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STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 11, 2025
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 224 Video Conference

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

House Committee on Transportation and the Culture and the Arts

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.

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.



Hawaiian Humane Society
People for animals. Animals for people.

Date: March 10, 2025

To: Chair Sen. Chris Lee
Vice Chair Sen. Lorraine Inouye
and Members of the Committee on Transportation
and Culture and the Arts

Submitted By: Stephanie Kendrick, Director of Community Engagement
Hawaiian Humane Society, 808-356-2217

RE: Testimony in strong support of HB 667, HD2: Relating to Transportation
Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 3 p.m., Room 224 & Videoconference

On behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society, thank you for considering our strong support for House Bill 667, HD2, 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, HD2, with a good effective date. Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 2:06:54 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Cigainero	Testifying for Action4AnimalsHawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committee Chair and Members: I am writing in support of HB 667 which would provide the Dept. of Transportation with microchip scanners and require that they scan dead cats and dogs that they pick-up on the roads to determine if there is an owner who can be notified. This bill would provide compassionate closer for pet owners whose animals may have been hit and killed along one of our highways. I am a member of Action 4 Animals-Hawaii and we foster animals for adoption. We meet pet owners all the time that are still searching for a lost pet, sometimes years after the pet became missing. This bill would offer closer for those families who pet died on the road. Mahalo for your support of this bill.

Barbara Cigainero, Keaau, HI

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 10:28:52 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marian Hussenbux	Testifying for Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We refer to [HB667](#) **Relating to Transportation**, which requires the Department of Transportation and appropriate county departments to scan deceased cats and dogs for microchip information and report that information to the appropriate county animal services provider.

This measure has much support, having been championed by Hawaiian Humane, Rep. Darius Kila, Paw Posse ‘Ohana and other online communities dedicated to helping lost companion animals and their people. It will help families find closure in the event that a beloved family member loses his or her life on the roads.

We strongly support this measure.



Aloha Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

Lucky Paws Animal Foundation strongly supports HB667, which would require the Department of Transportation and appropriate county departments to scan deceased cats and dogs for microchip identification and report that information to the appropriate county animal services provider.

Every week, we receive calls from heartbroken families searching for their lost pets, hoping for any sign—good or bad—of what happened to them. Many bring deceased animals to us, hoping we can scan for microchip confirmation. This is emotionally devastating— and it is unsafe for ordinary residents to stop on busy roads in order to scoop up an animal’s body, and transport it in their vehicle in a desperate search for closure. Most people are not equipped for this, nor should they have to be.

If road crews were required to take just a moment to scan for a microchip and report their findings, more families would receive the closure they need, and fewer people would put themselves in dangerous situations on highways and busy streets. Road crews have the proper warning lights, safety equipment, and training to handle these situations far more safely than the general public. Additionally, knowing that scanning will be done would encourage more residents to report deceased animals for proper identification and disposal.

For many pet owners, not knowing is the most painful part of losing a pet. As one grieving pet owner once said:

“The hardest part of losing them is not knowing if they’re gone forever or still out there somewhere, waiting to come home.”

Passing HB667 would bring comfort to grieving families, improve public safety, and uphold the humane treatment of animals, even in death. Lucky Paws Animal Foundation urges this committee to pass HB667 without hesitation.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

**Chris Thompson
Lucky Paws Animal Foundation**

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 5:57:25 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melanie Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to allow Department of Transportation and appropriate county departments to scan deceased cats and dogs for microchip information and report that information to the appropriate county animal services provider.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 8:48:40 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane E Arnold	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HB667. If a pet is lost and gets killed, the owners would be very grateful to know, and this bill would facilitate that.

Jane E Arnold

1763 Iwi Way, Apt D

Honolulu HI. 96816

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 6:05:57 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Saul	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Am writing in support of HB667, HD1 Relating to Transportation

A few years back while driving down a residential street in Honolulu I saw the body of a cat, recently run over, which appeared to have been someone's beloved pet. I lifted it up as gently as I could and took it to the Hawaiian Humane Society where I expected they would scan the chip and notify the owner.

Had that been a pet of mine I would seriously need to know what happened to it, and I strongly believe every pet owner is entitled to such information to achieve some peace of mind.

Please help us to make this possible.

Thank you.

**Alice Saul
Hawaii Kai, Honolulu**

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 6:07:59 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lei-Anne Jones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I am in support of HB667. Thank you so much for your time and consideration of this bill.

Mahalo,

Lei-Anne Jones

Manoa 96822

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 6:56:22 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
joanna p milo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I approve

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 7:55:43 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carolyn Naun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this legislation.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 8:09:19 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephanie McLaughlin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this important bill. It will bring closure to human pet guardians after their beloved dog or cat has passed.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 8:42:47 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Serena Stefanic-Phillip	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of Bill HB667.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 9:16:54 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Renee Rabb	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you so much for the opportunity to support HB 667 by Rep. Kila. This is a bill that shows Hawai'i as a compassionate state. If one's pet is killed on the roadway, it is important for the family to have closure. If not, families often search for their beloved pet for months.

Microchip scanners are a tiny expense in comparison to the emotional relief that this bill will bring to family members.

Mahalo for your kind support of HB 667.

Renee Rabb

Keaau, HI 96749

Big Island

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 9:22:56 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It doesn't cost much to provide the scanners to those who pick up dead animals, and it doesn't take much time to scan and record the data, so this is a no brainer request. It provides significant closure for those families who lose their pets.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 5:14:19 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wayne Niide	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support the Department of Transportation and appropriate county departments to scan deceased cats and dogs for microchip information and report that information to the appropriate county animal services provider.

It will help families find closure in the tragic event that a beloved pet loses its life on our roadways.

Respectfully, Wayne Niide

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 6:15:26 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Natalie Graham-Wood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB667. My name is Natalie Graham-Wood and I live at Sunset Beach, Oahu.

HB667 Testimony from Judith Aikawa, MD, 37 Apali Way, Kula, HI 96790

I SUPPORT bill HB667 which requires the Department of Transportation and appropriate county departments to scan deceased cats and dogs for microchip information and report that information to the appropriate county animal services provider.

Pets are members of the family. This bill will help families find closure in the tragic event that a beloved pet loses its life on Hawaii roadways.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 8:57:35 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in strong support of HB667.HD1. Pets/Service animals are sometimes the only support people have in their lives. Not being told that any of these microchipped animals were found dead on the side of the road is like not knowing what happened to a missing relative. Please support.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:13:19 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ginger Reyes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To say I support this would be a complete understatement. It is shocking to me that this is not already a requirement and normal process. The law states we must take the time to microchip our pets, it is now the standard by which ownership is legally determined. To ignore the ease with which these mandated chips could provide closure to scared and heartbroken pet owners, as well as stop them from wasting endless time and resources on trying to find a pet that has already passed is absurd. Please pass this measure. The community would benefit in many ways and it would bring the government officials involved to alignment with the rest of society in their treatment and view of pets.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:13:28 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Senator Lee, Vice Chair Senator Inouye and Members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts.

Please support HB 667 HD 1 to help families with closure when their beloved pet dies on a roadway.

Mahalo.

Jennifer Chiwa

Makiki and life long resident of Oahu

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:13:58 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lucretia Worster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. For suffering pet owners to get closure.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:50:38 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is important that the Department of Transportation or appropriate county department when disposing of a deceased cat or dog from a public roadway scan the animal for a microchip, record certain information, and report that information to the appropriate county animal services or animal service contractors. All too often that is not done, and the grieving family, seeking their lost pet, never learns what the outcome was.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 10:13:46 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carole R. Richelieu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This measure is supported by me, Hawaiian Humane, Rep. Darius Kila, Paw Posse ‘Ohana and other online communities dedicated to helping lost pets and their people. It will help families find closure in the tragic event that a beloved pet loses its life on our roadways which happens often in Hawaii Kai.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 1:07:37 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tania Chong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of HB667. Downtown Honolulu.

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 3:00:12 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alyssa Kekoa-Oshiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for your consideration of HB 667.

Pets are members of our family. In January 2025, our beloved Chihuahua wandered from home. My family and I immediately began a community search online, and physically searching for our beloved pet. We spent hours searching for her at all hours of the day, desperate to find any sighting of her.

Multiple attempts were made to find closure on whether Kealoha was dead or alive. Calls were placed to the Honolulu Police Department, Department of Transportation, and City and County of Honolulu, hoping she did not match the description of any deceased pet found on our local roads. A week later, additional calls were made to the HPD, and I spoke to HPD officers who identified a close match to Kealoha.

While we cannot know for sure whether the deceased Chihuahua found near our home was Kealoha, I can only conclude this is the case. The question of not knowing is agony, and completely avoidable.

In memory of Kealoha, my family and I humbly ask your support for HB 667. Every family is deserving of closure, and the scanner is a minimal expense in comparison to the emotional toll, and additional efforts to agencies calling for closure.

LATE

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 4:58:42 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Taurie Kinoshita	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Honorable Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HB667 HD1.

This important bill requires the Department of Transportation and appropriate county departments to scan deceased cats and dogs for microchip information and report that information to the appropriate county animal services provider.

This measure will help families find closure in the tragic event that a beloved pet loses its life on our roadways. In terms of grief, a sense of closure is crucial. Without this measure, families will continue to forever wonder what happened to their beloved member, and will continue to grieve.

Please pass this vital bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Taurie Kinoshita

lifelong voter and resident, Oahu

HB-667-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 9:33:10 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Virginia M Lopez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.