaminated
15 foodstuffs or contact with infected animals; and

16
17 WHEREAS, examples of zoonotic diseases include
18 Leptospirosis; *E. coli* infection; methicillin-resistant
19 *staphylococcus aureus* infection (MRSA); ringworm; *toxoplasmosis*;
20 *salmonella* infection; *tuberculosis*; H1N1 and H3N2 influenza
21 viruses, also known as bird flu and swine flu; *brucellosis*
22 caused by *Brucella suis*; and *angiostrongyliasis cantonensis*,
23 more commonly known as rat lungworm disease; and

24
25 WHEREAS, past experiments, observations, and reports have
26 shown that rat lungworm disease can be and has been contracted
27 by cats, dogs, and other animals in places such as Australia and
28 Hawaii; and

29



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1 WHEREAS, information on the prevalence of rat lungworm
 2 disease in the State could help stem its spread, alert people to
 3 the potential threats of contracting rat lungworm disease, and
 4 provide useful data on the disease; and

5
 6 WHEREAS, veterinarians have studied and have a good
 7 understanding of zoonotic diseases, including rat lungworm
 8 disease; and

9
 10 WHEREAS, veterinarians in the State have the opportunity to
 11 observe and treat animals who suffer from zoonotic diseases,
 12 including rat lungworm disease; now, therefore,

13
 14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 15 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 16 of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Veterinary
 17 Medical Association is requested to conduct a survey of its
 18 membership to inquire about:

19
 20 (1) The number of cases of rat lungworm disease that have
 21 been suspected in animal companions; and

22
 23 (2) The number of cases of rat lungworm disease that have
 24 been confirmed in animal companions,

25
 26 during a period of time to be determined by the Association; and

27
 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after the completion of the
 29 survey, the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association is requested
 30 to submit, with all deliberate speed, a report of the survey
 31 results to the Legislature; and

32
 33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
 35 Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association.

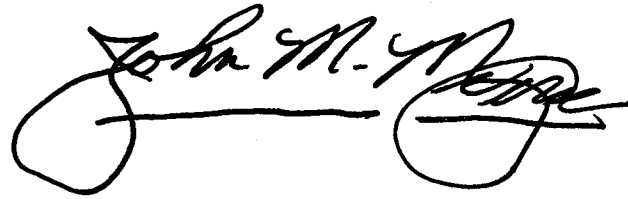
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OFFERED BY: Richard Luze
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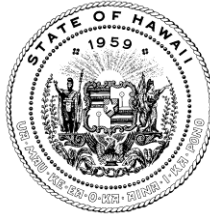
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Depina". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending across the middle.

MAR 09 2018



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**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
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE**

**Tuesday, April 3, 2018
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329**

**In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 225/HOUSE RESOLUTION 195
REQUESTING THE HAWAII VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION TO
CONDUCT A SURVEY OF ITS MEMBERSHIP ON THE FREQUENCY OF CASES OF
RAT LUNGWORM DISEASE IN ANIMAL COMPANIONS**

House Concurrent Resolution 225/House Resolution 195 request the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association to conduct a survey of its membership to better understand the prevalence of rat lungworm disease in pet animals. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports these measures.**

The Department is a collaborator on the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan, which recognizes rat lungworm disease as a serious threat to human health and agriculture in Hawaii, vectored by invasive snails and rodents. The Department supports this effort to better understand the potential for pet animals to be impacted by and to potentially vector rat lungworm disease.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.

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

ROBERT K. MASUDA
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



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

By
Nicholas Comerford
Dean, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
And
Michael Bruno
Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HCR 225/HR 195 – REQUESTING THE HAWAII VETERINARY MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION TO CONDUCT A SURVEY OF ITS MEMBERSHIP ON THE
FREQUENCY OF CASES OF RAT LUNGWORM DISEASE IN ANIMAL COMPANIONS

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the House Committee on
Consumer Protection and Commerce:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of the intent of HCR 225/HR 195.

As the home of the animal science program in the University of Hawai'i System, CTAHR is interested in the effect that rat lungworm disease may be having on companion animals. The connection between man and companion animals is strong. In 2015, the veterinary care of companion animals cost approximately \$15.7 billion. The first step toward solving a problem is to identify it and its scope. This would be the first step in that process.

While we are in support of the intent of the resolution, we recognize that this is a task being designated to the Hawai'i Veterinary Medical Association and defer to their testimony as to the ability to address the resolution.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of the intent of HCR 225/HR 195.

HCR-225

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 1:37:13 PM

Testimony for CPC on 4/3/2018 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Eric Ako DVM | Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association | Support | No |

Comments:

The Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association supports HCR225 and is already moving to action.

Offhand, I dont think many cases have been identified.We hope for a good resonse to our survey.

Dr.Jenee Odani of the University of Hawaii,a member of the Board of the HVMA,is also addressing the issue

Respectfully yours,

Eric Ako DVM

ExecVP,HVMA

HCR-225

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 2:01:51 PM

Testimony for CPC on 4/3/2018 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Melodie Aduja | Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i | Support | No |

Comments: