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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ANIMAL FUR PRODUCTS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that animals slaughtered  
2 for their fur endure tremendous suffering. Animals raised on  
3 fur farms typically spend their entire lives in cramped and  
4 filthy cages. Fur farmers typically use the cheapest killing  
5 methods available, including suffocation, electrocution, gas,  
6 and poison.

7           The legislature recognizes that fur farms are reservoirs  
8 and transmission vectors for dangerous zoonotic disease,  
9 including coronaviruses, that threaten public health, especially  
10 in Hawaii. COVID-19 infections have been confirmed at fur farms  
11 in Europe and the United States, and scientific studies have  
12 linked mink, raccoon dogs, and foxes, the animals most commonly  
13 farmed for their fur, to a variety of coronaviruses.

14           The legislature further finds that the fur production  
15 process is energy intensive and has a significant environmental  
16 impact, including air and water pollution. Runoff from the fur  
17 production process contains high concentrations of phosphorus





1 "Fur" means any animal skin or part thereof with hair,  
2 fleece, or fur fibers attached thereto, either in its raw or  
3 processed state.

4 "Fur product" means any article of clothing or covering for  
5 any part of the body, or any fashion accessory, including but  
6 not limited to handbags, shoes, slippers, hats, earmuffs,  
7 scarves, shawls, gloves, jewelry, keychains, toys or trinkets,  
8 and home accessories and decor, that is made in whole or in part  
9 of fur. "Fur product" does not include any of the following:

- 10 (1) An animal skin or part thereof that is to be converted  
11 into leather, or which in processing will have the  
12 hair, fleece, or fiber completely removed;
- 13 (2) Cowhide with the hair attached thereto;
- 14 (3) Deerskin with the hair attached thereto;
- 15 (4) Lambskin or sheepskin with the fleece attached  
16 thereto; or
- 17 (5) The pelt or skin of any animal that is preserved  
18 through taxidermy or for the purpose of taxidermy.

19 "Nonprofit organization" means any corporation that is  
20 organized under title 26 United States Code section 501(c)(3)



1 and is created for charitable, religious, philanthropic,  
2 educational, or similar purposes.

3 "Taxidermy" means the practice of preparing and preserving  
4 the skin of an animal that is deceased and stuffing and mounting  
5 it in lifelike form.

6 "Ultimate consumer" means an individual who buys a fur  
7 product for the individual's own use, or for the use of another,  
8 but not for resale or trade.

9 "Used fur product" means a fur product that has been worn  
10 or used by an ultimate consumer.

11 **§ -2 Trade of animal fur products prohibited.** (a) It  
12 shall be unlawful to sell, offer for sale, display for sale,  
13 trade, or otherwise distribute for monetary or nonmonetary  
14 consideration a fur product in Hawaii.

15 (b) For the purposes of this section, the sale, offer for  
16 sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise distribute for  
17 monetary or nonmonetary consideration of a fur product shall be  
18 deemed to occur in the State if:

19 (1) The buyer takes physical possession of the fur product  
20 in the State; or

21 (2) The seller is located in the State.



1           §   -3 **Exemptions.** The prohibition in section   -2 shall  
2 not apply to the sale, offer for sale, display for sale, trade,  
3 or distribution of:

4           (1) A used fur product by an individual, excluding a  
5                 retail transaction; nonprofit organization; or second-  
6                 hand store, including a pawn shop;

7           (2) A fur product used in the exercise of traditional and  
8                 customary rights protected pursuant to article XII,  
9                 section 7, of the Hawaii State Constitution; or

10          (3) A fur product where the activity is expressly  
11                 authorized by federal law.

12          §   -4 **Penalties.** Any person who violates this chapter  
13 shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000. Each fur  
14 product sold, offered for sale, displayed for sale, traded, or  
15 distributed in violation of this chapter and each day on which  
16 any such violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense."

17          SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
18 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
19 begun before its effective date.

20          SECTION 4. If any provision of this Act, or the  
21 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held



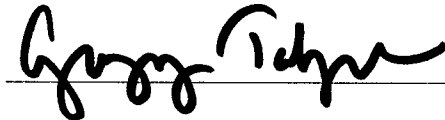
# H.B. NO. 215

1 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or  
2 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the  
3 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions  
4 of this Act are severable.

5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 19 2023



# H.B. NO. 215

**Report Title:**

Animal Fur Products; Sale, Display, Trade, or Distribution;  
Prohibition

**Description:**

Prohibits the sale, offer for sale, display for sale, trade, or distribution of certain animal fur products in the State.  
Effective 1/1/2024.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

