
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ANIMAL FUR PRODUCTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that animals were
2 historically hunted and trapped for food, and their pelts were
3 used to provide protective clothing. Over time, clothing
4 technology has developed, making fur a luxury item, rather than
5 a necessity. Fur garments are typically designed for fashion
6 rather than for warmth, and more animals are now killed to make
7 decorative fur trim than to manufacture full fur garments. Due
8 to serious animal welfare concerns, more and more countries are
9 phasing out fur farming and enacting fur farming bans.

10 The legislature recognizes that more than one hundred
11 million animals are violently killed every year solely for their
12 fur. More than eighty-five per cent of pelts in the world's fur
13 trade come from fur farms, while the remaining fifteen per cent
14 of pelts are from animals trapped in the wild. The legislature
15 finds that, especially considering the wide array of faux fur
16 and other fashion and apparel alternatives, the demand for fur
17 products does not justify the cruel treatment and unnecessary



1 killing of animals. Eliminating the sale of fur products in
2 Hawaii will foster a more humane environment in the State.

3 The legislature further finds that the fur trade poses
4 serious human health and animal welfare concerns. Recent
5 reports from mink fur farms abroad have revealed dangerous links
6 between the industry and the further spread of the SARS-CoV-2
7 virus to humans from animals. Additionally, mink, raccoon dogs,
8 and foxes that are commonly farmed for their fur have been
9 linked to a variety of coronaviruses.

10 The legislature further finds that fur farming can be
11 damaging to the environment and contributes to water and air
12 pollution in multiple ways. Fur farming often involves the use
13 of toxic chemicals, including chromium and formaldehyde, which
14 can seep into ground water and other water sources. For each
15 kilogram of factory-farmed mink fur produced, one hundred ten
16 kilograms of carbon dioxide are released into the atmosphere.
17 Fur farming also consumes significant quantities of energy and
18 water; producing a real fur garment uses more than fifteen times
19 the energy needed to produce a faux fur garment.

20 The legislature acknowledges that existing laws provide
21 relatively little oversight of the fur trade industries.



1 Compliance with guidelines issued by the American Veterinary
2 Medical Association is not mandatory, and fur farms are not
3 monitored or inspected by any government agency. Federal laws
4 prohibit the import or export of dog or cat fur products into
5 the United States, prohibit the introduction of dog and cat fur
6 products into interstate commerce, forbid deceptive labeling of
7 fur products, and require products made with real fur to be
8 properly labeled.

9 As human, animal, and ecosystem health are inextricably
10 linked, it is vital for our health, economy, and security that
11 Hawaii, the United States, and countries across the globe shut
12 down the cruel, risky, and unpopular fur farming industry and
13 end the fur trade by banning fur sales. Accordingly, the
14 purpose of this Act is to:

15 (1) Beginning July 1, 2021, prohibit the manufacture and
16 importation for sale of certain animal fur products in
17 the State; and

18 (2) Beginning December 1, 2021, prohibit the sale, offer
19 for sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise
20 distribution for monetary or nonmonetary
21 consideration, of certain fur products in the State.



1 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 "CHAPTER

5 ANIMAL FUR PRODUCTS

6 § -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

7 "Department" means the department of the attorney general.

8 "Fur" means any animal skin with hair, fleece, or fur
9 fibers attached, either in its raw or processed state.

10 "Fur product" means any article of clothing or covering for
11 any part of the body, or any fashion accessory, including but
12 not limited to handbags, shoes, slippers, hats, earmuffs,
13 scarves, shawls, gloves, jewelry, keychains, toys or trinkets,
14 or home accessories and decor that is made in whole or in part
15 of fur; provided that "fur product" does not include any of the
16 following:

17 (1) A dog or cat fur product, as defined in title 19
18 United States Code section 1308;

19 (2) An animal skin that is to be converted into leather,
20 or which in processing will have the hair, fleece, or
21 fur fiber completely removed;



1 (3) Cowhide with the hair attached;

2 (4) Goatskin, lambskin, or sheepskin with the fleece
3 attached; or

4 (5) The pelt or skin of any animal that is preserved
5 through taxidermy or for the purposes of taxidermy.

6 "Nonprofit organization" means any entity organized under
7 title 26 United States Code section 501(c)(3) for charitable,
8 religious, philanthropic, educational, or similar purposes.

9 "Taxidermy" means the practice of preparing and preserving
10 the skin of an animal that is deceased and stuffing and mounting
11 it in lifelike form.

12 "Ultimate consumer" means an individual who buys a fur
13 product for the individual's own use, or for the use of another,
14 but not for resale or trade.

15 "Used fur product" means a fur product that has been worn
16 or used by an ultimate consumer.

17 **§ -2 Manufacture and importation of fur products for**
18 **sale prohibited; exemption.** (a) Beginning July 1, 2021, it
19 shall be unlawful to manufacture fur products in the State, or
20 import fur products into the State, for the purpose of sale in
21 the State.



1 (b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to
2 the manufacture for sale of fur products using fur sourced
3 exclusively from used fur products.

4 § -3 Sale of fur products prohibited; exemption. (a)
5 Beginning December 1, 2021, it shall be unlawful to sell, offer
6 for sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise distribute for
7 monetary or nonmonetary consideration, a fur product in the
8 State.

9 (b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to
10 the sale, offer for sale, display for sale, trade, or other
11 distribution of:

12 (1) A used fur product by a private party, excluding a
13 retail transaction; nonprofit organization; or
14 secondhand store, including a pawn shop;

15 (2) A fur product required for use in the practice of a
16 religion;

17 (3) A fur product used for traditional cultural, tribal,
18 or spiritual purposes by a member of a federally
19 recognized Native American tribe; or

20 (4) A fur product where the activity is expressly
21 authorized by federal law.



1 (c) For the purposes of this section, a sale shall be
2 deemed to occur at the location where the buyer takes physical
3 possession of the fur product.

4 § -4 Penalties; citations; administrative fines. (a)

5 Any person who violates this chapter or any rule adopted
6 pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to the fines as
7 provided in this section.

8 (b) Each individual fur product manufactured for sale,
9 imported for sale, sold, offered for sale, displayed for sale,
10 traded, or otherwise distributed in violation of section -1
11 or -2 shall constitute a separate violation of this chapter.
12 Each day that a violation exists, is continued, or continues to
13 exist, shall be construed as a separate offense.

14 (c) The department shall issue a warning notice to a
15 person for the person's violation of this chapter. The person
16 shall remedy the violation within twenty-four hours of receipt
17 of the warning notice or be subject to the penalties provided by
18 this section or rules adopted pursuant to this section.

19 (d) A person who receives a warning notice from the
20 department and who fails to remedy the violation in the time
21 specified under subsection (c) shall be fined no more than:



- 1 (1) \$500 for a first violation;
- 2 (2) \$750 for a second violation within one year of the
- 3 first violation; and
- 4 (3) \$1,000 for a third or subsequent violation within one
- 5 year of the previous violation.

6 § -5 Rules; informational and educational documents for
7 retail merchants. (a) The department shall adopt rules
8 pursuant to chapter 91 as necessary to carry out the purposes of
9 this chapter.

10 (b) Before December 1, 2021, the department and department
11 of commerce and consumer affairs shall collaborate to develop
12 and disseminate informational documents to educate and inform
13 retail merchants and suppliers of the provisions of this
14 chapter."

15 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
16 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
17 begun before its effective date.

18 SECTION 4. If any provision of this Act, or the
19 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held
20 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
21 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the



1 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
2 of this Act are severable.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



S.B. NO. 969
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Report Title:

AG; Animal Fur Products; Manufacture and Sale; Prohibition; DCCA

Description:

Beginning July 1, 2021, prohibits the manufacture or importation for sale of certain animal fur products in the State. Beginning December 1, 2021, prohibits the sale, offer for sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise distribution of certain animal fur products in the State. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

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