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ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 21, 2025 12:00 p.m. State Capitol, Room 308 Video Conference

H.B. 667, H.D. 1 RELATING TO THE TRANSPORTATION

House Committee on Finance

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **Support H.B. 667, H.D. 1**. This bill requires the HDOT or appropriate county department when disposing of a deceased cat or dog found on a public roadway to scan the animal for a microchip, record certain information, and report that information to the appropriate county animal control services or animal contractors. This Act to take effect July 1, 3000.

The HDOT recognizes the importance of notifying pet owners and is committed to enhancing our approach to this issue while maintaining our core mission of roadway safety and maintenance. We are currently in the process of obtaining microchip scanners and will collaborate with local humane societies to facilitate pet owner notifications. Additionally, we will work to implement procedures that balance efficiency, safety, and feasibility.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback and encourage further discussions with key stakeholders, including animal welfare organizations and county agencies, to develop a practical and sustainable approach that aligns with HDOT's operational framework.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

People for animals. Animals for people.

Date: Feb. 20, 2025

To: Chair Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita

Vice Chair Rep. Jenna Takenouchi

and Members of the Committee on Finance

Submitted By: Stephanie Kendrick, Director of Community Engagement

Hawaiian Humane Society, 808-356-2217

RE: Testimony in strong support of HB 667, HD1: Relating to Transportation

Friday, Feb. 21, 2025, 12 p.m., Room 308 & Videoconference

On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society, thank you for considering our strong support for House Bill 667, HD1, which requires the Department of Transportation or appropriate county department when disposing of a deceased cat or dog from a public roadway to scan the animal for a microchip, record certain information, and report that information to the appropriate county animal services or animal service contractors; and requires certain county agencies to collaborate with the Department of Transportation in utilizing the Department's microchip scanners.

This measure codifies the will expressed in the last legislative session by HCR171 / HR150, which was approved by this body. The appropriate agencies have struggled to fulfill the requests made in that resolution and Hawaiian Humane is grateful to the bill sponsor for working with the state Department of Transportation on this measure

Pets are an integral part of many people's lives and not knowing how a pet died or if a lost pet is still alive can be traumatic. State and county agencies responsible for clearing dead animals from roadways do not routinely scan deceased animals for an identifying microchip or take other steps to determine ownership, such as inspecting a tag worn on the animal's collar for a contact phone number or address. With an increase in the number of microchipped dogs and cats, resulting from a state law that required them as of January 1, 2022, scanning for chips would be an effective way to provide closure to worried pet owners.

We urge the committee to pass HB 667, HD1, with a good effective date. Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2025 4:01:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2025 12:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Heide Kila	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Heide Kila

Waianae, Hi 96792

I am in favor and support this bill. So pet owners can have peace of mind and Closure!

I'm a pet mama myself of 4 dogs I would be heartbroken if any of mines passed away and I never knew it did. It's a quick scan for many answers for the family .

I agree with this Bill HB667 HD 1

Mahalo

Heide Kila

Owner: Papa Lauluz LLC

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2025 6:53:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2025 12:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Gauvin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I would like to be informed if my pet has deceased

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2025 8:37:42 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2025 12:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raimar Bylaardt II	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It makes sense and will bring closing to the families of the deceased.

I support this bill

Raimar Bylaardt II