



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES

**Testimony in Support of HB 930**  
**Presented to the House Committee on Agriculture**  
**February 8, 2019**  
**Heather Carpenter, Western Regional Director, State Affairs**  
**The Humane Society of the United States**

Honorable Chair Richard Creagan and members of the House Agriculture Committee,

On behalf of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), the largest animal protection organization in the country, and our Hawaii members and supporters, please accept this testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 930 to prohibit a pet store from selling a dog, cat, or rabbit unless the animal was obtained from certain humane sources.**

HB 930 is an animal and consumer protection measure that will shift the pet market in Hawaii toward more humane sources. It will prohibit the sale of dogs and cats in pet stores, effectively cutting off the puppy mill – pet store supply chain. This legislation is important for Hawaii for the following reasons.

HB 930 will protect consumers from being duped into supporting cruel puppy mills, ending up with sick or behaviorally challenged puppies, and contracting a disease themselves.

The HSUS has conducted numerous hidden-camera investigations which consistently reveal that pet stores supply unsuspecting consumers with puppies from inhumane large-scale commercial breeders, despite claims by pet stores that they would “never obtain dogs from puppy mills.” Across the board, pet stores claim that they obtain animals from small-scale, humane breeders. The reality is that pet stores do not have the option to obtain dogs from responsible breeders because responsible breeders do not sell puppies to pet stores. The HSUS reviewed Codes of Ethics for the National Breed Clubs representing all 178 dog breeds recognized by the AKC and found that 96% of those National Clubs include statements to the effect that their breeders should not and/or do not sell to pet stores. For pet stores to constantly have a large, diverse offering of puppies they have to go through commercial breeders.

At the HSUS, we receive a continuous stream of complaints from consumers who have spent thousands of dollars in veterinary bills caring for their sick pet store puppies. Puppies in pet stores are often sick because they are born into deplorable conditions, taken from their mothers very early, exposed to a wide range of diseases at the breeding site, in transport to the pet store, and at the pet store itself, and are very susceptible to genetic disorders. Yet, repeatedly, customers report that pet shops claim all their animals are healthy and came from only the highest quality breeders.

A 2013 study published in the *Journal of American Veterinary Medicine*, entitled “Differences in behavioral characteristics between dogs obtained as puppies from pet stores and those obtained from noncommercial breeders,”<sup>1</sup> concluded that obtaining dogs from pet stores versus noncommercial breeders represented a significant risk factor for the development of a wide range of undesirable behavioral characteristics, especially aggressive behavior and biting. Due to the results of the study, the authors stated that they cannot recommend that puppies be obtained from pet stores.

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<sup>1</sup> McMillan, Franklin D, DVM, DACVIM; James A. Serpell, PhD; Deborah L. Duffy, PhD; Elmabrok Masaoud, PhD; Ian R. Dohoo, DVM, PhD, “Differences in behavioral characteristics between dogs obtained as puppies from pet stores and those obtained from noncommercial breeders,” *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 242, No.10 (2013), 1359-1363.



## THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

To make matters worse, the Centers for Disease Control<sup>2</sup> recently linked contact with pet store puppies to an outbreak of an antibiotic resistant strain of *Campylobacter* that infected 118 people in 18 states, causing 23 people to be hospitalized. According to the CDC, the antibiotic-resistant nature of this infection was likely the result of pet stores providing puppies with antibiotics as a means of prevention rather than treatment. They stressed that because of poor antibiotic stewardship principles and practices in the commercial dog industry the risk for multidrug-resistant *Campylobacter* transmission to consumers continues.

### HB 930 will promote humane pet stores, responsible breeders and adoption

This legislation would require pet shops to adhere to a humane business model, not put them out of business. The puppy-selling pet store model is outdated and socially unacceptable. Of the top 25 pet store chains in North America, only one sells puppies and kittens.<sup>3</sup> The others thrive by selling products and offering quality services, such as grooming, training and boarding. Even stores that used to sell puppy mill puppies are now thriving on the humane model. The largest and most successful pet store chains in the country (PetSmart and PetCo) do not sell puppies, but rather partner with local shelters and rescues to hold adoption events at their stores. PetSmart proudly claims that consumers who adopt a dog or cat at one of their events spend five times more than the average consumer at their store and often become loyal customers.

When legislation similar to HB 930 was considered in California in 2017 (it passed by an overwhelming majority), the owners of Pet Food Express, a chain with 63 locations throughout the state, vocally supported the effort. In a letter to legislators, they said “we do not, and will not ever, sell commercially raised puppies.” Rather, the chain helps spread the word about responsible pet acquisition and has helped find homes for over 61,000 homeless animals. Pet Food Express was named “2017 Retailer of the Year” by Pet Business—the 4<sup>th</sup> time it received that distinction. The honor was received in part because the owners often share their knowledge and best practices with other independent pet stores to help them succeed, including their dedication to animal welfare.

Similarly, when a comparable bill was introduced, and subsequently passed, in Maryland in 2018, a former puppy selling pet store owner voiced support for the legislation, “I strongly believe that by giving these pet store business owners a different ideology with regards to the industry, you are helping these businesses from a profit standpoint, an educational perspective and setting a new precedent of a more humane peaceful existence for us all...that from someone who was in the same business longer than most.” Indeed, helping pet stores switch to a model that does not rely on live animal sales could very well boost their profits. In the \$69 billion pet retail industry in 2017, every category including pet food, products, and services, saw an increase in revenue *except* live animal sales, which The American Pet Products Association predicts will continue to decline<sup>4</sup>.

Just as there are humane pet stores that stand in contrast to those clinging to a model that relies of the sale of puppies from puppy mills, there are also responsible breeders who stand in stark contrast to puppy mills. This legislation will not impact responsible breeders because they already do not sell to pet stores. Rather, they sell directly to the public so they can meet prospective buyers in person. Even the AKC, who

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/campylobacter/outbreaks/puppies-9-17/index.html>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.petbusiness.com/February-2016/The-Top-25-Pet-Retailers-in-North-America/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/americans-spent-695-billion-on-their-pets-last-year-more-than-ever-before300618209.html>



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES

is funded largely by the puppy mill industry, agrees with the HSUS and responsible breeders everywhere, that “the best way for a person to obtain a new pet is through personal interaction with the pet’s breeder and the pet under consideration.” When purchasing a puppy from a pet store, this is simply not possible.

The legislation also supports shelters by encouraging consumers to adopt and allowing pet stores to partner with shelters and rescues, rather than allowing them to consider selling puppy mill puppies. It would lessen the burden on shelters that take in pet store dogs. Many pet store dogs end up in shelters because they are often sick and expensive to care for and come with a wide range of behavioral problems—the result of a lack of necessary socialization early in life.

HB 930 is in line with national trends

More than 290 localities in the U.S., as well as the states of California and Maryland, have passed laws similar to HB 930. Already this year, similar bills have been introduced in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Washington. These bills are popular with both residents and legislators and regularly receive positive media coverage. With HB 930, Hawaii is poised to join California, Maryland, and the aforementioned states in taking a strong stand against puppy mill cruelty.

We urge a “yes” vote on HB 930. The morals and values of Hawaii simply cannot be represented by allowing the sale of dogs from puppy mills – an industry so intrinsically linked to unnecessary animal suffering.

Sincerely,

Heather Carpenter  
Western Regional Director  
702-929-2999



## Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

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

Date: Feb. 6, 2019

To: Chair Rep. Richard P. Creagan  
Vice Chair Rep. Lynn DeCoite  
and Members of the Committee on Agriculture

Submitted By: Stephanie Kendrick, Public Policy Advocate  
Hawaiian Humane Society, 808-356-2217

RE: Testimony in support of HB 930: Relating to Animals  
Friday, Feb. 8, 2019, 8:30 a.m., Capitol room 312

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Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society, thank you for considering our support for House Bill 930, which prohibits a pet store operator from selling a dog, cat or rabbit unless the dog, cat or rabbit was obtained from certain humane sources.

Currently, local pet stores are not required to maintain or share any information about the sources of the animals they sell. This bill will require retailers to obtain animals they sell from a shelter or rescue and to keep records showing the sources of the animals for sale. Maintaining records regarding the sources of animals would improve animal welfare throughout the state by adding a measure of transparency to a trade that is currently unregulated.

The Society requests the following amendment to Section 2 (e):

- (e) Upon request from the department or the contracted animal service provider in the county where it operates, a pet store operator engaged in the sale of dogs, cats, or rabbits shall provide the records maintained under subsection (b).

The county animal service providers are deputized to enforce animal welfare laws in Hawaii and they employ personnel who are trained to investigate reports of possible abuse or neglect. This amendment would provide support to the department and ensure efficacy for this important legislation.

Mahalo for your consideration and please let me know if I can be of assistance.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 1:25:22 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	Yes

Comments:



February 3, 2019

Testimony in Opposition ~~of~~to HB 930

Representative Creagan and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

The Pacific Pet Alliance is a Hawai'i non-profit organization that promotes responsible pet ownership through education and advocacy. We appreciate the opportunity to offer testimony on HB 930.

~~The Pacific Pet Alliance~~ We supports most of our local pet shops. ~~We have found them to be as a~~ credible sources to provide animals of pets to for the general public. ~~These a~~Animals sold by these shops come with veterinary records and ~~warranties~~warranties. ~~These animals usually~~In fact, local pet shops ~~often~~shops often ~~come with~~provide as much or more protection for the consumer than animals purchased directly from ~~a~~“private breeders~~s~~”.

~~The number of dogs~~ Breeders who breed dogs ~~for that compete in the American Kennel Club (AKC)-~~ sponsored show rings are ~~growing less and less~~steadily declining. From a high of almost 700 dogs competing in dog shows back in the 1990's, the count ~~was~~ down to just 191 dogs at the ~~last~~latest AKC show last month. ~~We~~“Private breeders” can't breed enough dogs to meet ~~the~~public demand, and neither do ~~we~~they want to. Many of ~~our~~locally-bred dogs are not sold in Hawai'i. So, where is the public to go to purchase their dogs?

Will they buy their pets through Craigslist? Most of the posts there are from novice breeders who don't provide guarantees, and who provide little to no education when purchaseselling an animal.

**There is no connection between Craigslist and pet shops. It seems that ~~it~~the assumption is that high-volume breeders only sell to pet shops – but that assumption isn't necessarily correct.**

The Pacific Pet Alliance agrees that the criminal Waimanalo breeding operation was a tragedy that should have never happened. The State of Hawai'i had ~~an~~the opportunity to intervene and prevent ~~that~~ tragedy, as the majority, if not all, of the ~~breeding~~ stock at that facility came through the State animal quarantine facility in Halawa and were registered to Bradley Enterprises, the facility's owner. The dogs all came in as male/female pairs. **This tragedy was involved just one pet shop. It was, an isolated incident.**

How does prohibiting pet shop sales help this situation? **It doesn't.** It forces the public to 'purchase' rescue dogs from sources that operate with little or no government oversight. There is no protection for the consumer in regards to an animal's health or temperament. **Animal “adoption fees” are purchases, regardless of how the transaction is termed, but shelters and rescues are exempt,**

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**Nationally, pet overpopulation is a myth.** Dogs are being imported from Turkey, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Egypt, China, and Korea to meet the demand for “rescue dogs”. Fortunately, Hawaii’s geographical isolation and its onerous quarantine procedures protects us from these imported rescue animals.

The Pacific Pet Alliance notes that this bill cites statistics from only the Hawaiian Humane Society, ~~that which states show~~ that about 10,000 dogs and puppies are admitted annually to their care. Their online annual reports reflect that figure. The National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA) keeps statistics on animal shelters nationwide which show a gradual decline ~~from in~~ shelter ~~data admissions~~. These data are submitted voluntarily or available through online public sources. In Hawaii, the **NAIA has only been able to obtain data from the Kauai and Maui Humane Societies**. Their NAIA online data is readily available in a format that conforms to shelter data collected nationwide. **Both shelters also show gradually declining shelter admission trends.**

[http://shelterproject.naiaonline.org/shelter\\_data/states/12](http://shelterproject.naiaonline.org/shelter_data/states/12) The Hawaiian Humane Society’s annual reports contain data that is incomplete and not useable for the NAIA’s data collection project.

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Instead of prohibiting pet shop sales, PPA proposes that shelters and rescue organizations across Hawaii all participate in the NAIA’s Shelter Project which calls for uniform shelter data collection. Most shelters already use the Asilomar ~~format of~~ data collection format, so it ~~will be would~~ not be a burden to ~~the shelter~~ organizations, and the NAIA will do the data analysis. **This will not cost the State anything, and it will would allow Hawaii to have, for the first time, uniform data that can be used when animal-related bills are presented to the legislature.**

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify. **We respectfully request that ~~you~~ this honorable committee not to pass HB 930.**

Lynn Muramaru  
Board Member  
Pacific Pet Alliance

[https://issuu.com/hawaiianhumane/docs/annual\\_report\\_2017](https://issuu.com/hawaiianhumane/docs/annual_report_2017)





**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 5:20:30 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randy Ogata	Kalihi Pet Center, LLC	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please DO NOT pass HB 930. This bill hurt us tremendously and may even close our business.

We never have and never will buy puppies from puppy mills. All our puppies are purchased from reputable individuals and families or by our Veterinarians. Each puppy is given a thorough check up by our Vets and given vaccinations and worming before going home. After each sale we even offer a free puppy wellness check up with one of our 9 Veterinarian clinics we work with. There the customer will be able to ask questions and learn first hand from a Vet how to take care of the new family member.

This bill unfairly targets pet stores and not the individuals selling puppies, kittens, or bunnies on craigslist or on the side of roads. Bill HB 930 eliminates consumers rights to choice.

PLEASE DO NOT PASS HB 930!

## **Committee on Agriculture**

Rep. Richard P Creagan, Chair

Rep. Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Committee Members

Regarding HB 930 (hearing date 2/8/18)

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members:

### **I am writing in opposition to HB 930.**

I am an owner at “The Pet Hale”, a family owned and operated pet store in Mililani. This bill would immediately put my family’s store out of business and leave my family with no income. We are not the only store that would be affected in this way.

This bill is written to disallow pet stores from selling puppies, cats and rabbits, but continues to allow anyone else too. This is seriously discrimination without cause. Whatever happened to merit? Punish the guilty only? Voting this bill in would allow people to sell puppies on the side of the road, from their yards and on craigslist...puppies that may be sick or may be a scam and not exist at all...but not in a pet store. A pet store who cares for the puppies for which they find homes. A pet store who provides vet care before and after purchase. A pet store who provides high quality food and a warranty. A pet store who educates each puppy customer on care of puppy and provides information on spay/neuter and directs anyone who would like to adopt to a local shelter. A pet store who provides a CHOICE. It doesn’t seem right, does it? It’s not.

This bill is ludicrous. It states that often pet stores buy from “unregulated commercial breeders who do not provide sanitary and humane living conditions” and that “many puppies sold in pet stores are obtained from mass breeding operations known as puppy mills.” This is simply NOT true for us. These statements are discriminating against all pet stores because “legislature” decided this is what is true. My family is moral, ethical, and we love our pets. We, along with a Hawaii licensed vet, decide which puppies we will find homes for based on the care and condition of the puppies. It is infuriating to hear my family being accused of the unethical things listed in this bill! It is discrimination when you talk about “pet stores” and generalize that they are all the same. If there is a pet store doing these things here in Hawaii, and I doubt there is one, then prosecute them and the “puppy mills” that they are buying from! Leave the rest of us hard-working, animal loving pet store owners/employees alone (my family is in our store from 8am - 830pm EVERY DAY! No vacations.) We love animals! We would not be doing this if we didn’t! We have sold puppies from your so called “responsible and ethical breeders.” Just like the families who have litters with their dogs and want us to find a home for their puppies, so do these “responsible and ethical breeders.” And why is it assumed that “responsible and ethical

breeders”, who likely have their puppies in kennels on concrete, take better care of their puppies than an unregulated family who raises a litter in their bedroom, living room or kitchen? We have also sold puppies (twice) for a Hawaii House Representative’s family. We do things ethically and responsibly in our store and nobody has the right to say otherwise. We should NOT have to lose our business, our sole income, because legislature decided that we are not ethical or responsible without ever coming to see us. The Hawaiian Humane Society officers have always told us that we are doing a good job when inspecting our store.

**PLEASE VOTE NO ON THIS BILL.** Don’t allow small business to be run out of Hawaii with unneeded laws. There are already laws in place to prosecute the guilty.

Thank you for reading my testimony.

Debbie Baker

Koolau Pets has been a family owned and operated small business for over forty-five years on the windward side of Oahu. We are second generation owners, since taking over the business in July 2017. In those forty-five years, Koolau Pets has always been a full line pet store carrying birds, puppies, rabbits, fish, reptiles, and supplies for every pet. During the entirety of our operations we have never once gotten a citation from the Hawaiian Humane Society. If we didn't operate the responsible way, we would not be in business today.

Koolau Pets has employed hundreds of high school and college students. Giving them the opportunity to learn about animals and how best to care for them, as well as, giving them the skills to handle the situations they may face in their careers. The passing of House Bill 930 will devastate the prosperity of my family business.

Here at Koolau Pets all of our puppies are bought from loving family homes. We never buy any puppies from a so-called puppy mill. Puppy mills are not legal yet people still find a way to run them. If we lose our ability to sell puppies, where will people go searching next? Irresponsible breeders will have an opportunity to make more money.

Before our puppies are put out for sale, we send them to Haiku Veterinary Clinic to be thoroughly checked. This check includes a full physical exam, a fecal test, and the puppy's first vaccination. When puppy is bought by their forever home, we give the family another complimentary vet visit with Haiku Veterinary Clinic. Buying a puppy through us ensures that the puppy has been checked not once, but twice by a licensed veterinarian.

The Hawaiian Humane Society claims that they receive ten thousand puppies and dogs each year. That does not include cats, kittens, and rabbits. How can this be possible? How can this claim be proven? When I checked the Hawaiian Humane Society website there were no rabbits and only a handful of dogs up for adoption. The one pet that the Hawaiian Humane Society has an abundance of is cats.

Furthermore, Koolau pets has not sold, bought, received, or hosted any cats or kittens for the past ten years. It is unfair to blame pet stores for the overabundance of cats in the Hawaiian Humane Society.

How does the Hawaiian Humane Society know that these puppies are coming from pet stores? What is to regulate the sales of puppies, kittens, and rabbits on craigslist, facebook marketplace, etc. Here at Koolau Pets we can help the customers find the animal that will be the right fit for their family. Things like temperament, energy, and allergies are all factors in choosing a new pet. Forcing the people of Hawaii to adopt pets takes away the crucial options in choosing the pet that will work out best in the family. If the people can't find a pet that works for the family, the animals will end up back in the shelters or on the streets.

The passing of House Bill 930 will devastate small full line pet stores. Koolau Pets has a five-year lease which ends July of 2022. Our lease is based off our history of past sales. These sales have always included puppies and rabbits. If we are to lose the sales of puppies and rabbits, we will not be able to afford our rent or our loan we made to take over the business. I am a guarantor of our loan. If I can't pay the rent, I could lose my house and assets. This is not right or fair for a business who has done everything in the right and responsible way all these years.

In this day and age, it is so difficult to keep a business afloat. Most of this struggle is due to big corporate businesses such as Petco, PetSmart, Target, Amazon, Chewy.com, and so much more. If any

part of our merchandised product were to become illegal to sell it would be detrimental to my business and livelihood.

We are one hundred percent against this bill. However, if change is to ever occur, please respect our industry for we have done nothing wrong, grandfather all shops to be exempt until their leases are up.

Robert Lawrence, President of Koolau Pets

If you have any questions, please call (808)235-6477



**LATE**

**PET INDUSTRY JOINT  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
1615 Duke Street, Suite 100  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Tel: 202-452-1525

TESTIMONY OF THE PET INDUSTRY JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL  
FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE  
IN OPPOSITION TO HB 930

To be considered February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

February 8, 2019

Position: OPPOSED

As an organization that routinely supports legislative efforts to advance the welfare of animals, the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) appreciates the opportunity to share our views and expertise on HB 930 regarding the sale of dogs and cats in Hawaii's pet stores. PIJAC and our members across Hawaii respectfully request that the House Agriculture Committee decline to take action on the bill.

We in the responsible pet industry don't just care about animals, we care for them on a daily basis. For many years PIJAC has provided a highly respected animal care certification program intended to ensure that employees are well trained in the care of the animals they sell; a program that is widely utilized not only by persons in the commercial pet trade but also shelters and humane societies throughout the country and one that has even been adopted as a statutory standard in some states. PIJAC has worked closely with the USDA on effective implementation of the Animal Welfare Act for pets since its inception almost fifty years ago, and has joined hands with state agencies to ensure adoption and enforcement of appropriate regulatory standards. Our association has long been recognized as the voice for a responsible and humane pet trade.

As such, we offer an unmatched depth and breadth of experience on legislative efforts to verify and certify the health and well-being of animals sold as pets from the time they are born all the way until they are taken home and made part of the family. Our members have a responsibility to the animals themselves, not to mention their customers, and work with families to find the ideal pets for their individual situations because that is the single best way to ensure lifelong pet relationships. Pet stores also have a significant financial incentive to adhere to the highest standards of care and sourcing; they are dependent on their reputation and positive word of mouth to stay in business.

Respectfully, PIJAC requests that HB 930 be withheld from action because we are concerned that the bill limits consumer choice and inhibits the ability of the state to increase consumer protections in the pet selection process. These are bedrock principles of responsible pet ownership and we believe they must be carried out in Washington.

House Bill 930 is based on a false premise, the idea that Hawaii's pet shop pets come from puppy mills. While most commercial kennels are responsibly and ethically operated, there are those that are not. None of them, however, provide puppies to stores in Hawaii. Pet stores are only able to source their puppies from USDA licensed, or USDA exempt, breeders. Hawaii's rabies laws make importing puppies from the mainland impossible and there are no licensed commercial kennels in the state.

Hawaii's pet stores receive their puppies exclusively from small local breeders. They either purchase those puppies directly from these small breeders or make space available for the breeders to sell directly to the public from their stores. As such, HB930 could not only put responsible small businesses out of business, but will financially damage the many families that breed the occasional litter for them.

The bill's implication that pet store puppies are responsible for any overpopulation problem in the state is also unfounded. Hawaii's pet stores provide only a very small percentage of the dogs that Hawaiians bring into their families each year. Only by encouraging and educating people who are irresponsible with their pets to spay and neuter them will the state be able to manage the unwanted pet population.

A blanket, statewide sales ban limiting consumer choice is a simplistic, unwise and unproven reaction to good-intended concerns regarding animal health and safety. Such a ban does not address the practices of bad, out-of-state breeders and simply renders Hawaiians voiceless in the broader discussion of animal health and welfare.

HB 930 removes consumer choice. Responsible pet ownership begins with choosing the best pet for your specific circumstances. Often there are considerations like allergies, energy level, presence of children in the home, and temperament that create the need for a specific breed of dog or other type of pet. Shelters and pounds are ill-equipped to assist families with this process.

While PIJAC fully supports legislation that prevents substandard breeders from breeding and selling unfit animals, HB 930 will not achieve that goal in Hawaii.

PIJAC views HB 930 as an unwarranted and unnecessary legislative solution to a public policy problem that has been misrepresented in Hawaii. If it were to become law, small businesses who rely on the ability to provide a dog or cat with specific qualities to their customers would be forced to close.

PIJAC would welcome the opportunity to work with the sponsors of this legislation and the members of the committee to craft public policy with protects animals, consumers, and small businesses without limiting pet choice in Washington.

PIJAC is thankful for the opportunity to raise these significant concerns and reiterate our request for the committee to withhold HB 930 from action. We would welcome the chance to discuss these items with you at greater length. PIJAC has a long history of collaborating to ensure that regulations and legislation are both workable and meet their intended goals and we would be happy to lend our expertise to address these concerns.

Robert Likins  
Vice President of Government Affairs  
Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC)  
bob@pijac.org

5 February 2019

Members of the committee,

I am writing today in opposition of HB 930.

This bill will not do what it is intended and only put more strain on our already taxed humane society and rescue groups. A law like this would only encourage more animals being abandoned and sold on the side of the road without proper care from a veterinarian or education to the new owners, increasing preventable disease and un-needed loss of life.

Pet stores are a community staple in many parts of the island that have helps thousands of families connect with their four-legged family members. While we support adoption, we do not believe that criminalizing our local business owners for connecting a pet with their new family and helping other families find home for their animals is the right step we need to be taking.

Thousands of responsible pet owners have found their pets through us, many of which we still see on a regular basis. The connection that we as another place to connect people and animals should not be taken away.

I ask that you do not pass HB 930.

Regards,

Ryan Rothwell  
The Pet Depot Hawaii



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 11:52:50 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda moore	The Pet Hale	Oppose	No

Comments:

This is RIDICULOUS.... Buying from a pet store is way safer than getting a pet from the humane society, where the animal may have behavior issues, kennel cough, etc...and where anybody can get a pet whether they're qualified to own one or not.....at least with the pet store, it's a sure thing to get not only the pet of ur choice, but is guaranteed healthy...and ONLY responsible people that can AFFORD a pet can buy one.....ur opening a dangerous game here, people will be selling sick and stolen puppies on Craigslist and other social medias.....this will be a terrible tragedy and a huge mistake....I wouldn't do this if I were u, but you'll probably do it anyway, as the government don't really care about its people....such a sad country we live in, and I'm ashamed to be called an American..... It doesn't mean anything anymore

## Testimony in Opposition to HB 930

Representative Creagan and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

A total ban on sales of dogs, cats, rabbits in a pet store is an extreme step. Pet Stores in Hawaii are businesses that pay taxes. Small businesses are the backbone of America. This bill needs to be discussed further before it comes to a definite prohibition.

Pet Stores in Hawaii are only a small fraction of places people acquire a puppy. This bill will not stop the selling or breeding of puppies, cats and rabbits. It will actually drive the industry into a black market type of entity.

Puppy mills are a horrible place. I for one do not support that style of business. The big Waimanalo puppy mill operated their own pet store and sold puppies from their own puppy mill. I am in agreement with stopping puppy mills.

**HB930 says: The purpose of this Act is to encourage animal adoption and prohibit pet stores from selling dogs, cats, and rabbits unless the animal was obtained from certain humane sources.**

Pet store operators, educate the potential purchaser before adopting a pet. We encourage that they do their "homework" before getting a pet. All of our cats are spayed/neutered/certified vet checked, with tests for feline aids/leukemia, vaccinated, cleaned, de- wormed before their adoption. Why do you want to prohibit a well established business from selling/adopting dogs, cats, or rabbits. Please define humane sources? Who's to say that our pets are not from humane sources?

**HB930 says: Sales of dogs, cats, and rabbits in pet stores. (a) A pet store operator shall not sell a live dog, cat, or rabbit in a pet store unless the dog, cat, or rabbit was obtained from: (1) An animal control officer; (2) A duly incorporated humane society; (3) A duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals; or (4) A rescue group that is in a cooperative agreement**

I have worked with a duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, in adopting pets within our store. For one, the record keeping and the health of the animals was very questionable. I've witnessed the volunteers giving vaccines to cats in their office, it was very hot in there, and the vaccines were not handled properly, they were warm to the touch. They couldn't tell you even if the dog was even given a de-wormer, or when it was vaccinated much less fecal tested for intestinal worms, or diseases. By not having knowledge of potential diseases, I put our store at risk. They also promised to have the dog spayed/neutered, but they never came through with that promise. It also reflected badly on our business. It made me very hesitant to work with them again. I have also worked for many years with a cat rescue foundation. We kept the cats at our store, *they* handled the adoptions. 100% of their "adoption" fees collected went to them. I provided the food, litter, space and labor I did it for no compensation. Unfortunately they would not follow up with potential clients, and once again it made us as a store look bad. We now do our own adoptions. I keep accurate records, provide certified vet exams, cleanliness, and follow up.

**HB930 says: Each pet store operator shall post, in a conspicuous location on the cage or enclosure of each dog, cat, or rabbit offered for sale, a sign displaying the name and address of the person or entity listed under section (a) (1) through (4) from which the pet store obtained the dog, cat, or rabbit.**

I don't think that a rabbit breeder or dog breeder would like their address up for public display, for privacy issues. However, we do keep good records.

**HB930 says: "Rescue group" means an organization that is tax exempt under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and that does not obtain animals from breeders or brokers for compensation."**

These "tax exempt" groups charge money for their pet adoptions. Pet Store operators have many expenses and overhead. WE pay our taxes!! We are not tax exempt.

Furthermore, as mentioned before, this bill will drive people to sell pets from cars in parking lots, to the side of the road etc. This bill will push more sales of pet's underground, below the radar. This state will not see one red cent of that revenue. A pet store is only a fraction of the pets sold/traded in this state. I disagree with statements that pet stores purchase from "puppy mills". A pet store is in the public eye. We have certain standards to uphold and maintain. We have procedures for the best care of the animals in our possession. We pay for certified veterinarian visits, so it is done correctly. We inform, educate and encourage our pet owners to adopt, spay/neuter their pets. We also acknowledge that it is their right to do so when they are ready. We take joy in providing a puppy or new pet to a family and seeing them come in year after year for a birthday cake! We are providing the community with a choice.

This bill, as written, is totally prejudicial to local pet stores, our local businesses.

What makes it ok to tell a PET store they may not sell animals? We are a *pet* store after all.

Thank you for reading my testimony, **I respectfully ask that you do not pass HB 930.**

Sincerely,

Tish Rothwell, Owner  
The Pet Depot  
Ewa Beach, HI

**LATE**

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 10:51:14 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sylvia Dolena	Aloha Animal Advocates	Support	No

Comments:

February 8, 2019

Representative Richard Creagan, Chair  
House Committee on Agriculture  
Conference Room 312, State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Creagan and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Alley Cat Allies and our over half-million supporters, I am writing to urge you to **support HB 930, Relating to Animals**. If enacted into law, **HB 930** would prohibit retail pet stores from selling any cat or dog unless the animal has been sourced from an animal control officer, humane society, SPCA or an animal rescue group that has a cooperative agreement with a governmental entity, humane society or SPCA.

Alley Cat Allies is the global engine of change for cats. We protect and improve cats' lives through our innovative, cutting-edge programs. We are seen around the world as a champion for the humane treatment of all cats. Founded in 1990, today Alley Cat Allies helps tens of thousands of individuals, communities, and organizations save and improve the lives of millions of cats and kittens worldwide. We are reaching out to you because **HB 930** will significantly help save cats' lives in your state.

**HB 930 will obstruct the cruel and irresponsible pet breeding industry.** Large-scale breeding operations, also known as puppy mills and catteries, force animals to live in tiny cages stacked on top of one another for their entire lives, while litter after litter of puppies and kittens are shipped like commodity to pet stores for sale. As a result of poor breeding practices, consumers may discover their new pet is sick and lacks proper socialization. Ironically, despite their price tags and specialty genetics, many animals sold in pet stores end up in shelters or rescues.

Animal control agencies and shelters, along with animal rescue groups, play a vital role in our communities. They reunite owners with lost pets, help animals find new homes or remain in their current home. They often provide veterinary services, educate the public about animal care and safety, and house animals seized in cruelty cases. Plus, your constituents' tax dollars are paying for these services. Yet despite funding from citizens and all the benefits these entities provide, wonderful and healthy animals ready for adoption are killed every day due to limited space and resources while pet stores sell commercially-bred animals for profit.

With your support, **HB 930** can help change the outcome for many companion animals in Hawaii by **giving displaced animals another chance at finding a safe and loving home**. Animals in shelters and rescues are ready and waiting to give their unconditional love to a new family. Cats and dogs are sentient beings who deserve the opportunity to live happy and healthy lives. **They are not commodities to be mass-produced for financial gain.**

Hawaii is not alone in the movement to stop the selling of pets from commercial breeding facilities. Two states—California in 2017 and Maryland in 2018—passed bills requiring all cats, dogs, and, in California, rabbits, sold in pet stores to come from animal rescues and shelters, while many others are considering similar legislation this year. Coast to coast, the message is clear: we are a nation of compassionate people who will no longer tolerate an industry that profits from the suffering of animals.

On behalf of our supporters, your constituents, and Hawaii's animals, **we applaud the Hawaii State Legislature's desire to promote cat and dog adoption and urge you to pass HB 930**. Thank you for supporting this lifesaving bill.

Sincerely,



Becky Robinson  
President & Founder, Alley Cat Allies

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 3:39:51 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randy Fernley	Coral Fish Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

Rediculous !!

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 12:31:02 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John B Guard III	The Pet Shop, Inc.	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 7:48:13 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John R Taylor	NWC Naturals Inc. Pet products	Oppose	No

Comments:

I believe that bricks and mortar pet stores selling live animals in Hawaii is the most humane way to regulate live animal sales of healthy, happy and well looked after pets. Accountability to state agency's is important to make sure all animals are checked out by veterinarians and conditions in the stores are inspected for health and safety of the animals. Allowing anyone to sell Puppies and Kittens out of "the trunk of their car" would be a totally unregulated free for all. When local breeders sell their animals to pet stores, it is the pet stores responsibility to insure the health and humane treatment of those animals by investing in good food, shots and other health care. Back yard breeders that love the breed are not always financially able to supply the veterinary care that the pets need. When they set up shop on the roadside they could be selling a sick pet to an unsuspecting new pet owner. Please do not pass this bill.



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 1:37:54 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tony Sayegh	Pets Global	Oppose	No

Comments:



*improving the quality of lives of pets and their people.*

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Testimony by Alicia Maluafiti, Board President Poi Dogs & Popoki  
In strong support of HB 930 - Relating to Animals  
House Committee on Agriculture  
Friday, Feb. 8, 8:30 am, room 312

Aloha Chair Creagan and members of the Committee,

Poi Dogs & Popoki (PDP) is a nonprofit animal welfare organization with a mission to help people and their pets. We are in strong support of HB 930 and appreciate the support of Rep. Lee for introducing the bill at our request. Simply – this bill will help save lives. For every animal that we rescue off the streets and placed into a loving home means one LESS animal taken to the shelter and euthanized. And since taxpayers on Oahu have a \$5 million animal control bill each year, this law would also save money!

People deserve a choice of pets to buy or adopt. And sometimes a rescued animal does not fit the needs or lifestyle or living conditions of a family. So breeders play a very important role is providing those options to pet owners. But reputable breeders to NOT sell their litters to pet stores. This bill will ensure that people have even more choices to ADOPT – not SHOP – when they want to add a new member to their ohana.

PDP is a proud partner with PetSmart so we can testify first-hand that this model provides a successful opportunity to place pets up for adoption AND ensure that new pet families have the resources available to make their pets comfortable in their new home. It's a win-win for rescue...and for businesses whose new pet owners need food, beds, and toys.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT 1:**

(a) A pet store operator shall not sell a live dog, cat, or rabbit in a pet store unless the dog, cat, or rabbit was obtained from:

- ~~(1) An animal control officer;~~
- ~~(2) A duly incorporated humane society;~~
- ~~(3) A duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals; or~~
- ~~(4) An animal welfare or rescue group that is in a cooperative agreement with at least one of the~~
  - ~~(A) A governmental entity; or~~
  - ~~(B) Any person or entity meeting the description 3 under paragraph (1), (2), or (3)~~

“Animal welfare or rescue group” means an organization that is tax exempt under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, is registered and compliant with the State Attorney General Charity Division, and ~~that~~ does not obtain animals from breeders or brokers for compensation.”

First, continuing to reference a “duly incorporated humane society” or “society for the prevention of cruelty to animals” is a vernacular that is obsolete and unnecessary. Any entity can register a name as a “humane society” or “SPCA” but these organizations – national or local – are not affiliated with each other. There is no legitimacy afforded simply because an organization is incorporated with those names. Even the City & County of Honolulu has had to make adjustments to the ordinance when erroneously referencing the Hawaiian Humane Society.

Today – there are a number of meaningful and worthy animal welfare organizations all incorporated for the single purpose of saving lives, including Poi Dogs & Popoki. The language in the current bill penalizes small nonprofits and would lock out PDP and other animal welfare organizations based simply on a name. The amendments offered more appropriately define and ensure that animal welfare organizations are legitimate and legal. We are not the 800-pound gorillas like the animal control contractors - also known as “humane society’s” – but we do this work for love.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT 2:**

(c) Each pet store operator shall post, in a conspicuous location on the cage or enclosure of each dog, cat, or rabbit offered for ~~sale~~ adoption, a sign displaying the name and address of the person or entity listed under section (a) ~~(1) through (4)~~ from which the pet store obtained the dog, cat, or rabbit. (d) A pet store operator that violates this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$500. Each animal offered for ~~sale~~ adoption in violation of this section shall constitute a separate 16 violation.

New Definition:

“Adoption” means any pet that is made available for a fee by an animal welfare or rescue group which has been sterilized, microchipped, vaccinated, flea treated, dewormed, and received a health exam from a licensed veterinarian.

We are forever fighting the misnomer that pets are commodities. We believe pets are part of the family. We do not sell pets. We adopt them to families – for life (we hope). So this bill should embrace the language of adoption – not sale – of pets.

Saving lives means ending the pet overpopulation cycle. The Hawaiian Humane Society euthanizes 70% of all animals that they take into their shelter. Their animal control contract with the City & County of Honolulu specifically states that they will kill 2,000 dogs; 11,500 cats, and 2,500 other animals (like rabbits, guinea pigs and birds). This amendment ensures that any legitimate animal welfare organization ADOPTS out pets that are sterilized and have a clean bill of health.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT 3:**

To alleviate any financial burden to the State Department of Agriculture to regulate this statute, I suggest that the animal welfare organizations partnering with pet stores be required to submit an

annual report to DOA detailing compliance with the law. I believe that pet stores will see that partnering with a nonprofit is a wonderful opportunity to showcase altruistically their commitment to animals. Validation of that relationship and compliance with the law can easily be provided by the nonprofit partner. You don't need an investigative or enforcement arm. Your greatest advocate is the nonprofit. For PDP – we would have no problem supporting such a mandate.

We encourage your support passage of HB 930. Mahalo for your consideration.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 1:55:15 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerald Honma	Smokeless Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha House and State Reps,

Are you folks really going to put all Hawaii Pet Shops out of business and again no common sense. Just like you want to put all Hawaii Vape shops out of business by making it illegal for flavored juices. How in the world are you folks going to receive any tax monies for the rail?

Are you just going to keep raising Property taxes, Sale Taxes, ETC?

Also you are looking to ban cigarettes, How are you going to create taxes for the Hawaii Cancer studies?

Already all Hawaii businesses are at a big disavantage because of to much taxes and regulations, And high shipping cost of products and goods, And the competition of ordering online from the Mainland. We need people in our State Government w/ Pro Business sense, Hawaii first mentality.

P.S. Please start listening to your Hawaii People and work w/ US not against us.

Sincerely,

Gerald Honma

Smokeless Hawaii Enterprises

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 11:36:48 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Callie Sher	Nutripack	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 6:45:20 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda Urquizu	Debbie Baker and Family, The Pet Hale	Oppose	No

Comments:

The passing of this bill would put The Pet Hale of Oahu, Hawaii out of business because it would make it illegal to sell dogs, cats, and rabbits in a pet store. It would allow anyone, other than a pet store, to sell dogs, cats, and rabbits. Puppies would not be vet-checked, could be sold off Craig's List, or sold off the side of the road. Since the bill would be in effect immediately, it would not give the owners of The Pet Hale time to sell the animals and supplies they currently have for sale in the store. I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS BILL.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 9:00:45 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stanley Yamamoto	Next Gen International Corporation	Oppose	No

Comments:

Small businesses are extremely important to the Hawaii economy and this legislation will have a deep impact on the small family owned pet stores on the islands. HB930 does nothing to address the real problem of irresponsible dog & cat owners, but it will definately hurt the livelyhood of these small businesses. There is little if anything being done to curb the ferral dog / cat population - focus on this issue before you destroy these small businesses.



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 10:29:27 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kortney Burch	Koolau Pets	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 7:15:38 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James Gauer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 1:12:50 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pauline Piliialoha Yap	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am a licensed veterinarian in good standing in the state of Hawai'i, have been a practicing veterinarian for 23 years and have been a resident for over 50 years. I am well aware of the overpopulation and abandonment of animals in Hawai'i and I do NOT support H.B. No 930.

In Section 1 of the bill, it states, "The legislature finds that the State's pet overpopulation issue must be addressed," and further discusses the issue of an overabundance of unwanted pets, puppy mills and then takes a 180 degree turn to tout "responsible and ethical breeders" without a definition of what responsible and ethical is. It seems to imply that since these breeders sell directly to prospective owners and do not go through a pet store that these pets do not become part of the unwanted pet population. This is misinformation at its best as many "pure bred" pets from private breeders also end up in the shelters and on euthanasia lists. The pet stores have no role in that yet through this bill they are the only ones being held responsible and penalized.

1. bill further defines that, "The purpose of this Act is to encourage animal adoption and prohibit pet stores from selling dog, cats, and rabbits unless the animal was obtained from certain humane sources." As if preventing the sale of animals from a pet store will solve the problem of overpopulation and abandonment.

The crux of the overpopulation and abandonment problem should be correctly placed on the shoulders of the breeders and the owners who abandon the pets and not on pet stores. I believe this bill is errant in its efforts to curb the overpopulation and abandonment of pets.

First and foremost is to require all homeless pets to be spayed and neutered. This is a continuous stream of pets ending up in pet stores as the homeless use them as a source of income.

Secondly, if any law should be passed, it should be addressed at the breeders in at least these areas:

1. All breeders should be registered with the state and pay an appropriate fee to do so.
2. Facilities of breeding animals must be inspected and pass basic health inspection and the breeder must pay an appropriate inspection fee.
3. A limit of breeding pairs must be implemented.
4. All breeding pairs must be examined by a licensed veterinarian in good standing to attest to their health (both physical and temperamental) and fitness to breed. These standards are to be determined by the veterinary board of governors with input from the veterinarian community.
5. All litters must be registered with the state and pay an appropriate fee.
6. Breeders are required to keep records on all breeding pairs and their litters and the persons to whom they sell a pet to.
7. Breeders must have contracts with prospective purchasers, which must include the clause that the breeder will take back any pet sold for any reason where the purchaser no longer can provide for the pet.

Lastly, in addition to restrictions on breeders, owners of pets in the state of Hawai'i must bear the onus of ownership in that they must provide a clean, safe and healthy environment for the pet for the entire lifetime of the pet. If they find they need to rehome the pet, the responsibility to do so falls on the owner and not on shelters and rescue groups. Since owners should also be registered there should be a way to locate negligent owners who abandon their pets and they must pay an appropriate fine that has substance i.e. \$1000 per abandoned pet. This law must apply to all military personnel and their families and to any government employee or government contracted employee and their families as well. A substantial portion of the abandon pets come from the military and its affiliates.

Without addressing the true source of overpopulation, which is overbreeding and abandonment there will never be an end to the problem. Penalizing the middle man (pet stores) simply removes the middle man from the equation without fixing the problem.

I do support requiring pet stores to keep records from whom they receive pets and prohibit them from acquiring pets from the homeless and “backyard breeders” which should be doable if all breeders are required to follow what is outlined above.

Pauline Yap, DVM

808.623.7387

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 9:32:30 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rene Umberger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 1:56:55 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kiana Inkster	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 2:23:44 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ron Darby	Individual	Comments	No

## Comments:

My name is Ron Darby. Over the last 10 years I have been producing a local TV show called The Pet Hui on OC16. Full disclosure The Pet Hui has sponsors from local pet stores, and local animal shelters, (both sides of this issue). I understand that Hawaii has a problem with feral cats and dogs. I have been working with a few of Hawaii's pet stores and local animal shelters over the years and this is my opinion on what I have observed. I feel that if people who want a specific breed of dog cannot go to an establishment to acquiring one, a new industry will rise to fill that need. Most likely out of individuals houses, make shift structures, and other off the regulation grid locations. This could lead to worst issues. When local pet stores sell animals, it is a place that Hawaii's enforcement offices can visit on a regular basis, enforce the law, add regulations, and other ways of control to ensure that animal cruelty is not happening. Rather than trying to find where the animals are bring sold. There are other creative ways to us this industry to help the unfortunate animals. Add a spay and neuter tax, every animal sold money is donated to Hawaii's shelters, and so on.



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 10:35:46 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kyra	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 11:09:31 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leah Gayton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB930****Relating to animals**

**Aloha, My name is Leah Gayton and I am a student from Le Jardin Academy, graduating class of 2021. I fully support HB930 and would love to see this bill become a law. I'm representing myself in the support of this bill.**

**This bill is very important to make into a law because pet store owners often get their animals from inhumane sources. A common place animals are obtained from is puppy mills. These inhumane conditions are filthy and often cause behavior and mental issues late in life. The animals are treated very poorly and when pet store owners buy animals from these inhumane sources, this provides money and is heightening the demand. I personally love animals and it really pains me to see these innocent animals being treated this way. I know of friends and family who have supported pet stores who sell animals that are from these sources without knowing where the animals come from. It hurts to know that these big name pet stores are legally allowed to get animals and sell them, even when puppy mills and backyard breeders are driven by profits and value their money over the animals well-being.**

**Thank you for allowing me to provide my opinion on this bill. Once again, I am in favor of HB930 moving on from a bill to a law.**

**Mahalo,****Leah Gayton**

**Le Jardin Academy**

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 11:44:22 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Walter M. Kishimoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear legislator,

I think it is a very sad day when our children can no longer go to a pet shop and look at and purchase a pet except if it comes from a so-called "humane source". This bill will lead to more people selling pets on craigslist and increase potentially inhumane sources being developed. It will also create a monopoly for those so-called "humane sources". Of course "you superior politicians" don't listen to your constituents unless we can pay our way as part of the machine that drives politics in Hawaii. Sad for us common working people.....as usual you don't listen and only want more power and control in our lives.

No Aloha,

Sincerely,

Walter Kishimoto

808-358-5103

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 4:13:30 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lori Lawrence	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I have bought 4 puppies from a local pet store expanding over 15 years. All puppies came with vet. care and health guarantees. I have never had any problems with the pet store or their puppies. I had several friends purchase puppies from craig's list and had no way to contact the seller after the purchase. They were left on their own to deal with any health issue. The pet shop was always there to help us with any questions. I feel that bill HB930 is targeting the wrong group of sellers. e

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 7:41:00 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tina Kim	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 10:02:36 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rylee Brooke Kamahele	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill and I think it is so important to require pet stores to microchip and sterilize as well as medically treat all pets that they adopt out. We have a pet overpopulation problem and this is a small but very vital step in helping to fix the problem.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 8:41:57 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Clayton Cotton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

To Rep. Creagon and members of the House Committee on Agriculture,

1. OPPOSE HB930 because I do not think it addresses issues of concerns. First off, selling puppies, cats, and rabbits at the pet shops does not all come from unethical breeders. Secondly, when you get animals from the animal shelter it does not guarantee healthier pets. know of certain people that have adopted animals from the Humane Society and other animal shelters and their pets had health problems that drove them nearly broke with vet bills. Thirdly, if this bill passes, it will force all pet shops to go out of business. This is their livelihood. We need to support our local businesses instead allowing all these mainland companies to take over. We should work together as a community instead of creating division with bills like this.

Thank you,

Clayton Cotton

(Constituent of Rep. Cachola)



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 8:51:57 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lorien Kuster	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

It seems that “adopt, don’t shop” is the essence of this bill. Adopting good, sweet, perfectly-adoptable animals rather than shopping/buying animals from breeders with inhumane living conditions is the way to save as many animals as possible. So many animals are euthanized by the Hawaiian Humane Society every year- and that’s not right. Please make adopting healthy and wholesome animals a priority. Please make “puppy mills” a thing of the past. Please help save as many animals as possible, because animals’ lives matter too.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 10:50:21 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
cody lawrence	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 11:26:28 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paul	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 12:56:27 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Madison	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 1:02:06 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ashley Wilcox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 6:15:13 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Renee M Carvalho	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Do not take away pet shops selling dogs. I got my dog from Ko'olau pet shop in Kaneohe and she's part of the family now.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 6:18:02 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
alli	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 6:35:27 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Moran	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 7:42:45 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tracy Herzog	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The continued use of fireworks not just at New Years but throughout the year is ongoing. The very loud nature of the illegal practice on a continuous basis literally scares my two dogs to the extreme. It appears alright to sacrifice our pets to this onslaught, as despite the illegality it continues unabated. If you are allowed to break one law, more will follow. I implore our legislative body to enact HB930 to give a voice to the most affected. Our pets are suffering, we as their caretakers must be wise and do what is right and is just.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 11:45:55 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Scott Johnson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 9:17:34 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
kuuipo De Lima	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 7:11:36 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Terry Nii	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I oppose this bill. While I think that the idea of rescuing dogs is noble, not all rescue dogs meet the needs and wants of consumers. The pet stores in Hawaii that I know of buy their puppies from responsible small breeders or small family breeders. Puppy mills are not a big problem here in Hawaii. I feel that people should have the choice of where to get their pet. The pet store that I know of here, is a family business that sells healthy, vet checked puppies. If you go to a rescue organization, they often don't have the breeds, sizes or ages of dogs that are wanted. If you eliminate the selling of pets in pet stores, many of them won't be able to stay in business and it will affect our ability to purchase pet items from small, family run businesses instead of mainland chains and big box stores.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:30:20 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lynn Onderko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 12:36:50 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Douglas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 3:58:05 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brent Chung	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I'm writing in behalf of pet stores as well as future parents with their future families. When you purchase pets from a store such as puppies and kittens or rabbits and other small animals, you have peace of mind knowing that the said animals have been purchased through reputable families as well as breeders. Not from puppy mills nor from customers who raise their pets just for profit. They come from loving families that treat these animals not as just pets but as part of the family. Yes as breeders, they want the very best for their family. To find loving and caring homes that will love them in return. That being said when reputable pet stores have these puppies and kittens and small animals for sale they can offer the best start ever for the prospective buyer. For example, the pet store takes the animals to the vet for a health check as well as any vaccinations or worming that's required before they are offered for sale. Thereafter a follow up visit is offered at the time of purchase. This provides the person or family making the purchase a great start to healthy pet.

If one is not able to purchase the pets from reputable pet stores, where would they go? To Craigslist or to the classified ads? Yeah from people whom they do not know nor did they ever meet. What's the conditions that they're bred in? Do they take them to the veterinary for a health check up and vaccinations? The answer is no! They don't do any of it! They don't care about the potential buyer who's looking for the first pet for the family or a companion for an aging parent! It's all about the money! With them there are no guarantees only broken promises once the money exchanges hands. So if you want to see children hurt or families hurt with bad purchases made through the internet sales from Craigslist or other online ads, then go ahead and let this bill be passed. I'm sure you'll find more headaches and lawsuits from bad sales or pets sold knowing they are in poor health.

So please DO NOT pass bill HB930! Let the reputable pet stores carry on in providing healthy pets for the public. They really want the best for the pets that are purchased. They are also providing if you will - a line of protection for the families who are looking to add to their family with a new pet from reputable breeders.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 6:16:59 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James Frohardt	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Special hardship on small pet shops. The way bill is written, the only valid breeder is one who sells only to private individuals; those who sell to pet stores are assumed to be bad. This is a bad bill, based on a broad generalization that punishes innocent with the guilty.

The pet store that we frequent is a small mom/pop store. We got a dog there that was an OSPCA animal that was "on display" in the shop. They also have animals of their own for sale. Without being able to sell animals, they will likely go out of business. We can get dog food and etc from other places, but it would be a shame if we lose these people and their business because of a reckless government regulation.



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:48:15 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
jennifer schneider	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 9:54:03 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sash Fitzsimmons	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill,

this will put alot of pet stores out of business.

Pet stores vet where the animal comes from and every animal gets checked by a licensed veterinarian. There business reputation is on the line and only sell high quality and disease free animals to the public.

Mahalo,

Sash Fitzsimmons

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 12:12:05 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Evonne Leftwich	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

There are some pet stores that a safe haven to purchase pets. There are requirements set for vaccines and a consumer has a contractual agreement on care and requirements set forth the dog receives required shots and care at least the dog I purchased. I have confidence in the system as it stands if there are concerns perhaps other restrictions or regulations set around care for pets and living quarters, etc should be set forth. Additionally, how many dogs would be left on the streets or put down because pet stores need to release their dogs to "humane" sources.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 8:11:47 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lor. Maki	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 10:36:48 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephanie McLaughlin	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Please pass this bill. I know many people who have bought puppies from pet stores and the puppy eventually had major health problems or died because the puppy originated from a puppy mill breeder who did not care about breeding puppies that were healthy and mentally fit.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 10:57:23 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gail McElrath	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Retailers need to keep records of animals they sell from a shelter or rescue and to keep records showing the sources of the animals for sale so we know puppy mills were not involved.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 12:45:39 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrea Nandoskar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 2:57:48 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Ho	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Hi, I'm Jennifer Ho, animal advocate and owner. I support the bill to prohibit pet store owners from selling animals where they do not know or disclose the source. Too many animals are being raised for monetary purposes only, with no regard to the conditions they are raised in. Sometimes this means they are filthy, contained in small areas, or ridden with pests such as fleas and ticks. Store owners need to be responsible for safe sourcing.



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 3:45:21 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Correa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 3:52:40 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jaunette Itsuno	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support HB 930 which would simultaneously address multiple issues such as illegal puppy mills, overpopulation and encouragement of animal adoptions from humane sources.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 4:50:57 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Govier	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

To Rep.Creagan and Members of Agriculture Committee,

I urge you to OPPOSE HB 930

1. It is based on flagrant statements and NO facts.
2. It conflates the bad people and practices in the pet world with legitimate and reputable businesses, all pet stores. Previous legislatures took care of these problems. These problems have snoting to do with legitimate pet store businesses.
3. It uses legislation to unfairly force pet shops to ONLY sell animals from the "rescue" organizations by REMOVING THE COMPETITION from private breeders.

Can you do that? Use legislation to remove competition in business.It is about money for "rescue"non-profits too.

4. Pet provide a safe service for animals and for consummers.Or the consummers put them out of business.

Please VOTE NO on HB 930

thanks you, Mrs. Susan Govier

Pet stores do NOT haveanythingto do with the bad practices of some people.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 4:52:15 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kimilee	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I vote against this bill. I believe a child or a family should be able to buy from a pet store not only

to watch it grown up with you but to have knowledge of where the animal came from. How to raise the animals. You can also educate the kids on how to raise the animals teach them responsibility from when the animals are at young age. It's so amazing to watch when kids can grow up with their animals. I believe it should be a choose to either choose to buy from a pet store or get one from the Human Society. It shouldn't be taken away from buying a puppy or an rabbit from a pet store. A lot of the animals at the human society are older and harder to work with. There is at times Younger animals but not much.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 6:02:27 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Casey	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

**Committee on Agriculture**

**Representative Creagan, Chair**

**Representative DeCoite, Vice Chair**

**Committee Members,**

**I strongly oppose HB 930, as it's passing would destroy my family's small business. Please do not allow it to pass.**

**My family owns The Pet Hale, a family run pet store in Mililani. We offer pets, including puppies and rabbits for sale in our store. The pets that we sell do not come from any of the inhumane facilities that this bill mentions. The wording in this bill insinuates that people who sell their pets directly to the public rather than through a store have higher standards of care than those who sell their pets through a store. This statement is simply not accurate. There are people to do things with integrity and those who do not, which applies to any industry or business. The route that a family chooses to use to find homes for their pets, does not decide rather or not they raised their pets in a less loving or healthy environment. On the contrary, most people who raise their pets in inhumane or unhealthy conditions realize that their pets would not pass our screening process.**

**Each person or business should be held accountable for how they conduct themselves, not for what someone else believes to be what happens "often". The stereotyping distresses me, as my family's reputation is being based off of opinions and the actions of others. It is incredibly wrong to accuse my family (and the other local, family pet stores on island) of doing something wrong,**

without taking the time to come talk to us and see what we are actually doing. We always welcome questions about the care of our animals and where our pets come from, but often judgements are made without giving us a chance to defend ourselves.

If you take the time to come into our store and ask us where our puppies come from, this is what we will tell you:

The puppies we sell are sold on consignment for local families whose pet has a litter. Sometimes these families wish to keep a baby from their pet, but can't realistically keep a whole litter of puppies. Sometimes they simply wish to enjoy the experience of raising a litter of puppies. These families are more comfortable selling their puppies through our store than on the side of the road or on craigslist. We have exams done by licensed veterinarians before deciding if the litter will be brought in. If the vet (and we) feel that the pups are physically healthy enough to come in, and were raised properly (in a loving and healthy environment), we proceed to vaccinate, deworm, and find homes for these pups.

We also offer low cost adoption puppies. Your next question may be "What makes a puppy be a low cost adoption?". Any member of our family or staff will be able to tell you that these puppies are sometimes pups that have not passed their physical exam for reasons that are easily resolved. We feel that these pups deserve homes too, so we treat the issue and adopt them out after discussing the situation with any potential new family. Some of these reasons may be: hair loss from fleas, a large amount of worms, or coccidia. We also like to take opportunities like this to help educate the family who raised the pups. They are often very receptive to the advice. Other times that we take puppies in on adoption basis would be if the pups were a little older than we would normally sell them at. Last month we took in a 16wk old litter and found them homes within a few days.

Many of the pups that we adopt out for such reasons could potentially end up in shelters otherwise. There have been several litters that we have adopted out for families who were in circumstances where they didn't know what to do with the pups, and were ready to take the litters to Hawaiian Humane Society. By bringing them in and finding them homes, they are kept out of the shelters.

If you come into our store and meet our family, you will see how loved our puppies are. There is rarely a time where you would come in and NOT see one or more of our family or staff working with the puppies. We commit a huge part of every day to feeding and cleaning up after our puppies, rabbits, and other pets. This is something we do because we love our pets. We love to help people find homes for their pets while feeling comfortable with where their babies end up. We love being part of the process of helping someone find a pet that is the perfect match for their home. We love seeing those families months or years later, still in love with the pet that we helped them to be able to take home. We don't have a lot of money, we don't have any days off (we are here on every holiday), when there are emergencies with a pet we drop everything to take care of him or her. During the threat from Hurricane Lane and Hurricane Olivia last year, we stayed at our store overnight for several days, just in case there was a road closure preventing us from getting to the store (featured in Honolulu Star Advertiser). This is what we believe to be proper care. We do it because we believe in taking the best care possible of any pet entrusted to us.

This is a labor of love. We would not sell pets that were raised in inhumane conditions. I urge you to come into our store. Talk to us. Talk the families who own the other local pet stores in HI. If HB 930 passes, we will go out of business. We will go out of business because we are being punished for something that we have never done and would never do. This bill will be detrimental to small businesses here in HI, including local pet stores and the veterinarians, groomers, boarding facilities, feed stores and any other businesses who get business from the pets being sold in stores.

Something I would like to point out is that we DO support the local animal shelters. We have offered to help with adoptions with several shelters/rescue organizations on island. We have been terribly disappointed in the fact that none of them accept our help adopting out the pets that need homes. There is only one shelter who has allowed us to help them. We adopted out many puppies, adult, and senior dogs for them within the timeframe of around a year. Eventually they stopped bringing dogs to us, although we have reached out several times. We were able to find homes for the dogs very quickly and easily, including a senior Miniature Pinscher who was 11 yrs old. If the shelters are as overwhelmed with abandoned pets as this bill states, should they not accept help from someone who is willing and able to give it? We often refer our customers to shelters when they are looking for a pet. We offer pets for sale as well, because people should have a choice as to where their new family member is coming from. People should have the right to decide between getting a pet from a shelter, breeder, or store. None of those choices are wrong or unethical.

**Please, do not pass this bill. We have laws already in affect to ensure proper housing and humane treatment of pets. We need to focus on enforcing laws that are already in place rather than creating new laws that hurt small businesses.**

**Thank you for reading my testimony.**

**Respectfully,**

**Casey Baker**



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 4:56:14 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
joel fischer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

THANK YOU FOR PASSING THIS BILL.

As you know, this bill will provide very important protections for our animal friends. It is way overdue.

Thank you.

Aloha,

Dr. Joel Fischer

Professor (RET.)

University of Hawai`i at Manoa

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 7:17:47 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Wilcox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Hawaii State Legislature,

My name is Bernadette Guerrero-Dugan. I am a concerned citizen who feels that bill HB930, which is being introduced on February 8, 2019, would be an unjust act against pet stores and the citizens of Hawaii. The pet shop I purchase my supplies from have demonstrated respect, love, and great care for the animals that come into their establishment. The little angels are healthy and clean. Yes, I believe there are places out there that abuse animals. Those are the places that should be shut down. Please do not take away our freedom to walk into a pet shop and take home a precious baby to love and cherish. I would trust a Pet store more than I would trust someone selling a puppy, cat, or bunny “on the side of the road”.

Thank you for your time.

Aloha,

Bernadette

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 9:09:24 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hazel Freeman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please vote NO on this bill. Reputable and responsible pet stores should be able to sell pets just like everyone else. This bill is wrong.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 9:35:17 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Akamine	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 11:31:55 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
jerrie ann obrero	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Although I understand the reasons behind this concern, I do not agree with preventing pet stores to sell animals. I feel that pet stores nurture animals and provide homes for animals. The problems are not at the pet stores, they help house homeless animals by working with the humane society and other non profit organizations. Insinuating selling animals from a pet store contributes to problems such as puppy mills is an irrelevant point. I strongly disagree with this bill or measure and hope that my testimony can provide some insight.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 9:30:55 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
April M Blades	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB930 and urge the committee to pass. All animals sold at pet stores should only ever come from humane sources. Let Hawai'i join the many other states and Canada in prohibiting the sale of animals from anywhere other than humane sources.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this bill,

April M Blades

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 9:54:20 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Dangelmaier	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha

I oppose HB 930 due to concern that it will actually lessen the ability to ensure that the public has access to pets from sources that provide proper care and raising of puppies, kittens and rabbits. It might have the unintended consequence of promoting procurement or breeding of "rescue" animals to provide to pet shops from sources difficult to track. Responsible preservation breeders of animals are certainly an excellent source of conscientiously raised and bred animals, as noted in the bill - happy to see this acknowledged. But such individuals are not numerous and do not provide sufficient numbers of animals due to the expense and care required, and are not able to meet public demand. It would seem much more feasible to have monitoring of the sources of pets at pet stores, and easier to check on those providing the stock, than to check on the source of animals put into rescue and humane societies. Those rescue type of animals have much less known sources. If well regulated a pet store might be superior to obtaining through other, more difficult to monitor sources. If it is desired to reduce the numbers of unwanted pets, laws should first take the time to collect data necessary to understand where unwanted animals are coming from and why they are entering rescues and shelters. Laws specifically designed to educate the public on pet ownership, how to procure a responsibly bred animal, and so forth based on addressing causes would be more effective. If animals continue to enter rescues and shelters at high numbers, to supply pet shops, or for whatever the causes are today, there is no improvement on welfare or pet population. If there continues to be demand for certain types of pets, someone will be willing to meet it. Thank you for your time.



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 10:25:19 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kylie Charice Alarcon	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I would highly support this bill. We need to stop a pet store operator from selling a dog, cat or rabbit unless the dog, cat or rabbit was obtained from certain humane sources. We need to make sure that pet stores are accountable and prohibits them from selling pets.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 10:45:52 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Katherine Linster	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I testify strongly in support of HB 930 with amendments detailed below. While Hawaii has been a leader in ensuring our community has adequate health insurance and we are making strong in roads in reducing our environmental impact, sadly, we are trailing our mainland counterparts in the humane and responsible treatment of our animals. This is a humanity issue. How we treat our animals reflects on our own humanity, specifically, the kindness and responsibility we foster in our community. HB 930 is a much needed step in that direction. Simply put, pets are not commodities and the kill rates at our animal "shelters" are unacceptable. HB 930 fosters a responsible partnership between pet stores and rescue groups and organizations, which benefits both the pet store and the community.

To ensure that HB 930 advances the needs of the community, please consider the following amendments:

- Incorporate the use of the word "adoption" instead of sale in paragraph e. Pets are not commodities.
- Requiring the sterilization of pets prior to their adoption.
- Removing specific references to a humane society or spca, paragraphs (a)(2), (a)(3), and (a)(4) as the verbiage inappropriately limits the ability for rescue organizations to partner with pet stores.
- Removing the limitations in paragraph (a)(4) that the rescue group be in a cooperative agreement with a government entity. Instead, the language should be broad enough to allow for 501(c)(3) charitable rescue organizations to work in partnership with pet stores.

The limitations in paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(4) basically inappropriately requires that a rescue group either be contracted with a government entity or with societies that have in most, though not all cases, a very high kill rate. Such limitations on rescue groups does not comport to the spirit of HB 930 and severely limits the impact of HB 930. Therefore, I strongly urge these amendments be made.

Please pass HB 930 with the above-amendments and help us continue to foster kindness and responsibility in our communities.

Thank you.



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 1:05:06 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cecilia Adams	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Pet stores have the best interest of the animals in mind. If left to individuals they would not get the required care before the animal is sold. Why are you trying to take away ones livelihood?

Shame on whomever introduces this bill. Get a life please. And I bet you're not even an animal lover.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 3:15:19 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Buyukacar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 4:35:36 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William P Campbell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Name: William Campbell, individual citizen

Committee: Agriculture

Date/time: 8 February, 08:30am

Measure Number: HB 930

I hereby, oppose HB 930.

The measure implies that pet stores derive their puppies from puppy mills. I say that is “false” in the state of Hawaii. I have visited pet stores on a number of occasions to find very low numbers of puppies available or none available. Think about it, if these stores were being supplied by puppy mills, then those operators would keep the stores full of puppies, an overabundance of puppies and large variety of breeds to choose from but that’s not occurring in our stores. From my observations, I have seen healthy puppies, that are cared for, vet checked with health certificates by various pet store operators. Additionally, I rarely see any cats/kittens in a pet store.

I ask you, for you may have visited the stores – have you seen puppies/kittens in stress? Bad conditions? An overabundance of puppies/kittens for people to view/purchase? I would say the answer is “no”.

In today’s world of social media, if a pet store was selling inferior animals or other supplies (food, toys, bedding, etc) – people would be posting “negative data” to various social media applications with their reviews, pictures, video – “they are not”.

Pet stores provide people an option on where to purchase their animals and supplies. Some people prefer finding their new additions through the pet stores versus searching the internet through various websites/ads or newspaper classified advertisements.

To imply unwanted pets come from pet stores, is another “false statement”. Many factors can influence why pets become “unwanted”. Examples are:

1. Death of owner
2. Change in residence (pet owners may need to move, and the new place does not allow pets)

3. Loss of job
4. Lack of residential places that allow pets
5. New baby
6. Children develop allergies
7. Moving out of state
8. Extensive vet bills (not many pets have health insurance, and vet bills can add up quickly)
9. And the list goes on

Pet stores provide care guidelines, instruction pamphlets but the one thing the stores cannot teach is responsibility by the human owner. While they can try to inform the new owner, they cannot teach the owner the value of commitment, time, cost, and overall: taking responsibility. That will apply to any animal – whether from the pet store or adopted through the humane society or a no kill shelter.

Additionally, the American Kennel Club (AKC) posted on their website the various Hawaii bills under review. For this bill, HB 930 – they clearly state “they oppose this bill”. The largest kennel club in the United States, opposes this bill. They support “Freedom of Choice”. Strongly opposes any measure that restricts choice by compelling people on where to obtain their pets.

I hereby ask, that you “Oppose” HB 930. Allow the people of Hawaii the “Freedom of Choice” on where they want to obtain their new family addition: Pet Stores or Internet listings or Social Media pet groups or Humane Society or No Kill shelters, etc. Puppies from pet stores are examined by vets, receive health certificates, shots and other routine procedures. One provides full vet care! Our stores are not supporting puppy mills.

Support measures to lower costs for individuals to have their animals spayed/neutered, educate the owners on the responsibility of pet ownership, and other programs to assist individuals with aging pets who cannot afford vet care – who may end up on the “unwanted” list (wanted but cannot afford the vet bills).

Sincerely,

William Campbell

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 5:28:17 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
carole richelieu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 8:32:47 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Celeste Kato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of HB930.

It is agreed that there is an overpopulation of unwanted, homeless, feral, free-roaming, and discarded animals. Sadly, many end up being euthanized. The regulation of the “sale” of dogs, cats, and rabbits by pet stores will go a long way toward emphasizing the importance of caring for and finding homes for the animals.

While the intent of HB930 is awesome, I believe there needs to be a few amendments to the language.

- Change “sale” of a pet to “adoption” – pets are part of the family and should not be for sale
- All dogs and cats adopted from the pet store should be sterilized, microchipped, flea treated, dewormed, and up to date on vaccines prior to adoption. To stop the cycle of overpopulation, spay and neuter is critical.
- Section 2, a, 4: “A rescue group that is in a cooperative agreement with at least one of the following:” should be changed to “a rescue group”. You define rescue group further down in the Bill. There is too much controversy surrounding the awarding of the animal control contract to an organization that is supposed to be looking out for the welfare of animals.

I believe this bill is the first step in helping to prevent more animals being killed needlessly due to overpopulation.

Thank you.

Celeste Kato

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 7:41:44 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brandy Baker	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**Committee on Agriculture**

Rep. Richard P Creagan, Chair

Rep. Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Committee Members

Regarding HB 930 (hearing date 2/8/18)

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members:

I am submitting my testimony in opposition of HB 930.

My family and I have owned and operated our local pet store (The Pet Hale) here on Oahu for the past 7 years. We have always provided our animals with the best care possible. All of our puppies come from local families, families who want to have a litter of puppies from their pets. They do this often because they wish to keep a pup from their own pets and obviously can't keep a full litter. Also, some simply want to experience having a litter of pups. The puppies we get come from loving homes and we do everything we can to make sure they go to loving homes, as well. We will and have refused many sales if the purchaser is unable or unwilling to provide the puppy with the proper care (that goes for all our animals).

The assumptions made in this bill about people who sell their animals to pet stores are inaccurate and insulting. As is the assumption that the owners of our local pet stores here in Hawaii are somehow less morally upright than those selling pups, cats and rabbits from their homes, on craigslist or simply on the side of the road. This is ridiculous!

I am aware that there have been problems in the past with some stores who did not provide proper care for their animals. The animal cruelty laws that are already in place took care of that. Those responsible were stopped by laws we ALREADY have in place. As much as I am aware of said problems, I am also aware that such problems also occur in animal shelters and other settings and facilities. Am I asking that all animal rescues be shut down or be prohibited from selling or adopting out their pets? Nope! That would be absolutely absurd. I would hope and expect that those responsible would be held accountable for THEIR actions rather than punishing the innocent along with the guilty. If that is how our system works then something is tragically wrong.

Passing HB 930 would unnecessarily limit our options when we're looking for a new pet here in Hawaii. A purchaser should have the right to choose who they want to get their pet from. Some people prefer to adopt, that's great! We believe it's a wonderful thing to give a home to a pup, cat or rabbit that's in a shelter. We often recommend that our customers take a look at a shelter before deciding on a pet, if it's something they're interested in. Some want to get from a breeder who focuses on a particular breed. Some prefer to get from a store, a family store that they can trust to put the pet's care first. A store that provides a one year \$1,000.00 warranty with each pup purchased. Is it wrong to choose the latter? Nope! Some people want to feel secure and that's ok!

All of our pups are examined by a licensed vet and if cleared receive their first shot, and deworming before they even come into our store. After a customer purchases a puppy from us, they not only receive the warranty mentioned above as a free gift, they also have a free vet check within seven days after purchase. This check-up is to ensure that our customers did, in fact, purchase a healthy pet and also it gives our customers peace of mind. Would we do that if we were simply in it for the money? It wouldn't make any sense. If we got pups from inhumane and unsanitary conditions as this bill says, we would constantly be paying out claims due to their preexisting health problems.

In any state, in any country, in any profession there are people who will do wrong, but we have laws set to punish the wrong doers. We do not need laws to punish those who have done nothing wrong simply because someone THINKS they MIGHT do something bad. In conclusion, I'm hoping that you see that this bill won't do any more than is being done already to stop animal cruelty. It will, however, mean the end of many small businesses in the islands including my family's business. In an effort to preserve Hawaii's resident's right to choose and the right for my family to continue running our store ethically, as we always have, please oppose HB 930.

Brandy Baker

Manager/Co-Owner

The Pet Hale

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 8:42:13 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Darrell Hanohano	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 10:28:54 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary James	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This will not require much work by the pet store owner but will provide some additional protections for the animals in addition to providing important information for the pet store customers.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 10:47:16 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeff Heisel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 10:53:54 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Antonella Scolpini	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this Bill! On these Islands we already have a serious overpopulation of cats and dogs and rabbits, adopting the already existing one is the most sustainable way.

Thanks Antonella Scolpini-Heisel



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 6:37:20 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB930, as it protects animals from "puppy mills," in which puppies often suffer from inhumane and neglectful conditions.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 7:33:46 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paige Holloway	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 9:36:36 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Yadrianna Cruz-Rivera	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 2:14:17 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sabrina Dela Rama	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Chair Creagan and members of the Committee,

I am a strong animal lover and does rescues.

I am in strong support of HB930 because I have seen so many animals dumped and abandon, even pure breeds. I have a Registered Blue Nose Pit Bull who was dumped on Lualualei road after being over breed, her name is Phantom. Phantom was on the side of the road, as I passed her, I saw her in my review mirror and reversed, I thought it was a puppy. It was a skin and bone fully grown Pit Bull. She was soooooo weak she couldn't get up, I carried into my truck, took her home and straight to the vets. Scanned her, she was microchipped, called and LM for chip owner. NO reply until 5 days later, he stated he sold her but didn't have the buyer's information (REALLY). Vets said, this dog was over breed and Phantom's puppies probably started getting sick as she was also very sick from over breeding. Found the Prior breeders, show it was 808 Blue Pit Blues and found Phantom on the internet for sale, after many postings and prices getting lowered, she was finally removed from the site for sale. From the time the breeder posted her as a puppy to the time I found her, it was about a 2 years later. This tells me, they couldn't sell her, then breed her, after she and her puppies probably became sick, weak or died, they had no use for her and dumped her.

HB 930 is desperately needed. I have rescued another Registered Pit Bull Name Hope who died 3 months after I rescued her, she was also from a breeder and the owners dumped her too. She was in the hospital for over 3 months and after her last surgery to remove a tumor, she died.

I have many rescue dogs but there's many more that needs homes, yet, we allow pet stores to encourage backyard breeding, breeders who doesn't care for the welfare of the animals, but the most important aspect is, we have so many dogs that will be euthanized due to lack of space at the Hawaiian Humane society. Thousands of animals are KILLED every year by HHS for over population, so why wouldn't we stop the sale of dogs at pet stores, when there's so many that needs a home from a NONE Profit rescue group.

Please Chairman Creagan and members of the Committee, please pass HB 930.

Mahalo,

Sabrina Dela Rama

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 2:16:31 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Harmon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I very strongly oppose this bill. I stand with the Hawaiian Humane Society on the vast majority of dog related issues, like letting dogs in restaurants whose owners choose to allow it. I oppose this bill for the same reasons: Economics and freedom of choice.

My wife & I have published Island Dog Magazine for over a decade, and we are intimately involved with the Pet Stores (many of whom are our advertisers) and dog owners (who send us pictures of their pups).

The first thing to understand is that Hawaii does not have a big problem with Puppy Mills, like on the mainland. There, dogs are bred in often-terrible conditions to be sold. They are freely transported across state lines. But not to Hawaii.

That's because our stringent laws protecting us from rabies effectively prevents dogs under 11 months old from entering the state. Puppies can reasonably be adopted at 6 weeks, but preferably 8. The Puppy Mills will not keep their products to be fed and housed for an extra 6-9 months plus pay for the required documentation and vet care and then pay to ship them here. Year-old dogs are not puppies, and Puppy Mills are named that for a reason.

So it's understandable that national chains Petco and Petsmart don't sell dogs because it really is a problem on the continent. But like the saying goes, "This ain't the Mainland!"

The pet stores provide a very needed middle zone in pricing between breeders and Craigslist and breeders at about \$500-\$1200 per pup. Breeders are charging \$2-4000 per dog, depending on breed.

Knowing the storeowners, I can tell you that they are very careful in their selection process and knowledgeable about dogs, which gives customers an added sense of confidence in that their new addition has been screened by a professional. The storeowners establish relationships with local families who bring them a litter every year or two, and they have usually been raised in a home environment.

Most puppies at local stores also come with their first visit to the vet included to get things off on the right paw.

If you eliminate pet stores as a source, where will folks find dogs? Adoption, which is already at a high rate in Hawaii and often doesn't have desired breeds or puppies; expensive Purebred sellers, whose prices are understandable, but out of the average family's reach; and an unknown number of shady characters, who will take advantage of the rising cost of dogs when there is no competition.

I, for one, fear that this bill will create a far worse situation.

-John Harmon

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 2:15:52 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
penny lutz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This bill is a slap in the face to all pet owners on the islands. It will directly affect all pet shops, many owned as small businesses in the state and thus the many people who count on them for supplies for their beloved animals as well as the animals themselves. The pet stores (and there are quite a few) I have dealt with, take their responsibility of informing the public on proper pet care seriously and have a real love of animals or would not be doing what they are doing. The humane society has its proper place and ability to find the right pet for some people and pet shops fill that same void in a slightly different but just as important a manner. Both choices should be available to the public! Passing this bill will not achieve any positive lasting impact and will negatively affect many on both the selling and buying end.



**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 3:19:54 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aaron Kodama	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

There are very few locally owned pet stores in Hawaii. The few remaining are small family owned businesses. They care for animals very lovingly and carefully. They spend time educating new pet owners and help with the future care of the animals. If the state were to pass this bill, it would now create more undue hardships for these small family businesses. The last few locally and family owned businesses will close down and cease to exist. Children will not have a safe venue to observe, learn, and purchase an animal to be their companion. It may even encourage a worse underground scenario of poorly treated pets being sold on the street corners or on the internet. It will be even more difficult for the Humane Society or any government agency to find and track down pet peddlers who may breed animals inhumanely or force them to live in filthy conditions. In a local pet store, the government or inspectors can easily see that pets are treated well. They also know exactly where to find the owner. These pet shops rely on the sales of pets to help pay their rent and to continue to run their businesses. Creating more rules and laws makes the business environment even tougher in Hawaii. How about continuing to enforce the current humane pet laws? Continue to investigate and follow up on leads where animals are treated cruelly or live in unsanitary conditions. Please do not pass more laws that make the business environment even more challenging for pet stores.

Thank you for your consideration to reject this bill

## decoite2 - Sara

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**From:** Marian Hussenbux <mhussenbux@btinternet.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 6, 2019 1:12 AM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimonies HB681, HB200, HB930, HB24, HB716, HB127

Dear Officers of the House Agriculture Committee of the State of Hawai'i – aloha!

I write, in reference to the debates in the Legislature this coming Friday, on behalf of *The Animal Interfaith Alliance*, an international alliance of faith groups founded in Britain concerned about the welfare of animals. Our member organisations and individual members include Buddhists, Christians, Hindus, Jains, Jews, Muslims and Sikhs. We are all united by our common concern for animals, based on our various faiths. Our member organisations are listed below.

May we please submit the following:

“Testimony in support of **HB681**”

We would like to support HB681. Allowing companion dogs in restaurants, at the restaurant owners' discretion, will create a more compassionate society in that it will normalise the affectionate links we have with our animal companions.

“Testimony in support of **HB200**”

We would like to support HB200 which would prohibit the use of certain restraints and tethers that endanger, or deny sustenance, to a dog. To be restrained in often inadequate conditions and sometimes for all their lives, is cruel and disrespectful.

“Testimony in support of **HB930**”

We would like to support HB930 which would prohibit pet store operators from selling a dog, cat or rabbit unless the animals were obtained from certain humane sources such as a shelter or rescue and, importantly to keep records showing the sources of the animals for sale. There can be much neglect and even cruelty in this trade and it fosters breeding when the rescues are full of animals needing good homes.

“Testimony in support of **HB24**”

We would like to support HB24 which establishes the criminal offence of sexual assault of an animal. We understand that the state's existing animal cruelty laws could be used to prosecute cases where there is evidence of physical harm to the animal, but these are not sufficient, and, in any case, to allow sexual assault goes against all norms of civilised society, which we believe Hawai'i to be.

“Testimony in support of **HB716**”

We would like to support HB716 which would prohibit the importation of wild animals for exhibition in a circus, carnival, or other live animal act or performance. We were delighted to be informed that this bill would codify last year's hard-won rule change at the state Department of Agriculture on the same subject.

“Testimony in opposition to **HB127**”

We would like to oppose HB127 which would create a littering penalty that would apply to anyone caring for an animal who leaves faecal waste on public or private property.

Of course, we support the requiring of guardians to clean up after their animals, but this measure could be used to punish the volunteers who care for Free-Roaming cats. This would be wholly unacceptable, as it would make it impossible to care for these needy cats, which is a duty on all societies.

Mahalo to you all!

Kindest regards,

**Marian Hussenbux. Secretary International Campaigns**

**Animal Interfaith Alliance**

**[www.animal-interfaith-alliance.com](http://www.animal-interfaith-alliance.com)**

***Faiths Working Together for Animals***

**Member Organisations:**

**[Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals](#)**

**[Bhagvatinandji Education and Health Trust](#)**

**[Catholic Concern for Animals](#)**

**[Christian Vegetarian Association UK](#)**

**[Christian Vegetarian Association US](#)**

**[Dharma Voices for Animals UK](#)**

**[Institute of Jainology](#)**

**[Islamic Concern](#)**

**[Jewish Vegetarian Society UK](#)**

**[Mahavir Trust](#)**

**[Oshwal Association of the UK](#)**

**[www.panorthodoxconcernforanimals.org](http://www.panorthodoxconcernforanimals.org)**

Quaker Concern for Animals

Sadhu Vaswani Centre

Young Jains

**President** - Dr Richard D. Ryder. **Vice President** - Dr Deborah Jones.

**Patrons (in alphabetical order)** - Rev. Christa Blanke, Joyce D'Silva, Kay, Duchess of Hamilton, Satish Kumar, Nitin Mehta MBE, Dr Andre Menache, Dr Alpesh Patel, Dr Matthieu Ricard, Anant Shah, Ajit Singh MBE, Charanjit Singh, Mohammad Safa.

**LATE**

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 5:33:03 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Janine Corpuz-Robinson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this Bill.

**LATE**

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 7:10:24 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Erin Pinto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

With shelters overflowing, there should be no sale of dogs, cats, or rabbits. We need to consider the cruelty involved with breeding animals for sale. Not only do shelter animals languish as a result of people buying from pet stores, many animals are mistreated all along the process. Females are forcibly and repeatedly raped to become pregnant, their happiness and wellbeing is not the breeders' concern. There are many injuries and even deaths that go undetected, the pet stores do not give the animals the attention they need, and there is no screening of buyers to make sure the pets are going to a caring, properly equipped home. Please support this bill.

**LATE**

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 7:21:54 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sandie Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB930. Thank you.

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 7:46:20 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laurie Pottish	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Chair  
Rep. Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE



Lea Hollingsworth-Ramsey  
808-261-1534

Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> 2019, 8:30am

OPPOSE HB 930

**I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB 930 Relating to Animals**, which would prohibit the sale of dogs, cats, rabbits in pet stores unless the animals are obtained from an animal control officer, the humane society (HS), a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals (SPCA), or a rescue group (RG).

**This bill is biased against pet stores as it does not prohibit the sale of dogs, cats and rabbits from other entities** (such as individuals and commercial breeders selling in the Newspaper, on Craigslist, Facebook, and other internet sites). **Customers prefer to patronize an established business when it comes to investing in a pet.** They like the security and peace of mind that comes from making their purchase from a reputable establishment that has responsibly sourced an animal to sell in their place of business. **Customers do not want to buy an animal from an unknown person in a back alley, parking lot, or public park.** If you prohibit the sale of animals in pet stores, you are removing the only open and accessible option for folks to acquire their pets.

**Forcing pet stores to obtain animals from rescues restricts the breed/type/variety of animals available to their customer base.** Pet stores know what will sell in their stores, and they cater to providing what their customers want. In doing so, they should have the freedom bring in animals, merchandise, equipment and/or goods that will enhance their business. Many pet store customers are interested in purchasing pedigreed animals with papers, known lineages and temperaments that are cultivated through selective breeding programs. These animals are quite pricey, and customers prefer to make those kinds of large purchases through a local store using a credit card. Plus, there is sense of greater accountability when patronizing a brick and mortar store. If there is an issue, the customer can return to the store. There is no such option when buying an animal off of Craigslist.

Furthermore, most **pet stores in Hawaii acquire their animals from responsible local people** that breed their family pets and show animals. **Local pet stores are NOT purchasing from puppy mills** (AKA large scale commercial breeding facilities as erroneously stated in the supporting text of the bill).

**Many animals turned over to rescue organizations are fully grown and unsuitable to be housed in a retail establishment.** Part of the reason pet stores typically sell young animals is, it is easier to accommodate the smaller size of a young animal, and there is less risk of potential injury to the customer. People are aware of the animals available at the HS, SPCA and RGs but they are not interested in those animals. The people that are interested go there in search of a pet that fits their lifestyle. Other people want animals that they can raise to fit their household and their lifestyle.

The vast majority of animals that are turned over to the Humane Society are not pedigreed animals, they are mixed breed (the product of indiscriminate and unrestricted pairings). The fact that so many animals wind up at the HS, SPCA and at RG would suggest **there is a problem with the owners, not a problem with the pet stores. Our local pet stores are not selling 10000 puppies a year.** Many stores are lucky if they sell 5 puppies in a month (5x12 months = 60 puppies a year per pet store). All the dogs that are ending up at the HS are not coming from the pet stores.

People take in animals when they have no intention of keeping them for their entire lifespan. Our islands have a high volume of temporary residents that are here for a few years and then they leave to another state. They take in animals, and when they leave, they turn them over to the HS, or they just abandon them. The strays are rounded up, and taken to the HS, SPCA, or a RG. Again, this is an owner problem not a pet store problem. **People that spend three or four thousand dollars on a pet do not abandon it in three years.**

**I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE HB 930 RELATING TO ANIMALS.** The solution to the state's pet overpopulation problem is not solved by this bill.

**LATE**

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 10:17:18 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maria Ginnebaugh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill!

Maria Ginnebaugh

**LATE**

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/8/2019 12:08:21 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julie Obrero	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please do not approve this bill. It is unfair & unjust to "responsible & ethical" breeders & Pet store owners. While animal cruelty & confinement along with improper breeding for selfish or cruel reasons are despicable, it is not right to punish or alienate the innocent parties who do not violate any laws or perform unjust actions towards their animals. Therefore, why hinder Pet stores or reputable breeders who provide them with vet checked & healthy animals for the public? Many families have gained another member to their family by purchasing one of many animals from various pet stores. It would be a shame if this long standing relationship between Pet store owners & reputable breeders be eliminated as a result of irresponsible & cruel individuals who not only harm animals but also instigated unjustified & unfair actions against innocent people who are trying to make a living and also continue providing breed lineage to loving homes. I humbly request for you to OPPOSE this bill & allow pet sale tradition to continue in Hawaii. Thank you for your time!

**LATE**

**HB-930**

Submitted on: 2/8/2019 12:11:50 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randal Ueno	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

## AGRtestimony

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**From:** Tasha Smulders <tashasmulders@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 7, 2019 6:58 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Subject:** Animal bills

Aloha my name is Tasha Smulders my address is 19-3973 ,Laukapu Ave., Volcano HAWAII 96785 My ph # 8082254525 I fully support the below bills!

HB 681

Status

RELATING TO DOGS.

Allows dogs in restaurants at the restaurant owner's or manager's discretion provided that certain conditions are met.

AGR, CPC/JUD

HB 1162

Status

RELATING TO PET BOARDING FACILITIES.

Regulates the operation of pet boarding facilities within the State.

AGR, JUD

HB 704

Status

RELATING TO COSMETICS.

Bans, beginning January 1, 2020, the import for profit, sale, and offer for sale of any cosmetic in the State, if the final product or any component of the product was developed or manufactured using animal testing performed on or after January 1, 2020. Effective January 1, 2020.

AGR, JUD/CPC

HB 716

Status

RELATING TO WILD ANIMALS.

Prohibits the importation of dangerous wild animals for exhibition in a circus, carnival, or other live animal act or performance.

AGR, JUD

HB 930

Status

RELATING TO ANIMALS.

Prohibits a pet store operator from selling a dog, cat, or rabbit unless the dog, cat, or rabbit was obtained from certain humane sources.

AGR, JUD

HB 1281

Status

RELATING TO ANIMAL CRUELTY.

Prohibits the confinement of specified animals in a cruel manner and prohibits business owners and operators from selling those animals. Prohibits slaughtering cats and dogs for human consumption to conform to federal law.

AGR, JUD

HB 200

Status

RELATING TO CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Prohibits certain restraints and tethers that endanger, or deny sustenance, to a dog. Specifies penalties and provides that fines for these crimes be paid to the respective county where the crime occurred.

AGR, JUD

HB 24

Status

RELATING TO ANIMAL SEXUAL ABUSE.

Establishes the criminal offense of sexual assault of an animal. Provides for impoundment and forfeiture of a sexually assaulted animal.

AGR, JUD

HB 127

Status

RELATING TO LITTER CONTROL.

Classifies allowing an animal under a person's care or control to drop fecal matter on public or private property as littering. Subject

Sent from my iPhone