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

7 The legislature recognizes that fur farms are reservoirs
8 and transmission vectors for dangerous zoonotic disease,
9 including SARS coronaviruses, that threaten public health.
10 Coronavirus disease 2019 infections have been confirmed at fur
11 farms in Europe and the United States, and scientific studies
12 have linked mink, raccoon dogs, and foxes, animals most commonly
13 farmed for 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 and nitrogen, which are among the most common forms of water
2 pollution in the United States.

3 Considering the wide array of alternatives for fashion and
4 apparel, the legislature finds that the demand for fur products
5 does not justify the unnecessary killing and cruel treatment of
6 animals, harm to the environment, and the public health risks
7 created by these practices.

8 The legislature believes that banning the sale of fur
9 products in the State will decrease the industry demand for
10 these cruel and environmentally harmful products and promote
11 community awareness of animal welfare and, in turn, will enhance
12 the reputation of the State.

13 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit the trade of certain
14 animal fur products in the State.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 183D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by adding a new section to part V to be appropriately
17 designated and to read as follows:

18 "§183D- Animal fur products. (a) It shall be unlawful
19 to sell, offer for sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise
20 distribute for monetary or nonmonetary consideration a fur



1 product in Hawaii. For purposes of this section, the sale of a
2 fur product shall be deemed to occur in Hawaii if:

3 (1) The buyer takes physical possession of the fur product
4 in Hawaii; or

5 (2) The seller is located in Hawaii.

6 (b) This section shall not apply to the sale, offer for
7 sale, display for sale, trade, or distribution of:

8 (1) A used fur product by a person (excluding a retail
9 transaction), nonprofit organization, or second-hand
10 store, including a pawn shop;

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

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

16 (c) A person in violation of this section shall be subject
17 to a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000. Each fur product sold,
18 offered for sale, displayed for sale, traded, or distributed in
19 violation of this section, and every day upon which any
20 violation shall occur, shall constitute a separate offense.



1 (d) The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91
2 to further implement or enforce this section.

3 (e) As used in this section:

4 "Fur" means any animal skin with hair, fleece, or fur
5 fibers attached, either in its raw or processed state.

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

12 (1) An animal skin or part thereof that is to be converted
13 into leather, or which in processing will have the
14 hair, fleece, or fur fiber completely removed;

15 (2) Cowhide with the hair attached thereto;

16 (3) Deerskin with the hair attached thereto;

17 (4) Lambskin or sheepskin with the fleece attached
18 thereto; or

19 (5) The pelt or skin of any animal that is preserved
20 through taxidermy or for the purposes of taxidermy.



1 "Nonprofit organization" means any entity exempt from
2 federal taxes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
3 Code of 1986, as amended, for charitable, religious,
4 philanthropic, educational, or similar purposes.

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

8 "Ultimate consumer" means a person who buys a fur product
9 for the person's own use, or for the use of another, but not for
10 resale or trade.

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

13 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
14 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
15 done before its effective date.

16 SECTION 4. If any provision of this Act, or the
17 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held
18 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
19 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the
20 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
21 of this Act are severable.



- 1 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.
- 2 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Animal Fur Products; Trade; Prohibition; Department of Land and Natural Resources

Description:

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

Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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