

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

829

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 05 2021**

RE: S.B. No. 969  
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and  
Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 969, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMAL FUR PRODUCTS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to prohibit the  
manufacture for sale, offer for sale, display for sale, sale,  
trade, or distribution of certain animal fur products in the  
State.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure  
from Fur Free Alliance; Animal Defenders International; InStyle;  
Inditex S.A.; Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association; In  
Defense of Animals; Project Coyote; Humane Society of the United  
States; Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association; Stella  
McCartney, Ltd.; Animal Legal Defense Fund; People for the Ethical  
Treatment of Animals; Advanced Pacific; Leilani Farm Sanctuary;  
Neighborhood Cats; H&M; and twenty-nine individuals. Your  
Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from  
Retail Merchants of Hawaii and two individuals. Your Committees  
received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce  
and Consumer Affairs and one individual.

Your Committees find that the fur industry can be cruel, and  
studies have shown that it presents high climate and environmental  
costs, with significant emissions and land use requirements, and



air and water pollutants emanating from animal waste and chemical processes. The coronavirus disease 2019 further exposed the fur industry as a serious contagion risk and has underscored the need for transformational change in the way humans trade in, consume, impact, and too often abuse nature. Due to technological advances in fabrications, designers are now able to create a luxe aesthetic using non-animal fur. Therefore, this measure allows Hawaii to be among the leaders in ending fur sales.

Your Committees further find the prohibition on the manufacturing and sale of fur products would benefit from a more phased-in approach, similar to how the State has handled the ban on the sale of certain sunscreens. By first prohibiting the manufacture and importation of certain animal fur products in the State, then later banning the sale of those items, retailers and suppliers can have a window of time to sell current inventories, thereby preventing any unnecessary waste. Amendments to this measure are therefore necessary to address these issues. Your Committees further note that this measure exempts leather and certain fur products from livestock animals that have been a part of Hawaii's landscape for a very long time.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "fur" to mean any animal skin with hair, fleece, or fur fibers attached, either in its raw or processed state, including mink and other non-native species;
- (2) Clarifying the definition of "director" to mean the Director of Agriculture, rather than the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs;
- (3) Specifying that, beginning July 1, 2021, it shall be unlawful to manufacture fur products in the State, or import fur products into the State, for the purposes of sale;
- (4) Specifying that, beginning December 1, 2021, it shall be unlawful to sell, offer for sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise distribute for monetary or nonmonetary consideration, a fur product in the State;



- (5) Inserting language requiring the Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and Department of the Attorney General to collaborate and to develop and disseminate informational documents to educate and inform retail merchants and suppliers of the provisions of this measure;
- (6) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Judiciary that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 969, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 969, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Commerce and  
Consumer Protection and  
Judiciary,



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KARL RHOADS, Chair



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ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair





