
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF DOGS AND REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO
PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF AUGUST AS DOG RECOGNITION MONTH.

1 WHEREAS, dogs, *Canine familiaris*, have an impact on the
2 lives of our people every day, from locating forensic cadaver
3 material to disaster survivors, as demonstrated during the
4 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on September 11th,
5 2001; and
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7 WHEREAS, U.S. Customs and Border Protection has more than
8 800 canine teams that work with the U.S. Department of Homeland
9 Security to combat terrorist threats, stop the flow of illegal
10 narcotics, and detect unreported currency, concealed humans, or
11 smuggled agricultural products; and
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13 WHEREAS, here at home, Hawai'i is blessed with K-9 units
14 that have made several large drug busts at our airports,
15 preventing kilos of crystal meth from reaching our islands'
16 people; and
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18 WHEREAS, our prisons are inspected and protected by working
19 dogs who diligently ensure that drugs do not penetrate its walls
20 and further harm Hawai'i's drug addicted; and
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22 WHEREAS, dogs have been specifically trained to assist
23 those with physical and mental disabilities, have the ability to
24 sniff out cancer and detect the onset of seizures, and help to
25 lower blood pressure, decrease serum cholesterol and relieve
26 anxiety in people; and
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28 WHEREAS, Hawaii has one of the highest rates of diabetes
29 and an article published in the New York Times and re-printed in
30 the March 15, 2011 Star-Advertiser revealed a study of 41,500
31 California residents that showed dog owners to be 60 percent
32 more likely to take leisure walks than non-pet owners, older



1 people are more likely to take walks if the walking companion is
2 a canine, and that dog walkers show a much greater improvement
3 in fitness than non-pet owners; and
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5 WHEREAS, dogs are utilized in various forms of therapy and
6 have been shown to aid in increasing recovery for patients
7 suffering from physical, emotional, and social conditions; and
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9 WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act, signed into
10 law in 1990 guarantees people with disabilities the right to be
11 accompanied by a service animal in all areas open to the general
12 public and that laws such as these illustrate and support the
13 importance of dogs in our daily lives; and
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15 WHEREAS, as of 2009, 43% of households on Oahu own at least
16 one dog; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
20 of 2011, that the Governor recognize the service of dogs in
21 providing protection and the many contributions that "man's best
22 friend" makes to the overall health of our community, by
23 declaring the month of August as "Dog Recognition Month"; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Hawaii Humane
27 Society.
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OFFERED BY:

C. J.
Chairman
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Tom Brown
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