

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



THOMAS J. BRADY
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

THE HONORABLE MARK M. NAKASHIMA, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Thirty-first State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawai`i

March 30, 2021

RE: S.B. 343, S.D. 1; RELATING TO SEXUAL ASSAULT OF AN ANIMAL.

Chair Nakashima, Vice-Chair Matayoshi and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu (“Department”) submits the following testimony in **support** of S.B. 343, S.D. 1, with additional recommendations, but takes no position on the proposed class of offense (class B or C felony) or proposed penalties.

The purpose of S.B. 343, S.D. 1, is to prohibit knowing sexual contact between a human and animal, with specific exceptions for veterinary medicine, animal husbandry, customary care by an owner, and other such routine purposes. The Department supports this intent, as various studies have shown a substantial—albeit not yet fully understood—correlation between perpetrators (in other states) sexually offending animals and sexually offending humans.¹ It is particularly troubling that Hawaii is currently one of only four states where sexual conduct with animals is not yet prohibited.²

¹ In a study of 456 bestiality-related offenders nationwide, arrested between 1975-2015, 45.6% had “sexually exploited or offended against children and adults either in the current incident or as part of their criminal background.” See Edwards, Jenny M., “Arrest and Prosecution of Animal Sex Abuse (Bestiality) Offenders in the United States, 1975–2015”, *The Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law*, Volume 47, Number 3, May 2019; pg. 10. Available online at <http://jaapl.org/content/jaapl/early/2019/05/16/JAAPL.003836-19.full.pdf>; last accessed January 31, 2021.

² As of 2020, sexual conduct between humans and animals is not prohibited in four states (Hawaii, New Mexico, West Virginia & Wyoming) and the District of Columbia. See Michigan State University, Animal Legal &

Should the Committee decide to pass this measure, the Department respectfully **recommends that the Committee carefully consider other statutes where the term “bestiality” is currently used in the Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”), to ensure clarity and consistency for stakeholders.**³ In particular, we recommend considering both the terminology and potential interplay between the proposed offense and some existing related offenses, such as Promoting child abuse in the first, second and third degree (HRS §707-750, -751, and -752) and Prostitution (HRS §712-1200). Differences in definitions and degrees of offense could present issues, particularly where HRS §707-750, -751, and -752 range from class A to class C felonies, and S.B. 343, page 4, lines 1-4, would establish all bestiality offenses involving minors as class B felonies.

Also, other statutes, such as HRS §702-222 Liability for conduct of another; complicity, should be considered, to the extent they may already provide for some of the peripheral scenarios being considered in S.B. 343. As always, the Department would be glad to participate in further discussions with the Committee and various stakeholders, on the specific language of the bill.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu supports the passage of S.B. 343, S.D. 1, with the additional considerations and potential amendments discussed above. Thank for you the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Historical Center, at <https://www.animallaw.info/topic/table-state-animal-sexual-assault-laws>; and Animal Legal Defense Fund, at <https://aldf.org/project/sexual-assault-of-animals/>; last accessed January 31, 2021.

³ See use of the term “bestiality” in the definition of “sexual conduct,” under HRS §707-752 and HRS §712-1210, noting that Merriam-Webster Dictionary’s lead definition of “bestiality” is “sexual relations between a human being and a lower animal”; available online at <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/bestiality>; last accessed March 29, 2021. See also the definition of the term “deviate sexual intercourse” in HRS §707-700, as used in HRS §712-1200 Prostitution.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

SUSAN BALLARD
CHIEF

JOHN D. MCCARTHY
AARON TAKASAKI-YOUNG
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE RP-KK

March 30, 2021

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary
and Hawaiian Affairs
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nakashima and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 343, S.D. 1, Relating to Sexual Assault of an Animal

I am Captain Randall Platt of District 4 of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 343, S.D. 1, Relating to Sexual Assault of an Animal.

This new bill establishes the crime of sexual assault of an animal. We recognize that while the sexual abuse of animals is not adequately addressed in the cruelty to animals statute, the real concern is the psyche of those who sexually abuse animals. This bill provides a way to hold those who sexually abuse animals accountable for their actions, hopefully before their behavior escalates to the sexual abuse and exploitation of children.

The HPD has some concerns about the collection of biological evidence but will work with the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney to present the best possible case to them.

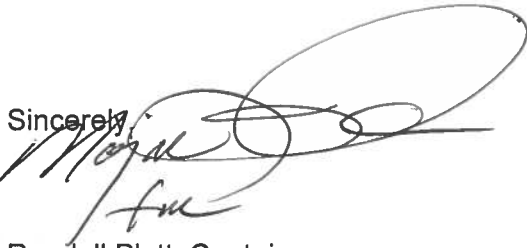
The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 343, S.D. 1, Relating to Sexual Assault of an Animal.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:


Susan Ballard
Chief of Police

Sincerely,


Randall Platt, Captain
District 4



HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF ANIMAL WELFARE AGENCIES

Hawaii Island Humane Society / Hawaiian Humane Society / Kauai Humane Society / Maui Humane Society / Molokai Humane Society

Date: March 26, 2021

To: Chair Rep. Mark Nakashima
Vice Chair Rep. Scot Matayoshi
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Submitted By: Hawaii Association of Animal Welfare Agencies

RE: Testimony in strong support of SB 343, SD1:
Relating to the Sexual Assault of an Animal
Tuesday, March 30, 2021, 2 p.m., Capitol Room 325

The Hawaii Association of Animal Welfare Agencies (HAAWA) supports the passage of Senate Bill 343, SD1, which amends the Penal Code to establish the crime of sexual assault of an animal. It further provides that the sexual assault of an animal is a class C felony or a class B felony if the offense subjects a minor to sexual contact with an animal or is committed in the presence of a minor.

HAAWA's members include the largest animal shelters in each of the four counties, as well as the leader in pet animal spay/neuter on Molokai. Our independent local nonprofits are united in support of this change in policy.

Animal sexual assault is more common than most people realize and occurs equally often in urban and rural communities. Online bestiality forums have posts from members in every Hawaii county boasting of the lack of a law against animal sexual abuse and offering, as well as seeking, animals for sex.

A post on a forum since shut down by law enforcement is representative of many: "I'm new to the island. Just learned bestiality is legal. There is no law. Best news ever," from a new resident of Hawaii Island. Posters also include tourists coming to the state looking to have sex with animals.

These crimes take place mostly out of sight and many of the witnesses are also victims of abuse, so reports can be rare. But as laws have changed nationwide over the past 20 years to recognize bestiality as a crime, related arrests have risen by 800 percent.

This is a crime against a powerless population. People who abuse animals in this way are extremely likely to target vulnerable human beings as well. In recognition of the strong link between animal abuse and interpersonal violence, the FBI began tracking animal cruelty crimes, including bestiality, in 2016.

We urge you to pass SB 343, SD1, to keep the people and animals in our communities safe.

Thank you for considering our testimony on this important issue,

Hoala Davis, *Executive Director, Molokai Humane Society*

Elizabeth Jose, DVM, *Chief Executive Officer, Hawaii Island Humane Society*

Steve MacKinnon, *Chief Executive Officer, Maui Humane Society*

Anna Neubauer, *President and Chief Executive Officer, Hawaiian Humane Society*

Nicole Schafer, *Executive Director, Kauai Humane Society*



Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

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

Date: March 26, 2021

To: Chair Rep. Mark Nakashima
Vice Chair Rep. Scot Matayoshi
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

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

RE: Testimony in strong support of SB 343, SD1:
Relating to the Sexual Assault of an Animal
Tuesday, March 30, 2021, 2 p.m., Capitol Room 325

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society, thank you for considering our strong support for Senate Bill 343, SD1, which amends the Penal Code to establish the crime of sexual assault of an animal. It further provides that the sexual assault of an animal is a class C felony or a class B felony if the offense subjects a minor to sexual contact with an animal or is committed in the presence of a minor.

While animal sexual abuse is rarely reported to local law enforcement, that is likely because it is not against the law. Animal sexual assault is more common than most people realize and occurs equally often in urban and rural communities. Online bestiality forums have posts from members in every Hawai'i county boasting of the lack of a law against animal sexual abuse and offering, as well as seeking, animals for sex.

Incidents of animal sexual abuse frequently go undetected or unreported for long periods of time, but as laws have changed over the past 20 years to recognize bestiality as a crime, related arrests have risen by 800 percent.

The Louisiana Legislature passed a law against animal sexual abuse in 2018, overcoming mockery of the topic and objections that it just didn't happen. The state has seen at least two bestiality arrests just in the first two months of this year.

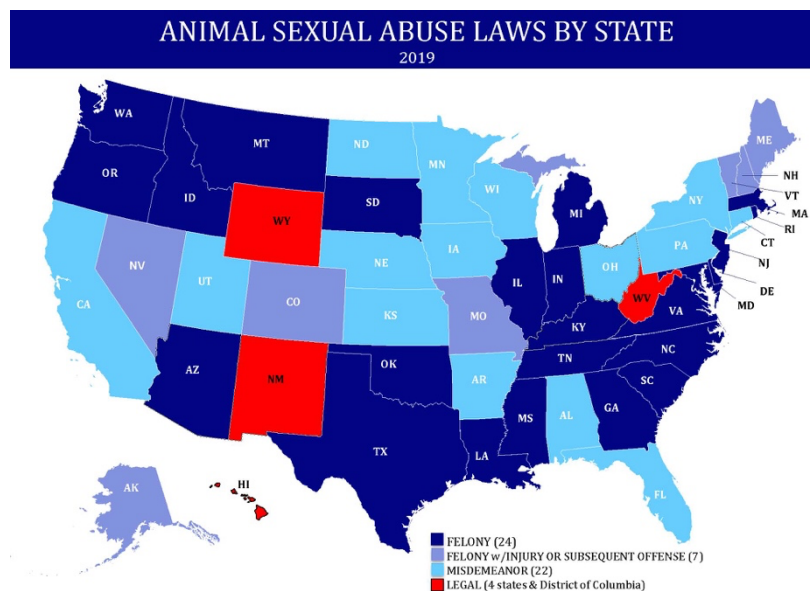
- In January, James Millet of Metairie, LA, was shot by a local sheriff's deputy after pointing a gun at officers who were attempting to take him into custody on 36 counts of sexual abuse of an animal. Millet is also facing seven counts of possessing child pornography and a pair of counts of distributing such.
- Last month, the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office arrested 34-year-old Madyson Daenen of Denham Springs, LA, on 134 counts of pornography involving juveniles and eight counts of pornography involving animals after uncovering evidence on seized electronic devices. She is being held on a bond amount of \$13.4 million.

The connection between animal sexual abuse and child abuse is disturbingly common. Research has found that animal sexual abuse is often linked to other criminal behavior. More than half of the animal sexual abusers in a 2019 study had a prior or subsequent criminal record involving human sexual abuse, animal abuse, child pornography or interpersonal violence. More than a third of those abusers had also sexually abused humans, mostly children under the age of 12. In recognition of these links, animal cruelty crimes are tracked by the FBI as a Group A offense, the same category as rape and murder.

Recognizing that animal sexual abuse is often linked with child pornography, 46 states now outlaw bestiality. The Aloha State should not be the last.

We appreciate that this is a difficult topic of conversation, but we have to make sure we have all of the tools necessary to protect our community. This is a crime against a powerless population. We owe it to the most vulnerable in our midst to pass SB 343, SD1, to protect Hawai'i's animals and its people.

Mahalo for your consideration.





March 26, 2021

To: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Re: Strong Support of SB 343 SD1 - RELATING TO SEXUAL ASSAULT OF AN ANIMAL

Hrg: March 30, 2021 at 2:00 PM at Capitol Room 325 and Videoconference

Healthy Pets United is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to promoting animal health and well-being. HPU acts as an advocate on behalf of animals and as an enforcer of their rights and protection through education and advocacy.

Healthy Pets United strongly supports the passage of SB 343 SD1 which establishes the crime of sexual assault of an animal.

The connection between animal sexual abuse and human sexual violence and child pornography is disturbingly common. The fact that such violent abuse is legal in our state is appalling. There is absolutely no reason to keep the sexual abuse of animals legal. Hawaii is one of only four states that does not expressly prohibit the sexual assault of animals and I fail to understand how this can ever be justified.

I urge you to pass SB 343 SD1 to ensure animals are safe from harm.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue affecting the health and welfare of animals in Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,

Chase Kessler
President

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 3:10:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Inga Gibson	Pono Advocacy	Support	No

Comments:

RE: SUPPORT SB343 Relating to Animal Sexual Abuse

Dear Chair Nakashima and Members of the House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my strong support SB343 SD1, to explicitly prohibit animal sexual abuse. It is unfortunate that we must have to explicitly prohibit such an egregious offense, however, animal sexual abuse occurs much more frequently than most would know.

Similar to other forms of intentional animal cruelty, offenders often start by abusing animals before escalating to violence against humans, and children are often the victims.

Having worked in animal care and protection for more than 20 years, I have investigated

a number of animal sex abuse cases, including in Washington State that, prior to enacting legislation to clearly prohibit, was challenging to enforce under existing cruelty laws.

Prohibiting animal sexual abuse not only protects voiceless and vulnerable animals but protects children and society as a whole.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Date: March 30, 2021

Re: Support SB 343 SD1, Relating to Sexual Assault of an Animal

Dear Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs,

On behalf of our members and supporters in Hawaii, the Humane Society of the United States appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 343 SD1 to prohibit the sexual abuse of animals. This bill addresses a significant issue facing animals in Hawaii—the law’s current failure to adequately protect them from sexual abuse by humans.

Animal sexual abuse (also referred to as bestiality) is a serious crime with links to human sexual violence and child pornography. Forty-six states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands prohibit the sexual abuse of animals. West Virginia, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Hawaii are the only states without such a law.

Animal sexual abuse is not the isolated deviant behavior many might think it is, but it is a prevalent and violent offense. It can precede child sexual abuse, sexual homicide, and other violent acts. In a study of over 44,000 adult male sex offenders, bestiality was identified as the number one indicator and predictor of a person who will sexually molest a child.¹ A 2019 study found that 53% of animal sex offenders have a criminal history involving sexual abuse (animals & children), child pornography, and/or interpersonal & domestic violence, and 28% are repeat animal sex offenders.²

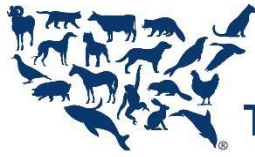
The FBI now tracks bestiality as a Crime Against Society, the same category as rape and murder. We believe tracking bestiality as a separate crime from animal cruelty is important because it allows law enforcement to identify potential sexual predators and intervene as soon as possible before future human or animal victims are harmed.

The internet facilitates this crime and, with no legal prohibition in Hawaii, allows it to flourish. Perpetrators use various websites to seek out one another where they often solicit and offer animals for sex. A popular bestiality website has thousands of users from all areas of the country and Hawaii is mentioned as a “legal” destination for visitors looking to have sex with animals.

¹ Randour, Mary Lou. What every clinician should know about the link between pet abuse and family violence. Education Directorate of the American Psychological Association.

<https://www.apa.org/education/ce/pet-abuse-family-violence.pdf>

² Edwards MJ. Arrest and Prosecution of Animal Sex Abuse (Bestiality) Offenders in the U.S., 1975-2015. Amer Academy of Psychiatry and Law, In pre-print, Feb. 2019.



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

Animal sexual abuse may not always be covered under existing animal cruelty laws for several reasons. The act does not always result in physical injury to the animal. Especially when livestock animals are sexually abused it can be extremely difficult for prosecutors to prove that pain or suffering was caused. Many cases are not brought about from physical injury to the animal but from an eyewitness complaint or videos found well after the act occurs and the animal and/or requisite evidence needed to establish injury is no longer available to prosecutors.

SB 343 SD1 recognizes that animal sexual abuse is one of the earliest signs of a conduct disorder and the need for mental health intervention. By identifying animal sexual abuse as a dangerous, predatory behavior courts can order necessary psychological counseling and prohibit future contact with animals to break the cycle of abuse. This bill will help law enforcement identify and monitor dangers in the community to keep animals and children safer.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important animal protection and public safety issue. We respectfully urge the passage of SB 343 SD1.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Vierheilig
Hawaii State Director
The Humane Society of the United States
lvierheilig@humanesociety.org

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 8:28:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Honorable Chair and Committee members,

Please pass SB343. Especially to Representative Ward, as I am from Niu, and Representative McKelvey who has been instrumental with prior veterinary

bills.

Sexual assault of any kind must be aggressively

opposed, whether involving humans or animals. One

past testimony said that it is not assault but pleasuring for animals.

That cannot be farther from the truth.

Deviant behavior often begins against animals and

progresses to other humans. We certainly need to cutoff that avenue.

Please pass SB343

Mahalo

Eric Ako DVM

past Chair, Board of Veterinary Medicine

past Pres and Executive VP, Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association

Founder, Windward CC Veterinary Technician Program

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 10:00:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martha Randolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Legislators,

I am sure you all know the obvious and compelling reasons why this bill must become law. However those reasons have been true for years and yet you and your colleges have been made so uncomfortable by the subject matter that the bill never does go up for a vote.

Lots of things are profoundly disturbing in this world and yet we have addressed so many by passing laws which deal with the issues head on. The examples I can site are also disturbing, ranging from racial and gender prejudice to sexual abuse of children, infants, or institutionalized seniors or the mentally ill etc..

Please do not delay passing this bill into law just because it is a difficult subject to even think about. That very truth should make you WANT to pass it to the full legislature so that we can put a stop to it and make sure our state is taken off the list of vacation spots where sick people can go to perform sexual acts with animals. We do not need those tourists.

Most sincerely

Martha E Randolph

President of Democratic Precinct 4 District 25

DPH Kupuna Caucus Treasurer

DPH Environmental Caucus SCC Representative

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 11:22:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emi Au	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To the Senate,

My name is Emi Au. I am testifying in support of the SB343, the prohibition of animal sex abuse in Hawaii.

First off, I feel that Hawaii is a very community oriented and minded state- which means we take of one another and hold each other accountable like a family would. This includes how we treat animals as well. Resarch has found that animal sex abuse is often linked to other criminal behaviors, and if we can prohibit this gateway, then it can allow us to stem violence from further worsening.

Also, the fact that we are one out of four states that does not have this being illegal is not a statistic I am proud of. The fact that we are so late to prohibiting this makes me dissappointed in the progress we've made. I am hoping that this will pass, and we can be a step closer to making the islands safe for humans and animals.

Thanks,

Emi Au

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 11:26:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Wilcox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this bill and protect innocent animals from this horrific abuse and create penalties for the perpetrators. We need to stand up for the voiceless. Thank you in advance for your time and attention.

Ashley Wilcox

Napili, HI

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 12:12:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taurie Kinoshita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB 343 is incredibly important and I strongly support it. This bill criminalizes the sexual assault of an animal. Shamefully, Hawaii is one of just four states that do not expressly prohibit bestiality. Sexual violence against a helpless animal is a depraved breach of trust. Studies have found that people who commit such unspeakable acts also pose a threat to vulnerable human beings. In just the first two months of this year, there have been at least five arrests in four states that involve evidence of both animal sexual abuse and child sexual abuse or child pornography. Online bestiality forums have posts from members in every Hawaii county boasting of the lack of a law against animal sexual abuse and offering, as well as seeking, animals for sex. Please, let's no longer let Hawaii be a haven for these horrible criminals. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Taurie Kinoshita Makiki, lifetime Hawaii Resident

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 1:19:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Torun Almer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass SB 343. It is an uncomfortable and difficult subject but that is why it is important to pass this legislation. Thank you. Torun Almer, Captain Cook, HI

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 1:47:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dana Jenkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill. It will ensure Hawaii FINALLY criminalizes sexual assault on animals.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 2:27:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie McLaughlin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this important bill. Thank you!

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 3:26:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erin Wood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am submitting my testimony in support of bill SB343.

I believe that sexually abusing an animal is a criminal act that a persons lack of empathy, character, and the difference in knowledge between right and wrong. Animals have no voice and no ability to communicate their pain and suffering - they are like human children, who also have no voice and no ability to communicate. There is no difference between abusing a child and an animal - however, we have consequences for child abuse. In conclusion, there should also be consequences and penalties for those who abuse animals. I strongly believe that abusing animals opens the floodgates for other criminal behavior and activity. Individuals need to be punished and held accountable for this unjust action, where a helpless being is being hurt and forced beyond their own strength and words. This is what the justice system is in place for - to help and protect all those, both animals and humans alike, who cannot fend for themselves.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 3:45:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kemtis Kunanuraksapong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. Animal can't file the report, we need to protect them. Waipahu.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 4:02:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sue peacock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill!

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 4:20:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Eubank	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please please STOP the Sexual Assault of An Animal!

I support SB343, SD1.

Mahalo,

Susan Eubank

Diamond Head

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 4:38:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please consider passing this bill. Words cannot express how deeply angry and saddened by so called human beings subjecting animals to this cruelty and abuse. As a person who has the priviledge of having animals as a part of my family, I realize that I need to speak up for the ones who cannot. Thankfully, I have not witnessed nor experienced this type of cruelty and abuse of animals. However, I know that it exists. Hawai'i need to establish stronger laws against this type of cruelty and abuse. While many people will say "oh it's just an animal". It is more than that. Animals do not have the voice to speak up in this human world. Humans subject them to this cruelty and abuse basically raping them as they do not give their consent. This type of behavior affects humans as well. People who participate in this heinous behavior most likely abuse children and other adults. Please consider passing this bill as it can assist in creating a culture of the human treatment of animals. Animals should not be subjected to this type of behavior and abuse. They do not have the power to speak or the power to advocate for this bill. This is why I felt I must speak up and help them. Animals do not exist for humans wants and needs. They have a place on this earth and it should be one of dignity. They should not be subjected to this degradation. Thank you for reading my testimony.

Bestiality is the worst crime a human being can commit!

This is the bottom of the cesspool! The only other crime I can think of coming close 2nd is cannibalism!

Fact: All serial killers started their careers with physical and sexual abuse of animals.

When they tired of animals they graduated to humans!

Think of it, a poor defenseless animal who cannot defend himself because he is drugged, restrained and being sexually abused by a horrible evil human driven by lust of the weakest! If the act does not kill the defenseless creature, he may be murdered in the most painful and tormented way the sick minded person can think of!

The traumatized animal cannot tell the Police or anyone what happened. He is left with a complete hatred and fear of humans!

Anyone who does not support this bill, and does not implement it ASAP is just a guilty as the perpetrators committing this heinous crime!

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 6:05:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joanna p milo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

i agree..save our animals..put these humans in jail..let's see how they feel..jmilo

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 7:11:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roxanne	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 7:22:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Naomi Sakai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We are one of the few states that do not criminalize the act of sexual abuse against animals. Animals are voiceless and need the protection of the law. Subjecting animals to such conditions must stop now. Please do the right thing. Thr most vulnerable are in dire need of help.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 10:40:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alice Saul	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to thank the members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs for the opportunity to share my profound disbelief when I discovered that up to this time Hawaii had never enacted legislation such as what is proposed in SB343 SD1.

I was both shocked, and heartbroken, to learn that there are people who choose to visit Hawaii precisely because we have no statutory prohibitions against the sexual abuse of animals. How can that be allowed to persist? I can't believe this is what we want to be known for.

Please do what you can to remedy this very sorry state of affairs. I, for one, along with the innumerable others concerned about the health of our people, the welfare of our animals, and the reputation of the State of Hawaii will be grateful.

With appreciation and Aloha,

Alice Saul
Honolulu (Hawaii Kai)

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 12:46:28 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marian Hussenbux	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Animal Sexual Assault **SB343 SD1**

This bill amends the Penal Code to establish the crime of sexual assault of an animal. It further provides that the sexual assault of an animal is a class C felony, or a class B felony if the offence subjects a minor to sexual contact with an animal or is committed in the presence of a minor.

Our members are particularly concerned about the upbringing of the young; they are our future, and to allow them to grow into adulthood thinking that it is acceptable and normal to perpetrate sexual violence against a helpless, uncomprehending animal, a breach of trust showing complete lack of respect for our fellow beings, bodes ill for a compassionate and ethical society.

The fact that such violent abuse is legal legitimises such acts in the eyes of those who may be indifferent to the well being of other sentient creatures.

As in the case of non-sexual abuse, studies have found that people who are willing to commit such acts may also go on to treat vulnerable human beings in the same way.

We contend that there is absolutely no reason to keep the sexual abuse of animals legal. We understand that Hawaii is one of only four states that do not expressly prohibit this violent abuse and we fail to understand how it can ever be justified. It is a blot on the record of a state which has shown you to be compassionate and pioneering citizens in many aspects of animal welfare, which *Animal Interfaith Alliance* has previously supported.

Our members appreciate the opportunity to strongly support this bill.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 6:18:15 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ashley lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I'm writing a testimony on behalf of these innocent beings that only want to bring love and companionship to us humans. Animal sexual abuse is considered animal cruelty which is a federal offense and should be punished on state level as well. I believe if one can hurt these innocent and helpless beings, ond can hurt women and children. We need stricter laws protecting our animals and I hope you all choose the only right decision, YES to SB343.

Thank you for this opportunity to allow us to submit our testimonies.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 7:26:40 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is a very difficult subject to talk about. But ignoring it will not make it go away. It needs to be addressed, for the sake of the animals and humans.

I am in strong support of this measure. I was shocked to learn that Hawaii is one of only four states that does not prohibit sexual abuse of animals. Animals are living beings, just as humans are. They deserve the same treatment and respect.

Often animal sexual abuse is linked to other criminal behavior, including human sexual abuse, child pornography or interpersonal violence. Animal cruelty crimes are tracked by the FBI as a Group A offense, the same category as rape and murder.

Persons in every county in the state are boasting in online bestiality fora of the lack of this law and both offering and seeking animals for sex.

Please support this bill today, for all our sake.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 8:23:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shirley Salcedo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

For the love of innocent, beautiful, harmless cats and animals in Hawaii. I strongly support this bill as it is the right thing to do. It may be a small step, but it is a step in the right direction toward animal rights and advocacy, especially in Hawaii. As Joaquin Phoenix said, "It takes away **nothing** from a human to **be kind** to an animal."

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 9:53:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ilene Cohen Harrington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this Bill into law so we have a way to stop people from sexually abusing our animals.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 9:56:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
IC Harrington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

People who sexually abuse animals need help and without laws to address this abuse, their behavior will go unchecked and will possibly move on to sexually abuse children.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 9:58:00 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Harrington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this into law.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 11:47:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Kessler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this measure - it's hard to believe this is not a law currently in Hawaii.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 12:39:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Weis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To Whom it May Concern,

I would like to submit my strong support for SB343 SD1, making the sexual assault of an animal a criminal offense and a felony.

How this is not already law is astonishing. With Hawaii being among only one of four states without such a law in effect, we are in very poor company.

The creation of such a law should be a no-brainer and easy to pass. If not for the sake of defenseless animals alone, but also consider the sad connection to this type of abuse as it migrates to children and other adults. Individuals who would perpetrate such an act upon a defenseless animal should be punished swiftly and harshly.

I pray that our legislators see this as an easy decision.

Thank you.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 3:47:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carole R. Richelieu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This bill criminalizes the sexual assault of animals. Unbelievably Hawaii is just one of four states which does not prohibit this crime and Hawaii has been host to such conduct as a result. This is not who we are. Please finally pass this bill.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 8:04:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support sb343 sd1

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 8:33:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stacey Glass	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The sexual abuse of any and all animals should be illegal EVERYWHERE but especially the aloha state. Hawai'i is home to many marine animals essential to our ecosystem. It is our job to protect the ones that can't protect themselves from depraved and disturbed individuals. Please help save our oceans and animal life by passing this bill.

Stacey Glass

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 10:18:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
June Mellor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair

Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Support for SB343 SD1, Relating to the Sexual Assault of an Animal

Dear Representatitves,

Please accept my wholehearted support for this bill to make it illegal to sexually assault an animal. The part of the bill that outlines further clarification of such acts in the presence of a minor child breaks my heart as I can only imagine that there was a need to include this scenario in the bill. Animals and children are innocent souls. Please protect the innocent voiceless who cannot advocate and protect themselves. I was born and raised here. After moving away from Hawaii during my childhood, I returned with my husband and children to raise our keiki here in the aina. We have 2 dogs and frequently support many local animal rescues and foundations.

I urge the committee to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

June Mellor

Kailua, HI

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 10:25:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rashelle Grohoski	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is imperative that Hawaii recognize this cruelty as the violent and criminal act it is. Animal abuse directly reflects to abuse against other human citizens. Hawaii needs to take responsibility for making all of its citizens safe by the measure of bills such as this.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2021 11:01:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
CARLA SUE JENKINS	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, I was surprised that here in Hawaii sexually abusing an animal is not illegal. It is important that there is a law to prosecute anyone who would sexually abuse an animal with bestiality or any other form of sexual abuse. I realize this could be a difficult law to indict, due to lack of hard evidence, but Hawaii needs to have it on the books. This is beyond sick behavior perpetuated on animals who have no voice. Thank you. Carla Sue Jenkins

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 8:35:31 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danielle Scherman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is an awful practice. Why do you even have to create a bill to ban abuse on animals. This should be a no-brainer. you don't have to have a degree or any good sense to know this. This is absurd. Get your act together Hawaii state! Animals are not on this earth for people to sexually abuse or abuse in anyway. Pass the bill right away so people stop the abuse on animals.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 11:36:00 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori Larrison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Sexual assault of any animal should be a crime!

Anyone who sexually assaults any animal will do the same to a human.

They should be thrown in jail and sentenced! Sentenced to jail NOT a "slap on the wrist".

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 11:48:32 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chelsey Tsuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This bill needs to be passed. Animals need protection against this horrendous act!!! They are considered family members and loved ones and should not ever be subjected to this! Those that do this need to have criminal consequences.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 12:03:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vivian S. Toellner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Animals must be protected from the deviant behavior of twisted individuals. Such behavior must be stopped at all levels(abuse of animals has been demonstrated to lead or accompany abuse of our fellow citizens).

Please, Remove Hawaii from one of the FOUR LEGAL STATES where this activity is not outlawed !! <https://www.animallaw.info/topic/table-state-animal-sexual-assault-laws>
This table details state laws prohibiting sexual conduct between humans and animals. The majority of states (about 46) have some provision that criminalizes engaging in sexual conduct with animals. Currently, Hawaii, New Mexico, West Virginia and Wyoming lack such a law

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 12:30:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael D Parker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 12:35:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JOANNE PARKER	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We must not be one of only 4 states that does not have a bill that criminalizes such a heanous act!

Please support this bill

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 12:52:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please pass this important bill.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 2:01:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
emma unga	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Sunday March 28th 1:50PM

Support for SB343 SD1 RELATING TO SEXUAL ASSAULT OF AN ANIMAL

My name is Emma Unga, a Hawai'i born native, a wife, a sister, daughter, friend, and most importantly mother to my two fur babies and my new infant. On behalf of the Hawaii Humane Society, I am here to advocate for animal lovers and all animals against sexual assault on animals. I strongly support SB343 SB1, Relating to sexual assault of an animal, which would give peace to both humans and animals.

Animals should not be abused in any shape way or form, therefore this needs to be illegal. Any creature of God should not be abused in any shape way or form. It is inhumane. Let us be the change of bringing humanity back on our aina. Be respectful of others and animals.

I urge The committee to pass SB343 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 2:31:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Holly Kessler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is important this bill gets passed in the 2021 legislative session. It is appalling that Hawaii is one of four states where this practice is legal. The Hawaii State Legislature needs to correct this atrocity ASAP!

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 4:38:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bertha Mae Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support this bill/measure. I stand against animal cruelty of any kind, especially sex crimes against animals.

Mahalo,

Bertha Williams

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 10:44:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kahea Wea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the SB343, SD1. Hawai'i should not be apart of the other states who allow such acts of sexual abuse. It's inhumane to allow offenders a free pass and not getting the punishments they deserve for cruelty like this. Hawai'i needs to create stiffer laws in any type of animal abuse. This bill needs to be passed and start holding people accountable for their actions.

Mahalo

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 1:00:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Catherine Fly	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In support of SB343 SD1.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 4:57:30 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairperson Nakashima, Vice Chairperson Matayoshi and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs.

Please support SB 343 SD 1 which would prohibit the sexual assault of animals. It's my understanding that members of online bestiality forums in every Hawaii county boast about Hawaii not having a law against sexual assault of animals which encourages people to come here to engage in this violent, cruel activity. Furthermore, I understand that Hawaii is one of only four states that does not have a law expressly prohibiting sexual assault of animals. Hawaii has been a leader in animal welfare, but not when it comes to protecting animals from sexual assault. Please support this bill to finally give animals this protection.

Mahalo!

Jennifer Chiwa

Makiki

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 8:51:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
M. Jenny Edwards	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a criminologist and subject matter expert in bestiality and zoophilia writing **in strong support of SB343 SD1**. Animal sex abuse takes multiple forms and involves human victims as well as animals. In addition to direct sex acts with animals, children and minors are often coerced into having sex with their own pets for the offender's pleasure. Filming and sharing of obscene images and material is extremely common, and people who collect child pornography frequently collect animal pornography as well.

In addition to previously submitted letters in support of this bill, I would like to share a few examples of more than **two dozen bestiality-related incidents that have occurred just since HB1085 was introduced in January**.

- A 29-year-old registered sex offender met a 14-year-old girl on Kik and regularly abused her at a local motel. She was hospitalized on more than one occasion after her raped her and forced her to have sex with her 3-year-old sibling and the family pet.
- A 20-year-old man is facing more than 100 charges for filming and sharing images of his acts of child and animal sexual abuse.
- A 45-year-old man was arrested for trespassing on a pony farm multiple times, injuring the ponies he had sex with. This man has priors for burglary, assault with a deadly weapon, and car theft.
- During an investigation into child pornography, a 40-year-old veterinarian was arrested for having sex with multiple animals. He videotaped many of the assaults, at least one of which occurred at the clinic where he's the medical director.
- A 32-year-old man with a history of lewd and lascivious conduct chased his dog down the street and had sex with it in front of horrified witnesses.
- A 34-year-old woman who promoted her sexual services online filmed and shared images of herself having sex with animals and underaged teen boys.
- A 41-year-old software technician has been charged in multiple states for possession and distribution of child pornography. His child pornography collection includes multiple images of him having sex with animals.
- In another multi-state investigation, a 28-year-old man solicited underaged girls online to provide him with livestreams and images of the girls performing sex acts

with their pets. In unrelated cases, two men were arrested in Oregon on the same charges.

Bestiality is a serious crime, involving a range of criminal behavior that happens far more often than you may realize. I urge you to pass this bill to protect the animals and citizens of Hawaii.

M Jenny Edwards, SME

March 29, 2021

Dear Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture,

I am writing this testimony in strong support of SB343 SD1, in order to prohibit the sexual abuse of animals. Animal sexual abuse ought to be a heinous and inhumane crime Hawai'i, punishable by law-- as it is in forty-six states. We should be ashamed that Hawai'i is known as a place where it is legal to engage in deviant sexual acts with vulnerable species who deserve our protection. For our animals and for our community, please pass this bill.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Meleana Hee

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 9:54:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Choi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I don't understand how Hawaii is 1 of 4 states that hasn't criminalized animal sexual abuse. This has to change. Please pass the sb343 bill. Thank you.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 10:46:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kimo galon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB343 SDI. This is a sick and grotesque action. Violators must be held accountable. Animal abuse is growing in the state and no one is doing anything about it. We need more bills like these as well as prosecution against these hainus acts.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 12:52:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Wilcox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this bill in support of sexual abuse against an animal being a crime. It is up to us to speak for those who cannot. Mahalo.

Robert Wilcox,

Napili, HI

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 1:34:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Kart	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

PLEASE PASS THIS BILL

Hawaii ia one of four states that allows animals to be raped.

What kind of ALOHA state are we ?

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 3:51:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Tronoski	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Rep. Mark Nakashima and Sen. Mike Gabbard,

I am a resident of the Kaimuki neighborhood in Honolulu writing in support of SB343 SD1. I was shocked, and frankly embarrassed, when I learned that Hawaii is only one of four states that does not outlaw the sexual abuse of animals. I was alarmed and disgusted when I learned that there are active online communities for tourists coming to the state looking to have sex with animals, and I was incredibly relieved to hear that you are currently championing a bill to finally end bestiality in our state.

Thank you for your work to make Hawaii a safer place to live not only for animals, but for people as well.

SB-343-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2021 7:14:25 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John D. Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill and pass it through.

To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and committee members,

I strongly support Senate Bill 343 SD1, which would make bestiality illegal in Hawaii.

It may be tempting to put your head in the sand and wish this issue away, but there is too much evidence that animal sexual abuse is more widespread than any of us would like to believe.

As more jurisdictions have criminalized bestiality over the past 20 years, related arrests have risen by 800 percent. Hawaii is one of only four states that have yet to get a handle on this poisonous form of cruelty. Research has found that animal sexual abuse is often linked to other criminal behavior. Many abusers also prey on human victims, mostly children under the age of 12. I urge you to pass this law so that we can protect animals and people in our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Natalie Spencer
819 Papalalo Pl
Honolulu, HI 96825

Support for Senate Bill 343 SD1

Dear Honorable Legislators,

I support Senate Bill 343 SD1. It's difficult to imagine why anyone would oppose this measure.

When I learned there were members-only websites that had posts from every county in the state offering, as well as seeking, animals for sex I was horrified. Posters also include tourists coming to the state looking to have sex with animals. That is not the kind of tourism we want.

This bill takes care to exempt veterinary procedures and standard animal husbandry practices, so there is simply no reason not to pass this into law. Please pass Senate Bill 343 SD1.

Sincerely,
joanna milo
87-576 Manuu St
Waianae, HI 96792

To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Dear JHA Committee,

I strongly urge you to support and pass this bill without amendment. We must not continue to allow this heinous act to go on without punishment. These animal victims are defenseless and are, without a doubt, in pain and suffering. PLEASE help them.

It may be tempting to put your head in the sand and wish this issue away, but there is too much evidence that animal sexual abuse is more widespread than any of us would like to believe.

As more jurisdictions have criminalized bestiality over the past 20 years, related arrests have risen by 800 percent. Hawaii is one of only four states that have yet to get a handle on this poisonous form of cruelty. Research has found that animal sexual abuse is often linked to other criminal behavior. Many abusers also prey on human victims, mostly children under the age of 12. I urge you to pass this law so that we can protect animals and people in our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Renee Harada
1538 Onipaa St
Honolulu, HI 96819

Support for Senate Bill 343 SD1

Dear Honorable Legislators,

I support Senate Bill 343 SD1. It's difficult to imagine why anyone would oppose this measure.

When I learned there were members-only websites that had posts from every county in the state offering, as well as seeking, animals for sex I was horrified. Posters also include tourists coming to the state looking to have sex with animals. That is not the kind of tourism we want.

This bill takes care to exempt veterinary procedures and standard animal husbandry practices, so there is simply no reason not to pass this into law. Please pass Senate Bill 343 SD1.

Sincerely,

Lee Cuccia
1479 Kiukee Pl
Kailua, HI 96734

Support for SB343 SD1

Dear Honorable Legislators,

Strongly support this Bill and any other bills that are supported by HHS!

I support Senate Bill 343 SD1. It's difficult to imagine why anyone would oppose this measure.

When I learned there were members-only websites that had posts from every county in the state offering, as well as seeking, animals for sex I was horrified. Posters also include tourists coming to the state looking to have sex with animals. That is not the kind of tourism we want.

This bill takes care to exempt veterinary procedures and standard animal husbandry practices, so there is simply no reason not to pass this into law. Please pass Senate Bill 343 SD1.

Sincerely,

Hamid Jahanmir

915 Birch St Apt 106

Honolulu, HI 96814

Support for SB343 SD1

To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and committee members,

I strongly support Senate Bill 343 SD1, which would make bestiality illegal in Hawaii.

It may be tempting to put your head in the sand and wish this issue away, but there is too much evidence that animal sexual abuse is more widespread than any of us would like to believe.

As more jurisdictions have criminalized bestiality over the past 20 years, related arrests have risen by 800 percent. Hawaii is one of only four states that have yet to get a handle on this poisonous form of cruelty. Research has found that animal sexual abuse is often linked to other criminal behavior. Many abusers also prey on human victims, mostly children under the age of 12. I urge you to pass this law so that we can protect animals and people in our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Ishida-Norton
PO Box 10703
Honolulu, HI 96816

To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and committee members,

I strongly support Senate Bill 343 SD1, which would make bestiality illegal in Hawaii.

Appallingly, there is ample evidence in online bestiality forums and apps that this kind of abuse occurs in Hawaii and that people travel here to have sex with animals because Hawaii is one of just four states that do not prohibit bestiality. We owe it to the most vulnerable in our community to close this legal loophole, particularly our keiki who are often traumatized by exposure to and even forced participation in this kind of abuse.

I borrowed these words because they reflect great truth. Please do not let the unpleasantness of the concept stop you from ending it in Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Martha Randolph
2571 Pacific Heights Rd
Honolulu, HI 96813

Support for SB343 SD1

To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and committee members,

I strongly support Senate Bill 343 SD1, which would make bestiality illegal in Hawaii.

It may be tempting to put your head in the sand and wish this issue away, but there is too much evidence that animal sexual abuse is more widespread than any of us would like to believe.

As more jurisdictions have criminalized bestiality over the past 20 years, related arrests have risen by 800 percent. Hawaii is one of only four states that have yet to get a handle on this poisonous form of cruelty. Research has found that animal sexual abuse is often linked to other criminal behavior. Many abusers also prey on human victims, mostly children under the age of 12. I urge you to pass this law so that we can protect animals and people in our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Susan Collins
46-3991 Old Mamalahoa Hwy
Honokaa, HI 96727

To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and committee members,

I strongly support Senate Bill 343 SD1, which would make bestiality illegal in Hawaii.

It may be tempting to put your head in the sand and wish this issue away, but there is too much evidence that animal sexual abuse is more widespread than any of us would like to believe.

As more jurisdictions have criminalized bestiality over the past 20 years, related arrests have risen by 800 percent. Hawaii is one of only four states that have yet to get a handle on this poisonous form of cruelty. Research has found that animal sexual abuse is often linked to other criminal behavior. Many abusers also prey on human victims, mostly children under the age of 12. I urge you to pass this law so that we can protect animals and people in our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo!
Douglas Spencer
819 Papalalo Pl
Honolulu, HI 96825

Support for SB343 SD1

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and committee members,

I strongly support Senate Bill 343 SD1, which would make bestiality illegal in Hawaii.

It may be tempting to put your head in the sand and wish this issue away, but there is too much evidence that animal sexual abuse is more widespread than any of us would like to believe.

As more jurisdictions have criminalized bestiality over the past 20 years, related arrests have risen by 800 percent. Hawaii is one of only four states that have yet to get a handle on this poisonous form of cruelty. Research has found that animal sexual abuse is often linked to other criminal behavior. Many abusers also prey on human victims, mostly children under the age of 12. I urge you to pass this law so that we can protect animals and people in our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Taylor Prostor
3031 Libert St
Honolulu, HI 96816

To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha Honorable Legislators,

I strongly support Senate Bill 343 SD1, which would make bestiality illegal in Hawaii.

It may be tempting to put your head in the sand and wish this issue away, but there is too much evidence that animal sexual abuse is more widespread than any of us would like to believe.

As more jurisdictions have criminalized bestiality over the past 20 years, related arrests have risen by 800 percent. Hawaii is one of only four states that have yet to get a handle on this poisonous form of cruelty. Research has found that animal sexual abuse is often linked to other criminal behavior. Many abusers also prey on human victims, mostly children under the age of 12. I urge you to pass this law so that we can protect animals and people in our state.

Please support this critical bill for the protection of our most vulnerable- both animals and people, especially our children.

Thank you,
Ginny Tiu
935 Ikena Cir
Honolulu, HI 96821

Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Dear Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and committee members,

I strongly support Senate Bill 343 SD1, which would make bestiality illegal in Hawaii.

Bestiality, the act of having sex with an animal, tends to conjure images of a mucky, socially inadequate, desperate farmer sneaking into the barn after dark, or depraved groups of thrill-seekers forcing sex with drugged, abused, or otherwise mistreated animals (like the case of Douglas Spink and the animal-sex-tourism farm in Washington State).

I urge you to pass this law so that we can protect animals and people in our state. Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Beverly Toledo
2430 Auhuhu St
Pearl City, HI 96782

Tuesday, March 30, 2021
2:00 pm
Conference Room 325 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi and members of the committee,

I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 343 SD1 relating to the sexual assault of an animal. Please help the vulnerable. There is no good reason for this not to be a law.

It is nothing short of horrifying to think that this kind of cruelty is legally permitted in our state. Animals are powerless to defend themselves from people who would abuse them in this way, so we must defend them. Our laws must defend them.

I urge you to pass this measure and protect our community from this kind of depravity. I can think of no reason to not pass this measure. Hard to understand why it's taken so long to address bestiality. Best to get it passed and move on to other issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,
Mary James
1232 Kina St
Kailua, HI 96734

Tuesday, March 30, 2021
Support for Senate Bill 343 SD1

Dear Honorable Legislators,

It's time we stopped this terrible bestiality. I support Senate Bill 343 SD1. It's difficult to imagine why anyone would oppose this measure.

When I learned there were members-only websites that had posts from every county in the state offering, as well as seeking, animals for sex I was horrified. Posters also include tourists coming to the state looking to have sex with animals. That is not the kind of tourism we want.

This bill takes care to exempt veterinary procedures and standard animal husbandry practices, so there is simply no reason not to pass this into law. Please pass Senate Bill 343 SD1.

Sincerely,

Debi Bukala
59-788 Alapio Rd
Haleiwa, HI 96712

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Dear Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and committee members,

I strongly support Senate Bill 343 SD1, which would make bestiality illegal in Hawaii.

It may be tempting to put your head in the sand and wish this issue away, but there is too much evidence that animal sexual abuse is more widespread than any of us would like to believe.

As more jurisdictions have criminalized bestiality over the past 20 years, related arrests have risen by 800 percent. Hawaii is one of only four states that have yet to get a handle on this poisonous form of cruelty. Research has found that animal sexual abuse is often linked to other criminal behavior. Many abusers also prey on human victims, mostly children under the age of 12. I urge you to pass this law so that we can protect animals and people in our state.

We owe it to the most vulnerable in our community to close this legal loophole, particularly our keiki who are often traumatized by exposure to and even forced participation in this kind of abuse.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,
Laurie Foster
5002 Maunalani Cir
Honolulu, HI 96816

Support for Senate Bill 343 SD1

Dear Honorable Legislators,

I support Senate Bill 343 SD1. It's difficult to imagine why anyone would oppose this measure.

When I learned there were members-only websites that had posts from every county in the state offering, as well as seeking, animals for sex I was horrified. Posters also include tourists coming to the state looking to have sex with animals. That is not the kind of tourism we want.

This bill takes care to exempt veterinary procedures and standard animal husbandry practices, so there is simply no reason not to pass this into law. Please pass Senate Bill 343 SD1.

Sincerely,

D'Arcy Kerrigan
3744 Mariposa Dr
Honolulu, HI 96816

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

Support for Senate Bill 343 SD1

Dear Honorable Legislators,

I strongly support SB343 SD1. This will prevent cruelty and heinous acts against animals, as well as not invite this kind of unwanted visit/visitor to the State. Animals have no voice so we need to be a voice for them. Also, I would think it dangerous to have this type of visitor visiting for such purposes, as I also believe it could lead to more criminal activity than this from such kinds of visitors, perhaps to people or property. It's heinous enough in itself. Veterinary and animal husbandry procedures are exempted from this bill.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Tucker
5-4280 Kuhio Hwy
Princeville, HI 96722

Aloha Honorable Legislators,

I support Senate Bill 343 SD1. It's difficult to imagine why anyone would oppose this measure.

When I learned there were members-only websites that had posts from every county in the state offering, as well as seeking, animals for sex I was horrified. Posters also include tourists coming to the state looking to have sex with animals. That is not the kind of tourism we want.

This bill takes care to exempt veterinary procedures and standard animal husbandry practices, so there is simply no reason not to pass this into law. Bestiality has no place in Hawaii. It is shocking that it is still in our Penal Code.

Please pass Senate Bill 343 SD1.

Sincerely,

Janine Tully
45-035 Ka Hanahou Pl
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Dear Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and committee members,

I strongly support Senate Bill 343 SD1, which would make bestiality illegal in Hawaii.

It may be tempting to put your head in the sand and wish this issue away, but there is too much evidence that animal sexual abuse is more widespread than any of us would like to believe.

As more jurisdictions have criminalized bestiality over the past 20 years, related arrests have risen by 800 percent. Hawaii is one of only four states that have yet to get a handle on this poisonous form of cruelty. Research has found that animal sexual abuse is often linked to other criminal behavior. Many abusers also prey on human victims, mostly children under the age of 12. I urge you to pass this law so that we can protect animals and people in our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Taurie Kinoshita
1524 Pensacola St Apt 119
Honolulu, HI 96822

Support for Senate Bill 343 SD1

Dear Honorable Legislators,

I support Senate Bill 343 SD1. It's difficult to imagine why anyone would oppose this measure.

When I learned there were members-only websites that had posts from every county in the state offering, as well as seeking, animals for sex I was horrified. Posters also include tourists coming to the state looking to have sex with animals. That is not the kind of tourism we want.

This kind of abuse NEEDS to stop. There are plenty of ways for people to get sexual satisfaction without harming an innocent, defenseless animal. To continue allowing Hawaii to be part of this kind of practice is a disgrace. If YOU were an animal & this was being done to you how would you feel...PLEASE STOP IT FROM HAPPENING.

Please pass Senate Bill 343 SD1.

Sincerely,

Mimi Burke

2819 WAIALAE AVE APT A1

HONOLULU, HI 96826