HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A SUNRISE ANALYSIS FOR THE REGISTRATION OF PET DEALERS IN HAWAI'I.

WHEREAS, there are more than three hundred fifty-three million animal companions in the United States, and more than sixty-one per cent of households own a pet; and

WHEREAS, pets, specifically dogs and cats, are purchased or obtained from multiple sources, such as pet stores, breeders, animal shelters, and adoption agencies; and

WHEREAS, certain breeders are driven by the profit motive and in some cases, do not take precautionary measures to protect newborn dogs and cats from diseases or genetic predispositions; and

WHEREAS, some breeders are professionals who treat and care for their animals, and others breed dogs and cats for a certain appearance or size, with the result that many live uncomfortable tragic lives because their bodily and brain functions are inhibited; and

WHEREAS, the State has an interest in protecting the welfare of dogs and cats from cruelty and exploitation, as well as protecting Hawaii's consumers from less-than-reputable pet breeders and dealers; and

WHEREAS, pet dealers are currently an unregulated profession and section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires that any new regulatory measure being considered for enactment in this State concerning heretofore unregulated professions and occupations must be referred to the Auditor for analysis; now, therefore,

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 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Auditor is requested to conduct a sunrise analysis of the registration of pet dealers in Hawaii as contemplated under H.B. No. 1842, introduced during the Regular Session of 2009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to submit any findings and recommendation, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Chairperson of the Board of Veterinary Examiners and the Executive Director of the Hawaiian Humane Society.