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# 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 dogs or  
6 cats for human consumption; and

7 (2) Include dogs and cats that are 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 **dogs or cats for human consumption.** (1) A person commits the  
14 offense of cruelty to animals by slaughtering or trafficking  
15 dogs or cats for human consumption if the person intentionally:

16 (a) Slaughters any dog or cat for the purpose of human  
17 consumption;

18 (b) Traffics any dog or cat, or dog or cat products, for  
19 the purpose of human consumption; or

20 (c) Possesses any dog or cat products for the purpose of  
21 human consumption.

22 (2) For purposes of this section:



1       "Dog or cat products" means the carcass or part of a  
2 carcass of any dog or cat.

3       "Sell" means the transfer of any dog or cat, or dog or cat  
4 products, to another for any consideration.

5       "Traffic" means to breed, raise, sell, offer for sale,  
6 exchange, gift, transport, purchase, receive, trade, or barter  
7 any dog or cat, or dog or cat product.

8       (3) Nothing in this section shall preclude prosecution of  
9 conduct that constitutes a violation of this section under other  
10 applicable law.

11       (4) Cruelty to animals by slaughtering or trafficking dogs  
12 or cats for human consumption is a misdemeanor."

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

16       "Pet animal" means [a]:

17       (1) Any dog[7] or cat[7]; or

18       (2) A domesticated rabbit, guinea pig, domesticated pig,  
19       or caged birds (passeriformes, piciformes, and  
20       psittaciformes only) so long as not bred for  
21       consumption."



1 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
3 begun before its effective date.

4 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
5 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2100.



**Report Title:**

Penal Code; Animal Cruelty; Slaughter or Trafficking of Dogs or Cats for Human Consumption

**Description:**

Establishes the offense of Cruelty to Animals by Slaughtering or Trafficking Dogs or Cats for Human Consumption. Includes dogs and cats bred for human consumption in the definition of "pet animal". (SB2026 HD2)

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