Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 0 2 2012

RE: S.B. No. 2208
        S.D. 2

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

    Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2208, S.D. 1, entitled:

    "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

    The purpose and intent of this measure is to reduce pet and feral animal overpopulation and encourage pet owners to spay and neuter their animals.

    Specifically, this measure:

(1) Establishes the spay and neuter special fund, to be administered by the Department of Budget and Finance, to be used to spay and neuter feral animals, educate the public about the importance of spaying and neutering pets, and prevent homeless animal overpopulation;

(2) Establishes an advisory committee consisting of animal rescue and care professionals to assist the Department in developing criteria for disbursing moneys from the spay and neuter special fund; and

(3) Allows funds from a state income tax check-off to be deposited into the spay and neuter special fund.

    Written comments in support of this measure were submitted by the Humane Society of the United States-Hawaii; Hui Pono

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Holoholona; For the Fishes; Hawaii Military Pets; and nine individuals.

Written comments on this measure were submitted by the Department of Budget and Finance and the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that stray animals and pet overpopulation are a problem in Hawaii, resulting in animal rescue organizations across the State sheltering tens of thousands of animals each year. Your Committee finds that much of the difficulty presented by stray and homeless animals would be alleviated through a comprehensive effort to spay and neuter pets and strays. Accordingly, your Committee finds that the creation of a spay and neuter special fund to finance the sterilization of feral animals and education of pet owners will help prevent pet and stray animal overpopulation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

(1) Specifying that the Director of Finance shall appoint the chairperson of the advisory committee from among the committee members and clarifying the description of the membership;

(2) Specifying that the members of the advisory committee shall serve without pay but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in carrying out their duties; and

(3) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2208, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2208, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,

DAVID Y. IGE, Chair

The Senate
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 2208, SD1	JDL, WAM	2-28-12

☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.

If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

☐ Pass, unamended 2312   ☑ Pass, with amendments 2311   ☐ Hold 2310   ☐ Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.				✓
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado				✓
KAHELE, Gilbert				✓
KOUCHI, Ronald D.				✓
RYAN, Pohai	✓			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
SLOM, Sam		WR mnk ✓		
TOTAL	9	0	1	4

Recommendation:

☑ Adopted   ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: _Michelle N. Kidani_

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*Only <u>one</u> measure per Record of Votes