
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 "free to good home".

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

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



1 dogs or cats for human consumption because the consumption of
2 these animals may spread disease to humans.

3 The purpose of this Act is to:

4 (1) Prohibit the slaughtering or trafficking of dogs or
5 cats for human consumption; and

6 (2) Amend the relevant portion of the definition of "pet
7 animal" as used in chapter 711, Hawaii Revised
8 Statutes, to mean any dog or cat, regardless of
9 whether the dog or cat was bred for consumption.

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

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

17 (a) Slaughters by the person's self or in conspiracy with
18 another person a dog or cat for the purpose of human
19 consumption;

20 (b) Traffics dogs or cats or dog or cat products for the
21 purpose of human consumption; or



1 (c) Possesses dog or cat products for the purpose of human
2 consumption.

3 (2) As used in this section:

4 "Dog or cat products" means the carcass or part of a
5 carcass of any dog or cat.

6 "Sell" means the transfer of a dog or cat or dog or cat
7 products to another for the purpose of human consumption.

8 "Traffics dogs or cats or dog or cat products" means
9 breeds, raises, sells, offers for sale, exchanges, transports,
10 transfers, receives, trades, or barterers dogs or cats or dog or
11 cat products.

12 (3) Cruelty to animals by slaughtering or trafficking dogs
13 or cats for human consumption shall be a misdemeanor."

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

17 "Pet animal" means [a]:

18 (a) Any dog[-] or cat[-]; or

19 (b) A domesticated rabbit, guinea pig, domesticated pig,
20 or caged birds (passeriformes, piciformes, and
21 psittaciformes only) so long as not bred for
22 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 upon its approval.



Report Title:

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

Description:

Prohibits the slaughtering or trafficking of dogs or cats for human consumption. Amends the definition of "pet animal" in chapter 711, HRS, to include any dog or cat rather than only dogs or cats not bred for human consumption. (SD1)

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