



# ANIMAL RIGHTS HAWAII

ADVOCATING FOR ANIMAL LIBERATION SINCE 1977

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Committee on Water, Land & Ocean Resources

Hearing: Friday, January 30, 2009

Conference Room 325

State Capitol

re: HB199

**Position SUPPORT**

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Har and Members of the Committee:

This bill, in several variations has come before the Legislature many times, and has always been defeated because of the strong opposition of members of the environmental community. We have been told that snares are necessary to save the aina, that they are used only in the most remote areas, and that the benefit to our ecosystem outweighs the suffering of the "alien" species.

Please know that there are many of us who care deeply for Hawai'i and her forests, birds and plants- we are also "environmentalists." We just feel that the ends do not justify the means.

The photographs I show you today are of a sow who was snared in Hawai'i Kai last autumn, 20 feet from a public road. She did not die easily. The snare had bitten into her leg so deeply, that her foot became detached from her torso. She had tried in agony to free herself. I found one of her teeth embedded in her hoof.

This sow is the face of all the animals who suffer and die far from the halls of the Capitol. By taking a bold and righteous step, you can end this barbaric practice. Now that you have seen this poor animal, please know that unless you as decision makers, vote to ban this horror, there will be hundreds, thousands more like her. The decision to to the right thing is yours to make.

With aloha,

Cathy Goeggel

Director

# LATE TESTIMONY

## HB 199

(ANTI-SNARES, BAIT, KEEPING OF WILDLIFE AS PETS)

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND OCEAN RESOURCES

Rep. Ken Ito, Chair

Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

Friday, January 30, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

State Capitol, Rm. 325

Dear Representatives:

I am writing in SUPPORT of the passing of HB 199 into law because I feel that snares are a very *cruel and ineffective* way to use in capturing animals. Too often on our islands, they are left unattended in remote areas for long period of time. This is a *barbaric* practice since the snares are, by nature, *unselective* in their ability to harm and cannot distinguish between species or type. They routinely kill or seriously injured pet animals along with protected and native wildlife as well as non. And once caught in an unattended snare, the unfortunate animal usually has no other choice but to suffer terribly for days on in a slow march towards death. Thus for their *cruel and indiscriminative* aspects, I hope that we will not allow its use to continue.

Mahalo,

**Anjie Pham**



**LATE TESTIMONY**

January 28, 2009

**TESTIMONY**

**House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources**

**RE: HB 199 RELATING TO WILDLIFE**

Chair Ito and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Bureau Federation representing Hawaii's farm and ranch families and organizations opposes HB 199, limiting options to control wildlife.

Damage by wildlife is a significant hazard in our watersheds. Pigs digging tree roots reduces the quality of the watershed. Other wildlife act to spreading invasive seeds across the forest floor.

Damage to the watershed affects the water supply impacting not only agriculture but everyone.

We feel it is critical that those involved in wildlife control in watersheds have various options available to accomplish their task in the difficult terrain they must work.

We respectfully request your opposition to this measure. Thank you for this opportunity to present our opinion on this matter.

HB199  
WLO Committee

Dear Committee Chair and Members:

Please support HB199 prohibiting the use of snares to hunt wildlife.

A co-worker of mine related this story to me. Her husband was on the Pali Golf Course when this incident happened.

In the spring of 2008 a snare was used to catch a feral pig in the mountains behind the Pali Golf Course.

The squeals from this pig caused great concern to the nearby golfers who left their game to investigate. They found a hunter frantically trying to tape the snout and front legs of an adult female pig with duct tape. One of her back legs was caught in the snare.

As this pig struggled to free itself, the snare broke and she escaped into the woods. For several days after this incident this pig was seen on the golf course, easily recognized because the duct tape was still tightly wrapped around her snout.

A much kinder and more effective method of catching feral pigs would be to use live trapping.

If you have never heard a pig caught in a snare, fighting for its life, this is what it sounds like.

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