
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ANIMAL CRUELTY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that despite the
2 enactment of several animal cruelty offenses, local humane
3 societies, law enforcement agencies, and animal protection
4 groups continue to receive reports of dogs and cats being sold,
5 trafficked, or slaughtered for human consumption. Some of these
6 cases involve dogs and cats that were stolen or lost or acquired
7 via online advertisements for dogs or cats stating "free to good
8 home".

9 In 2007, two defendants were prosecuted in Hawaii for
10 stealing a pet dog from the Moanalua Golf Course and killing the
11 dog with the intention of eating the animal. However, the
12 defendants were charged based on their admission to stealing and
13 butchering the dog rather than killing the pet to consume it
14 because the Hawaii penal code does not prohibit the slaughtering
15 or trafficking of dogs or cats for human consumption.

16 There are nearly a dozen states in the United States that
17 prohibit the slaughter of dogs or cats or the sale of dog or cat
18 products for the purpose of human consumption. The Philippines,



1 Taiwan, and Hong Kong also prohibit the sale or trafficking of
2 dogs or cats for human consumption because the consumption of
3 these animals may spread disease to humans.

4 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 5 (1) Prohibit the slaughtering or trafficking of pet
- 6 animals for human consumption; and
- 7 (2) Include dogs and cats, whether or not bred for human
- 8 consumption, in the definition of "pet animals."

9 SECTION 2. Chapter 711, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
11 and to read as follows:

12 "§711- Cruelty to animals by slaughtering or trafficking
13 pet animals for human consumption. (1) A person commits the
14 offense of cruelty to animals by slaughtering or trafficking pet
15 animals for human consumption if the person intentionally:

16 (a) Slaughters, by the person's self or in conspiracy with
17 another person, any pet animal for the purpose of
18 human consumption; or

19 (b) Traffics any pet animal for the purpose of human
20 consumption.

21 (2) For purposes of this section:



1 "Pet animal" shall have the same meaning as in section 711-
2 1100, including the carcass or part of a carcass of any pet
3 animal.

4 "Sell" means the transfer of any pet animal to another for
5 any consideration for the purpose of human consumption.

6 "Slaughter" means to kill any pet animal for human
7 consumption.

8 "Traffics" means breeds, raises, sells, offers for sale,
9 exchanges, transports, transfers, receives, trades, or barter
10 any pet animal for the purpose of human consumption.

11 (3) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the lawful
12 slaughter of animals as permitted by the department of
13 agriculture.

14 (4) Nothing in this section shall limit the application of
15 any other law relative to the violation of this section.

16 (5) Cruelty to animals by slaughtering or trafficking any
17 pet animal for human consumption is a misdemeanor."

18 SECTION 3. Section 711-1100, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended by amending the definition of "pet animal" to read as
20 follows:

21 "Pet animal" means [a]:

22 (1) Any dog[7] or cat[7]; or



1 (2) A domesticated rabbit, guinea pig, domesticated pig,
2 or caged birds (passeriformes, piciformes, and
3 psittaciformes only) so long as not bred for
4 consumption."

5 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
6 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
7 begun before its effective date.

8 SECTION 5. If any provision of this Act, or the
9 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held
10 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
11 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the
12 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
13 of this Act are severable.

14 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
15 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Penal Code; Animal Cruelty; Slaughter or Trafficking of Pet Animals for Human Consumption

Description:

Prohibits the slaughtering or trafficking of pet animals for human consumption. Includes dogs and cats, whether or not bred for human consumption, in the definition of "pet animal".
(SB2026 HD1)

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