

SB 2450

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE
and
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Friday, February 12, 2016
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 414**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2450
RELATING TO PREDATORS**

Senate Bill 2450 proposes to prohibit releasing or caring for predators on all state lands. This measure would also expand the definition of “predators” to be inclusive of all rodents, rather than just rats. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure and offers the following comments.**

Hawaii’s native species evolved over millions of years in an environment devoid of human-introduced predators such as mongooses, cats, dogs, and rodents. Today, 28% of all threatened and endangered species in the U.S. are located in Hawaii, and 78% of all U.S. species extinctions have occurred in Hawaii. Reducing predation is a critical component of avoiding further declines in the populations of Hawaii’s natural resources.

Because feeding and care of wild mongooses, dogs, and rodents is not thought to be widespread, the species primarily impacted by this measure is cats. Cats are designated as predators by Chapter 183D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and are widespread across the State due to their popularity as pets. Feral cats, however, are not pets; these are animals that do not belong to a home and exist on the landscape to the detriment of native wildlife and humans. In some locations, feral cat colonies are managed by people who do not own these animals, yet provides them with food and care. In a subset of these feral cat colonies, the colony “manager” practices a method known as Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR) with the intent that a managed, neutered population will decrease in size over time until it is eliminated. A number of peer-reviewed, scientific publications have demonstrated that TNR is not an effective tool at reducing feral cat

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

populations and contributes to a maintained presence of feral cats on the landscape that, despite being cared for and fed, continue to harm wildlife and act as vectors of disease.

In addition to preying on native wildlife (cats kill an estimated 2.4 billion birds per year in the U.S.), cats pose a substantial health risk to humans and wildlife due to being the only known reproductive host of the toxoplasmosis parasite (*Toxoplasmosis gondii*). Toxoplasmosis reproduces in the feline digestive system, and a single cat can excrete 145 billion eggs per year in its feces. Once released into the environment, these eggs can infect other animals, including humans, both on land and in the ocean. Toxoplasmosis parasites create cysts in muscle and organ tissues and can cause inflammation of the heart, liver, and brain. In Hawaii, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration has recorded at least eight endangered Hawaiian monk seal deaths that are attributable to toxoplasmosis infection. Toxoplasmosis can also infect Hawaii's native birds, including the nene and the alala. In humans, toxoplasmosis can impact the immune system and has been known to primarily impact pregnant women and unborn children. During pregnancy, this infection can result in severe damage to the unborn child, miscarriage, stillbirth, or substantial birth defects including enlargement or smallness of the head.

In preparation of this measure, the Department met with representatives of the national and local chapters of the Humane Society and other animal welfare groups. A shared interest was identified in reducing the number of feral cats on the landscape. Owned, indoor cats generally live longer, healthier lives and have significantly less impact on the environment. Shared interest was also identified in reducing the number of cats that are abandoned by pet owners and placed in feral cat colonies. This goal may be achieved by the passage of House Bill 2245 or Senate Bill 2512, which would substantially increase the penalties associated with animal abandonment.

The Department supports these efforts, and suggests as additional actions, the creation of a statewide outreach campaign to educate the public about the threats associated with abandoning cats, as well as feeding or caring for feral cats. The Department also suggests as a possible amendment, the addition of funding for trapping feral cats and support for Humane Societies, where such animals can either be rehabilitated as pets or humanely euthanized.

With regard to the proposed amendment in the definition of "predators" to be inclusive of "rodents" rather than "rats," the Department notes that this broader definition would include mice, because mice pose significant predation threats to native wildlife.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.



7370 Kuamo'o Road • Kapa'a • Hawaii • 96746 • 808-821-1490 • www.kauaiisc.org

February 12, 2016

Testimony of Bill Lucey – Manager - Kauai Invasive Species Committee

SB 2450

Hearing: Friday, February 12, 2016

2:00 pm

Conference Room 414

Testimony in **SUPPORT**

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, Vice Chairs Nishihara and Slom and committee members, the Kauai Invasive Species Committee enthusiastically supports SB2450.

Our organization is primarily focused on incipient invasive species; however we have been working diligently with the County of Kauai to help create an ordinance that would reduce the number of feral cats occupying the landscape.

It is imperative that the state passes this amendment in order to create consistent policy with our efforts at the local level on Kauai. The extremist animal rights groups opposed to this amendment have initiated smear campaigns against those working towards solutions and posted violent online threats based on false statements. They will leverage any method of deceit to continue using public land for their own benefit at the cost of society and the environment.

Toxoplasmosis can only exist where cats are present. Cat ownership and feral populations are skyrocketing. Between 1989 and 2006 cat ownership increased 50% in the United States. Globally, every year there is an estimated 200,000 cases where Toxo is passed from mothers to the fetus causing a variety of birth defects. Johns Hopkins Medical Institute researchers say there is evidence that this parasite is becoming a significant health hazard especially in children's sand boxes and gardens where cats defecate. In Hawaii numerous cat colonies are located on public land along coastal beaches exposing millions of people to potential infection, possibly threatening the tourist industry and contaminating marine waters and fish. Cats should stay on their owner's property or be under direct control just as dog owners must do.

Toxo has killed numerous marine mammals including, a porpoise, seals and sea otters. Our state bird, the Nene, also dies from Toxo. Cattle ingest the parasite while grazing which could pose a threat to the future export of Hawaiian beef. Finally, cats kill several endangered species which the public is tasked with recovering creating a burden to both the tax payer and society that needs to comply with endangered species regulation. Please pass SB2450

Sincerely,

Bill Lucey
Project Manager
Kauai Invasive Species Committee
University of Hawaii



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

**TO: Honorable Chairs Gabbard and Wakai and Committee Members
Senate Water, Land and Agriculture and Energy, Environment Committees
February 11, 2016, 2pm**

**FROM: Inga Gibson, Hawaii Senior State Director, The Humane Society of the
United States, igibson@humanesociety.org, 808.354.3211**

RE: Oppose SB2450; Relating to Predators on State Lands

On behalf of The Humane Society of the United States members and supporters across Hawaii, we urge your opposition to SB2450. This bill would allow the killing of dogs and cats, deemed predators, by any means necessary and criminalize the care or feeding of cats on state lands, even if they are part of a managed trap-neuter-return program designed to humanely reduce the cat population. This measure would also allow for the killing of a pet animal that may have become lost or abandoned through no fault of their own, should they wander onto or be deserted on state lands.

Further, prohibiting the feeding of cats on state lands will only serve to create more problems. The cats will not simply disappear but will slowly starve and become an ever greater nuisance. DLNR has the existing authority to remove individual animals that pose a problem in protected areas, forest reserves and other sensitive wildlife habitats. There is no need to expand this authority to allow for the destruction of cats or dogs, without regard for the method, or to penalize those who are managing colonies in appropriate areas where there are no threats to protected species. In addition, if people are prohibited from caring for cats in existing managed colonies, the animals will continue to reproduce creating an even greater issue.

We have been meeting with DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife for the past few months in an attempt to reach some compromise on this measure but, unfortunately, have not yet reached any such agreement on amendments. Below is a draft of our proposal to amend existing statute so that DLNR can work more closely with local animal control contractors who have the resources and expertise to address dog/cat issues and to create a taskforce to further discuss the larger predator management issue.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO PREDATOR BILL- TASKFORCE

SECTION 1. Section 183D-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending the definition of "predators" to read as follows:

"Predators" means animals destructive of wildlife by nature of their predatory habits, including mongooses, eats, dogs, and [~~rats.~~] rodents."

SECTION 2. Section 183D-65, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§183D-65 [~~Posting, destruction of predators.~~] Predators. (a) On any game management area, public hunting area, or forest reserve or other lands under the jurisdiction of the department, predators deemed harmful to wildlife by the department through documentation demonstrating such harm, may be destroyed in accordance with standard and acceptable wildlife control practices ~~by any means deemed necessary by the department~~

(b) ~~Where the predators are~~ predation is occurring by dogs or cats, ~~and the methods of destruction may endanger pets or hunting dogs, the respective county animal control contractor shall be notified regarding any management actions~~ and all major points of entrance into the area ~~where the predators are to be destroyed shall be posted with signs indicating that a program of predator destruction~~ dog or cat management in the area is in progress. ~~Any predator may be destroyed in a posted area without claim or penalty whether or not the predator is the property of some person. [L 1985, c 174, pt of §4]~~

(c) On all state lands, it shall be unlawful for individuals to release, feed, water, or otherwise care for unrestrained predators
Any individual who violates this subsection shall be assessed an administrative fine of not less than:

- (1) \$100 for a first violation;
- (2) \$500 for a second violation; or
- (3) \$1,000 for a third or subsequent violation.

This subsection shall not apply to hunters that deploy, feed, or water unrestrained dogs in the course of hunting."

SECTION 3. (a) To address predation by pet animals, there is established within the department of land and natural resources a predation management taskforce to develop guidelines regarding the implementation of sections 2(b) and (c). The taskforce shall consist of the following members or their designated representative; 1

representative from each agency contracted by a county to perform animal control, 1 representatives from the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife, 1 representative from the Department of Agriculture, 1 member from the public, 1 veterinarian licensed in the state of Hawaii, and 1 representative from the state department of health

(b) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation, and all necessary expenses, including travel expenses, shall be paid by the agency, organization, or department to which the member belongs.

No member shall be made subject to chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of that member's participation as a member of the task force.

(d) The task force shall submit a report to the legislature of its findings, recommendations, predation management plans, and any proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2017.

(e) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2017.

SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval except that the effective date for sections (b) and (c) shall be contingent upon the recommendations of the taskforce noted in Section 3 that shall be presented to the legislature on or before January 1, 2017.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 2450 Relating to Predators
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Friday, February 12, 2016, 2:00PM, Room 414

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 40,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.

The Nature Conservancy supports S.B. 2450 which would prohibit and penalize caring for unrestrained predators on State land.

Many of Hawai'i's birds have no defenses to introduced and unrestrained predators like cats and dogs. The results can be devastating like these 'ua'u kani (wedge-tailed shearwaters) killed by two unrestrained dogs at the birds' breeding site at Mo'omomi on Moloka'i. More than 100 'ua'u were killed by these dogs over three days in June 2012. 'Ua'u are most commonly known to aid fishermen in detecting schools of fish at sea. They live most of their life at sea; only coming to land to breed.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mark E. Agne Paul D. Alston Christopher J. Benjamin Dr. C. Tana Burkert Anne S. Carter Richard A. Cooke III Brian J. Doyle
Thomas M. Gottlieb James J.C. Haynes III Sean A. Hehir Mark L. Johnson Dr. Kenneth Y. Kaneshiro Eiichiro Kuwana
Duncan MacNaughton Kathy M. Matsui Wayne K. Minami James C. Polk Jean E. Rolles Scott C. Rolles Crystal K. Rose
Dustin E. Sellers Nathan E. Smith Peter K. Tomozawa James Wei

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Friday, February 12, 2016 9:43:29 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/12/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov



NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

Chartered by Congress to Create a National Resource in Conservation, Research, and Education

11 February 2016

National Tropical Botanical Garden's Testimony In Support of SB 2450 - RELATING TO PREDATORS

Friday, February 12, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in Conference Room 414

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, and Committee Members:

The NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN strongly supports Senate Bill 2450 relating to the control of non-native predators on State Lands. As someone who has been deeply involved in conservation of our unique native flora and fauna for the forty years I can't tell you how important this bill is.

Predation of our native birds and insects has resulted in their dramatic decline over the past 200 years and while numerous species are responsible the issues of feral cats has become front and center over the past five years. On Kaua'i our County Council appointed a feral cat task force to research the issue and came to the conclusion on this very emotional subject that dramatic reduction of existing feral cat populations is essential to remove the threat that these predators have on ground nesting birds.

NTBG conservation staff spend significant time and resources controlling rats and cats inside our fenced enclosures managing predators and we know how challenging and difficult this job is. Listed among the most harmful invasive species globally by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) feral cats on islands have contributed to the extinction of 33 species and are the principle threat to 8% of critically endangered birds, mammals, and reptiles. Additionally, feral cats are recognized as the top source of direct, human-associated mortality to birds in the United States and it is estimated that feral cats kill approximately 2.4 billion birds each year!

With thousands of delegates from across the world coming to Hawaii this fall for the IUCN's World Conservation Congress now is the time to show we have the political will to deal with predators and protect the unique plants and animals that existing nowhere else on the planet.

In closing, please support DLNR by passing SB 2450 and make Hawaii a model that others can look to in how we deal with this difficult problem.

Mahalo a me ke aloha,

Chipper Wichman, President and CEO, National Tropical Botanical Garden



Shaping the future for birds

**Testimony of American Bird Conservancy
Supporting SB 2450 Relating to Predators
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Friday, February 12, 2016, 2:00 PM, Room 414**

On behalf of American Bird Conservancy, I am writing to urge your **support for SB 2450**, which would increase protection to human health and wildlife by prohibiting individuals from releasing, feeding, watering, or otherwise caring for unrestrained predators on state lands.

This bill safeguards the public and wildlife from the negative impacts of predators such as mongooses, rodents, and cats. These predators spread diseases and kill endangered species, undermining the work of state agencies, the support of taxpayers, and state lands for recreation.

Feral cats, for example, spread the parasite that causes toxoplasmosis. Toxoplasmosis is among the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [five neglected parasitic diseases](#) targeted as a priority for public health. Each cat may spread hundreds of millions of infectious eggs in its feces, contaminating the environment for years. Infection in humans can result in miscarriages, blindness, memory loss, or death and has been linked to several neurological disorders. Unfortunately, recent [deaths of Hawaiian monk seals](#), [Nēnē](#), and other species suggest increasing cat-caused contamination of land and water.

Feral cats are also one of the world's most harmful invasive species and have contributed to the extinction of 33 species on islands. Hawaiian birds at risk include endangered Palila, 'Alae Ke'oke'o (Hawaiian Coot), 'A'o (Newell's Shearwater), 'Ua'u (Hawaiian Petrel), and others. The Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources' [Hawaii Invasive Species Council website](#) recognizes the serious threat from feral cats to people and wildlife.

Despite the negative impacts of unrestrained predators such as feral cats, a small minority of individuals continue to release and purposely maintain these animals on state lands protected for recreation and conservation. This bill is a reasonable and appropriate step to protect the people and natural resources of Hawaii, and **we respectfully request your support for SB 2450**.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Grant Sizemore, M.S., AWB®
Director of Invasive Species Programs

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: reemelin@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:25:03 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Spencer Reemelin	Surfrider Foundation	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Cat poop is a threat to the Monk Seals and wild cats are threatening our endangered native birds. We have a serious problem at the University of Hawaii, at Manoa with people feeding cats. It smells like cat pee, poo and cat food outside our building in Moore Hall. I have a plot at the Diamond Head Community Garden where there's a group of people who constantly feed the cats too. I find cat poop all over the my plot, left over trash from the cat food containers littered--the list goes on. It's time to do the right thing! Please support SB2450.
Sincerely, Spencer Reemelin

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jon.gelman@hi-mma.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:42:03 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jon Gelman	Hawaii Marine Mammal Alliance Inc.	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for this bill. I am testifying in support of its passage. I am President of Hawaii Marine Mammal Alliance Inc., a nonprofit Hawaii corporation that works in the support of the preservation and recovery of the Hawaiian monk seal species. Our volunteers spend thousands of hours each year protecting the Hawaiian monk seal and work to help this endemic Hawaiian species to survive despite an annual decrease in their numbers. The Hawaiian monk seal is the most endangered marine mammal in the U.S. and is Hawaii's state mammal. In the past several years, scientists are becoming increasingly concerned about the toll the disease Toxoplasmosis and the fatalities it is causing in the Hawaiian monk seal population. Toxoplasmosis is a disease that is caused by a parasite carried in the feces of cats, and feral cats are of the biggest concern because without the benefit of cat litter, feral cat feces is ultimately washed into Hawaii's shoreline waters. There it is ingested by Hawaiian monk seals, who without any natural immunity, can contract Toxoplasmosis and die a terrible and painful death. Toxoplasmosis also kills the endangered Hawaiian Crow, another federally protected species, and is a danger to humans as well. I urge you to take the step and pass this bill. It is an important step in helping us control this disease. The feeding or caring of any wild animals, such as feral cats, on State of Hawaii land should be illegal. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in this matter.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: grossib001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 8:55:49 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bonnie Grossi	Triple G Stables	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: sylviadolena@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 9:24:35 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sylvia Dolena	Pele Lani Farm LLC	Oppose	No

Comments: There are many successful models of TNR programs. It is archaic to think that by not feeding these animals, the problem will go away. What it will mean is that these animals will venture out and spread to find food. Oahu is having a problem because felines are moving into tourist areas and I would venture to say tourists are feeding some of them. To Trap, Neuter and Return to their original environment and continue feeding them is a very viable solution to protect other wildlife and to have a zero growth in the feral population.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: abby@nkolandscaping.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:25:06 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Abby Santos	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My family makes Hawaiian salt in Hanapepe on state land. There have been feral cat populations that have been under the "care" of people in the salt making area. We begged these people for many years to move their cats and were met with much antagonism. As it stands now, this area is known for a "cat dumping" site. Unwanted cats are dumped her and the "caretakers" adopt these new animals to their herd. The cat population never declines! If this law would be passed, these folks would have to remove their cats out of this sensitive cultural area. For this, we would be extremely grateful! Please make this destructive hobby on state lands illegal.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: adriennegaedeke@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 5:14:34 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adrienne Gaedeke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: balika@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 6:55:13 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alika Bee	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose Bill SB2450. It is immoral to starve or kill feral cats. The ones who have participated in the TNR (trap, neuter, release) program are to be protected, and there are many groups on the island working very hard to TNR the cats that are not sterilized.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: Alana.Ross@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 5:03:35 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
AlanaRoss	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is not clear. You want to penalize people for feeding abandoned animals but you also tell people not to abandon their animals in the same bill. I would re-work this one. I oppose the restrictions of people abandoning their animals but I support the ability to take care of and or feed a neglected animal. Please OPPOSE this bill until it can be re-worked in a more cohesive fashion and possibly split in to two separate bills. Mahalo, Alana Ross, Hana, HI

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony in opposition to SB2450

SB2450 is inhumane, it will defeat its purpose and make matters worse. Such bills have often been proposed on the basis of a decline in bird populations, a decline that, in fact, is primarily attributable to humans: destruction of native habitats, over-development, toxic dumping, and malicious killing.

As noted in the alleycat.org fact sheet (<http://www.alleycat.org/document.doc?id=635>), Trap-Neuter-Return, endorsed by animal control and public health officials as common-sense and effective, has proven to stabilize and reduce feral cat populations. It is now the gold standard for feral cat management embraced by over 300 cities including San Francisco, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Washington, D.C.

The people who make TNR the success that it is should be appreciated rather than punished. They often endeavor to find homes for adoptable cats that have been dumped. A greater effort to educate pet owners on their responsibilities to neuter and to make a lifetime commitment to their pet is also in order. No pet should be deemed disposable.

I strongly oppose SB2450.

Alberta Joy Freidus-Flagg
1721-I Young Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
808 947-2546

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: aleishaswartz@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:23:13 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aleisha Swartz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose SB2450. I have been a practicing veterinarian for 14 years and I have been a bird watcher and wildlife lover as long as I can remember. Starvation as a means of population control is inhumane and unethical. Policy should reflect reality that people will feed cats, and prohibition will only make this behavior more difficult to control and guide. Rather, communities should be encouraged to require that people feeding cats do so following guidelines to minimize nuisance and impact on wildlife and to ensure that all cats fed are sterilized (and that resources are available to make this affordable and accessible to the majority of the population). There are ample peer-reviewed published reports of effective cat management using trap-neuter-return procedures demonstrating that numbers of free roaming cats can be reduced or eliminated using this strategy. Finally, it is important to note that banning feeding is unlikely to make cats disappear. Instead, hungry cats will become more visible in their need to find food. They will seek out sources of food that will include predation of wildlife. Thank you for the opportunity and please do not pass SB2450. Aleisha Swartz DVM

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: darkling_sparkle_queen@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 8:08:25 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alex Bonak	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Starving cats, and other stray pets, is inhumane. Find another solution to overpopulation, such as sterilization. We define our humanity by how we treat the weak, and that extends beyond people.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: starr55@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 8:23:04 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alex Tse	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: SB 2450 bans the feeding and release of cats on public lands. Caregivers would face heavy fines and be unable to practice Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), the only humane and effective approach to controlling the cat population. A release ban would prevent newly neutered cats from being returned to their outdoor homes. Feeding bans are also cruel, ineffective, and not scientifically supported. Cats who are accustomed to a consistent feeding schedule can become dependent on their caregivers for food, and discontinuing care can lead to a cruel death by starvation. However, cats will not disappear--they will only roam further to find food and become more visible. Managed colonies and TNR prevent cats from roaming and breeding. The cats are healthier, making the community a better, safer place for everyone.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

I am strongly opposed to SB 2450.

Many citizens work with non-profit groups to reduce the feral cat population through trapping and neutering cats, then returning them to their outdoor homes. Feeding the cat colonies, and continuing to neuter any new animals joining the colony, ensures humane and compassionate treatment for the remainder of the cats' lives. Not feeding feral cats will NOT solve the problem; trapping and neutering will bring the population down to manageable levels.

By criminalizing the feeding of cats and other "predators", the state is advocating starvation as a method of feral cat population control. The state should instead fund the non-profit groups doing the important work of neutering the population so that more cats can be located and neutered, with the ultimate goal of a greatly reduced feral cat population.

Sincerely,
Alexandra French

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: allangreller@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:16:27 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allan Greller	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Ceasing to feed, water, or care for sterilized domestic cats is inhumane and will cause starvation, inevitably leading to increased predation on native or protected animals. Legislation should not penalize people for caring for animals, but should promote PROPER care of animals.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

I strongly oppose SB 2450 unless an "exemption" for Feral Cat colonies managed by dedicated caregivers be added to SB 2450, similar to exempting hunters with hunting dogs.

Rational: These feral cat colonies have undergone the Trap, Neuter, and Release (TNR) program which significantly help control the cat population. The feral cats that belong to these colonies do not roam or stray from their colonies to find a mate. These cats have been caught by caregivers and taken to private organizations for spaying and neutering with assistance from private veterinarians and non-profit organizations like Cat Friends, Hawaii. These caregivers managed the colonies with their own personal finances and received no income or financial assistance from any organization. SB 2450 will also be detrimental to Hawaii's TNR program because after these cats are trapped, neutered or spayed, they cannot be returned/released to their home colonies if an exemption is not allowed in SB 2450.

To penalize these dedicated individuals who help control the feral cat population would be an injustice for caring human beings. Other states on the mainland have been highly successful with their TNR program to help control the feral cat population. These programs are managed by private caregivers, just like concerned citizens of Hawaii.

As a descendant of a domesticated cat, feral cats are the result of being born away from human contact. Many feral cats are the offspring of a (once) pet cat that has been lost or abandoned by its human family. Because these under-socialized cats live with no human contact, most display "feral behaviors" and cannot be placed in homes. Cats that have been spayed or neutered through the TNR program are identified by little notches on the tips of their ears. A notch on the right ear identifies a female and a notch on the left indicates a male.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very respectfully,

Allan Yoza

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: missfortyseven@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 12:54:46 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amanda Korchia	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am appalled at this measure and the lack of compassion and empathy here. Cats serve a purpose and other populations including rats would be out of control should this measure pass. Starving cats is not the solution, but rather it is sterilizing as many as possible and educating the public on doing their parts.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

February 10, 2016

The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment and Technology (Hearing Date: 2/12/16)

Re: Testimony in OPPOSITION to SB2450, Relating to Predators

Dear Chairs Gabbard and Wakai:

I am writing to express my opposition to SB2450, relating to predators. I very much oppose the intent of this measure, which would ban the feeding of feral dogs, cats, mongooses, and rodents, on State land, and impose monetary penalties against those who provide humane treatment to these animals by providing them, food, water, medical treatment, etc.

The measure as written would essentially ensure that all feral and/or abandoned animals on State land are condemned to a life of suffering and starvation. Instead, the State should employ humane, non-euthanizing methods of addressing the issue of feral animal population control, including sterilization and relocation, community education, the imposition of monetary and/or criminal penalties on those who release and abandon animals on state land, etc.

Therefore, I urge you to please defer SB2450, and strive to provide a humane way of life for all those who share our island state. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Amanda Pearson Suyat

212 Huali St, Apt 204
Honolulu, HI 96813

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: keauaea@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 10:23:05 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ana Kahoopii	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

As a voter and a concerned citizen I respectfully request that you reconsider legislation that seeks to make it illegal for cat colony caregivers to care for the abandoned and feral cat populations on state lands in Hawaii. As an animal advocate who cares about the wellbeing of our less fortunate animals in the community, I implore that the state reconsider this bill and instead offer a long-term solution to this pervasive problem. An attempt at eradication of a species by eliminating its food source is not just inhumane it is downright cruel.

I have been involved with trapping, neutering, returning and managing feral cats for over 20 years on Oahu and have seen it work in reducing numbers of feral cats. The cats at my place of employment, Punahou School, had been a source of contention between those who favoured eradication over colony management. Finally after many years the administration allowed us to operate a well-organized TNRM program comprised of a group of faculty and staff who feed and care for the cats on campus. In the past 15 years we have seen the numbers of feral cats living on our campus reduce from 40+ to under 20. We have found that a well-cared for colony will reduce the number of strays that wander onto campus and stay, and it will keep cats close to a given area since this is where their food source is. We have heard very few complaints about cats on our campus since this program has had a chance to show results.

I understand the concern for the predatory instinct cats have and their negative impact on the unique, indigenous wildlife of our islands. We all would like to see the number of feral cats decline. My opinion is that controlling the numbers of felines in the community needs to start with acknowledging that there will ALWAYS be feral cats and that by controlling their reproduction and giving them a centralized, consistent food source, their numbers will naturally decrease and they can live out their lives healthier and more safely. Irresponsible behaviour by pet owners is the principal cause of feral cat population increase in a community that fosters low-cost spaying and neutering. Please reconsider this bill as it will cause much suffering of innocent animals and the people who care for them while being marginally effective in achieving its goal of reducing the predation of endangered species in our islands.

Sincerely,

Anastasia Fontenot

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: anastasia.shnyreva@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:54:57 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
anastasia shnyreva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: mathiasandrewam@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 11:21:52 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Mathias	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Anita Wintner"s](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose SB2450
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:55:45 PM

This is one of the most ridiculous bill I have heard of. What a waste of taxpayers money, in humane killing and there are no leash laws for cats in the state of Hawaii. You could be killing someone's pet. Mongooses are the creature that eat bird and bird eggs. I could go on and on. If a cat is injured on purpose, and left to die, that is against the law. I oppose this bill. Anita Wintner Kihei

Sent from my pqiPad

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: michaudah@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:14:05 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Michaud	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB2450. The difficult situation of feral animals is a problem SOLELY brought on by humans being inhumane. To attempt to solve this plight in another inhumane way is inefficient. It will not be the solution to this problem. It would open the door for citizens to cruelly treat and destroy animals deemed "predatory". It would essentially circumvent state and county anti-cruelty laws and programming. Respectfully submitted, Ann Michaud

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: anniedo2528@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 4:51:14 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annie	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill because a lot more predators will become even more hungry if the bill is passed. If this bill is passed, the state of Hawaii will have a bad reputation of mistreating animals. If stray cats aren't fed then they'll die off which can increase the population of rats.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: anniseavey@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 5:00:52 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annika Seavey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Hello! I strongly oppose bill SB 2450. Please do not punish people who feed innocent feral cats. Instead, please support non profit groups that help sterilize the cat populations (such as Hawaii Cat Friends) so the cat population does not grow larger. Please do not kill innocent animals. The answer is to educate the public about pet sterilization. Killing cats will also increase rat populations and disease. There also needs to be fines for individuals who dump their innocent pets. This bill is punishing people who are trying to help innocent animals!!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Good day, I am writing in to express my strong opposition against SB2450. I disagree with this proposed bill on all fronts. The two fold act of the elimination of feral cats and dogs as well as the ticketing of those who would offer them care or nourishment is both a horrific and heartless policy sure to offend MANY island voters and residents. For your consideration, please do not put this bill forward.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: anoelle22@me.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 2:12:22 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ariana Danley	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony in Opposition of S.B. 2450
February 8, 2016

S.B. 2450 is, in part, a poor attempt towards a solution to an incredibly complicated problem in Hawaii: overpopulation of cats. "It shall be unlawful for individuals to release, feed, water, or otherwise care for unrestrained predators on state lands. An individual who violates this subsection shall be... fine[d]." S.B. 2450, at 2. "'Predators' mean animals destructive of wildlife by nature of their predatory habits, including... cats." S.B. 2450, at 1. However, in the bill's brevity, the bill completely lacks consideration of the humane treatment of predatory animals, specifically cats.

Additionally and more importantly, the main focus of S.B. 2450 is to protect wildlife, but this bill would likely have the opposite effect. By banning the feeding of cats, you are encouraging hungry cats to use their predatory nature to survive. This bill would effectively increase the likelihood that cats would attack wildlife if individuals currently feeding cats on state land stopped as a result of this legislation. Sterilization, not starvation, will reduce the overpopulation of cats in a humane manner, which will ultimately protect more wildlife.

The legislature has an opportunity to take a positive step towards reducing the population of cats in the state in a humane manner, and in turn, protect the wildlife. I strongly hope that you will oppose S.B. 2450, or alternatively, rework it to actually achieve the desired result of wildlife protection while also allowing for a more humane treatment of "predators" like cats.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Ashlee Drake Berry
Attorney at Law

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: 0ashleymu0@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 10:32:35 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Uyehara	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: To whom this may concern, While I agree that releasing animals worsens the problem of animal overpopulation, I do not believe banning people from feeding free-roaming animals is an effective solution. You are advocating that people let animals starve, which may indirectly lead people to stop caring for animals and to see them as a nuisance, rather than a population that is suffering. An effective solution, however, is sterilization. In order for a person or group to sterilize an animal in a safe and humane way, a carrier is set with food, and possibly a lot of it depending how long it takes for each animal to be lured. Sterilization prevents animals, and even pets that have escaped home or been abandoned, from giving birth to more animals that will roam the community. A benefit of feeding animals in one secluded area will prevent them from having to roam to other, possibly populated, areas in search for food. Also, free-roaming cats tend to form packs and will prevent new cats from trespassing on their "territory". Assuming that a person or a group is sterilizing these cats, not only will they prevent them from having kittens, they can also make sure new un-sterilized cats do not invade the community. In short, banning the release of animals and punishing those who do can help prevent animal overpopulation. However, banning people from feeding free-roaming animals can be detrimental in two ways: teaching people not to care for the animals' well-being and preventing a person or group from trying to sterilizing them in a safe and humane way. Sterilization, therefore, is a more effective solution. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

SB 2450: Written testimony of Barbara Burger (resident of Oahu) on 10 Feb 2016.

183D-65, section 2 (C) It shall be unlawful for individuals to release, feed, water, or otherwise care for unrestrained predators on state lands. An individual who violates this subsection shall be assessed an administrative fine not less than:

- (1) \$100 for a first violation;
- (2) \$500 for a second violation; or
- (3) \$1,000 for a third or subsequent violation.

This recommendation to ammend SECTION 2 of Section 183D-65 with the addition of C is irresponsible. Do not pass this bill.

My concern is that only a portion of the ACT will be enforced. I believe it is unfairly written to make feral colony caretakers and trap, neuter, release, and manage supporters take the brunt of the enforceable portion of this bill. I believe that the “release” portion will be completely overlooked by authorities as it would be much harder to prove. I also think that the “department” which claims the jurisdiction must have benchmarks (and not just advertisements by Audubon about bird species being threatened by feral cats) that would clearly and objectively state what “harmful to wildlife” means in order for the department to take “any means necessary to destroy” (also needs to be defined, inhumane culling is what immediately comes to mind.) Will each department have their own subjective standards of what “harmful to wildlife” means? Trap, neuter, release and manage programs have shown time and time again that they work, and a majority of those programs happen to take place on state lands (because that is where these abandoned former pets can find refuge.) Feral cats are still a species of DOMESTICATED animals (predatory in nature, just for survival.) I believe we need to have more evidence taken into consideration before this bill is passed. I think the types of evidence must be compatible in nature for both sides of the issue and must be given due diligence. I believe that dumping a domestic animal in public and leaving it to fend for itself is already against Hawaiian law, how many fines have there been up to this point (from the laws inception) for dumping a pet? Has it been effective? If not, why are we trying to pass another form of the pre-existing law if it is ineffective? As for the fines for the persons feeding and caring for feral domestic animals, what will become of the animals? They will become extremely harmful to wildlife, is that the purpose of this bill? I thought the overall purpose of the bill was to protect wildlife, this bill does the exact opposite and endangers it. If a feral animal loses its’ main source of food, it will go elsewhere (ie: and I

don't mean private lands, I mean it will find wildlife) to subsist. Why don't you introduce a bill that is less harmful to combat this problem? Hawaiian Humane Society (or other government entity) could spearhead coordinated efforts to alleviate this "perceived" problem towards wildlife. Why is eradication always our first thought. I urge the Senate not to pass this bill. Mahalo for your Kokua.

From: [Basil Scott, KCCP](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: [Inga Gibson](#)
Subject: Oppose SB2450
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 5:12:32 PM

Banning all feeding would mean banning the very effective practice of trap, neuter, and return (TNR) to control and manage unowned cats on state lands. TNR doesn't make sense everywhere, but for state parks that many people use, it is the only practical way to manage cat populations and to control potentially problematic cat behavior.

Some say simply remove the cats, but in practice, this proves to be very expensive, and realistically it is impossible to accomplish. TNR relies on volunteers who do what they do to protect the aina and because they love cats. It works. Over time populations decrease, the cats become invisible, and wildlife predation is reduced by over 95% because, as studies show, fed cats kill that much less.

Banning TNR would hurt the aina because it would remove the very effective control that TNR provides in this situation. It is not likely that the state could afford to replace the hundreds of people statewide that perform TNR on a volunteer basis. It would simply be too expensive.

respectfully,

Basil Scott
Kauai Community Cat Project
kuaicommunitycats.org
basil@kauaicats.org



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: benbreep@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:10:02 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Jesup	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: berthachun@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 10:32:47 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bertha	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please find more worth while bills like fixing the roads with crack seal or slurry. Or give more money to the Humane Society to increase spay/neuter programs. Instead you are imposing more rules/fines on your constituents! That's not what I voted you in for. Starving cats is NOT the answer (very short sighted thinking)!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: beverlysantos@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 4:23:13 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Beverly Santos	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Starving cats is not a compassionate solution. If cats are removed it will increase the rat population. Sterilization, not starvation, will reduce cats in the community humanely.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: bhawna.mundotia@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:48:42 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bhawna Mundotia	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Sterilization is better than starving stray animals. It's inhumane to starve animals.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: biancaroh@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:25:14 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bianca Roh	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: bmpb@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:16:54 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Breanna Black	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly opposed Senate Bill 2450. Sterilization is key for the overpopulation of our animals. Starving them is completely inhumane.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: onelungdown@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 10:24:11 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Santos	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: bridgetboyd1@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 9:59:20 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bridget A. Boyd	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: bryan@bryanberkowitz.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:57:15 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bryan Berkowitz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support Maui's native species by reducing the invasive cat population.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: caroline@azelski.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:05:18 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C. Azelski	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This measure won't address the problem, is inhumane and is possibly veiled backlash. Generally speaking, when polled most constituents prefer humane solutions. Please oppose this measure. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Committee on Water, Land & Agriculture
Committee on Economic Development, Environment & Technology

Hearing:

Friday, February 12, 2016
2:00 Pm
Conference Room 414

Testimony from Carol Pregill
In OPPOSITION

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, Vice Chairs Nishihara and Slom and Committee Members;

I can appreciate the intent of SB2450 to preserve our unique native environment. However, accomplishing this goal as prescribed in this bill is an affront to our humanity.

These “invasive” roaming animals – and you are targeting cats - are in this circumstance not of their own choosing, but because of the unconscionable behavior of human beings that abandon them to fend for themselves. These individuals should be the sole target of such legislation, not innocent animals that are the victims of their cruelty. Proposing to control them by ultimately starving them to death is inhumane and morally unacceptable.

Additionally offensive are the proposed fines and penalties imposed on the generous animal caregivers whose only crime is kindness.

I urge you to seek the counsel of organizations like the Hawaiian Humane Society and other animal welfare groups for a compassionate and civilized solution.

I offer this for your consideration: **"One can measure the greatness and the moral progress of a nation by looking at how it treats its animals"** — *Mahatma Gandhi*

Please do not let this kind of legislation proceed. Thank you for your consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: carolscanlon@ymail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:25:13 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol Scanlon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Carole Richelieu](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE SB2450; Predators
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:46:22 AM

--

Carole R. Richelieu
crr@hawaiiantel.net

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: caronnakamura@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:42:27 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caron	Individual	Support	No

Comments: • Starving cats is not a compassionate solution • If cats are removed it will increase the rat population • Sterilization, not starvation, will reduce cats in the community humanely

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [volcanocat_](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony OPPOSE SB2450
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 12:24:19 PM

To: Chair Mike Gabbard,
Vice Chair Clarence K. Nishihara
Members: Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Gil Riviere, Russell E. Ruderman,
Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Laura H. Thielen, Glenn Wakai, Sam Slom
Water, Land, Agriculture & Environment Committee
WLATestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: Catherine D. Killam, President of Cat-Care,
EIN: 99-0338619, 501(c)3 nonprofit founded in 1998
for the protection and rescue of cats in the Volcano area.
P.O. Box 453, Volcano, Hawaii 96785 (808) 333-8052

Subject: Written testimony to OPPOSE SB2450 Predators
Hearing Friday, February 12, 2016 at 2:00 p.m, Conference Room 414

Date: February 11, 2016

I have been rescuing cats from the Volcano Refuse Station in Volcano, Hawaii for the last 16 years. I have rescued over 200 cats and kittens from the Refuse Station. I relocate the cats to my cat sanctuary where they are spayed/neutered and given veterinary care. Many are rehomed. Those that are not rehomed live out their lives in a safe fenced sanctuary.

By my rescuing efforts, I have prevented thousands of kittens from being born at the Volcano Refuse Station. I could not have rescued the cats and kittens had I not been able to feed them. I feed them so I can trap them. This has been the only way I have been able to rescue them. A cat will not go into a trap without food being in it.

If you pass this bill, you will turn me and other people like me into criminals. You will also make it impossible for us to save the suffering of potentially thousands of animals. Please, make an exception for a person attached to a 501(c)3 rescue organization. We are not the problem. We are trying to help solve the problem. Please consider the importance of the request.

Submitted by

Catherine D. Killam
volcanocat@gmail.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: circlecranchhay@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 10:02:54 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: charlie3@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 10:19:28 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlie Case	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Charlotte Mukai
3512 Akaka Place
Honolulu, HI 96822

SB2450
RELATING TO PREDATORS
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Public Hearing – February 12, 2016
2:00 p.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 414

By
Charlotte Mukai, 2L, William Richardson School of Law, Student Animal Legal Defense
Fund chapter member

I oppose this bill because Haw. Rev. Stat §183D-65 has been amended to make it unlawful to release, feed, water, or otherwise care for unrestrained predators on state land unless they are hunting dogs during a hunt.

A Good Samaritan who finds an abandoned dog on State land and gives the hungry and thirsty dog food and water would be breaking the law under this bill. A Good Samaritan must now carry a leash in his pocket at all times or face a fine if caught caring for a loose dog.

The bill would also make it unlawful to care for Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) colonies of feral cats located on State lands. Their caretakers would be breaking the law and subject to escalating fines for providing care to these colonies.

This bill does not extend any aloha to the animals living in these islands and the people who care for them. Hawaii ranked 25th in 2013 among the States in regard to animal protection laws according to the Humane Society of the United States.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on this bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: kaiya_k@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 4:33:07 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chelsea Kentris	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

February 9, 2016

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in opposition of SB2450, a bill that would ban the feeding of, among other predators, stray cats and dogs. Starving homeless animals is no way to go about rectifying a problem. That is not how we should act in the Aloha State. These animals need us to humanely deal with them. If we put efforts into an affordable spay and neuter program that actually significantly benefits our families we cut down on people releasing animals into the wild and increase the number of home willing to take in stray animals since they won't be overburdened by their pets unplanned pregnancies. Most people don't like to breed their pets but it happens because the cost of surgery is astronomical. Even with the Spay and Neuter program, most families save almost nothing after additional vet fees are added to their certificate cost. If we help our families deal with their pets, they will be more able to help us with the strays. Strays need to be fixed and fed; not starved to death. If you were homeless I'd support helping and feeding you.

--Chelsea H.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: christi-mb@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:04:35 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christi Bernier	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB2450!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: hawaiicatfoundation@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:37:59 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christin Matsushige	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: RE: SB 2450 Dear Legislators, On behalf of the supporters of HAWAII CAT FOUNDATION, I urge you to oppose SB 2450. Passage of this bill would mean death by starvation for community cats - defined as cats who live at large in our community. This is not only cruelty towards animals who depend on humans for survival, but also an ineffective method for management of the community cat population. This misguided bill would also establish a fine which would penalize compassionate people who care for the cats. Also, in this difficult economic environment, enforcement would be practically impossible, and/or result in legal quagmires costing the State taxpayers potentially millions of dollars better spent addressing important concerns, such as homelessness or education. Sterilization, not starvation is the answer to humanely managing community cat populations. Community volunteers do the work to trap the cats and non-profit organizations provide low cost sterilization - all at no cost to the State. As the 'Aloha State', shouldn't we be exemplary in actively promoting the very definition of the word 'Aloha'? Again, the supporters of HAWAII CAT FOUNDATION urge you to oppose bill SB 2450. Thank you, Christin Matsushige, President HAWAII CAT FOUNDATION

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Christine](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: [Christine Minatoya](#)
Subject: Oppose SB2450
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:18:38 PM

Dear Legislators,

Please oppose this bill which intends to prohibit the feeding, care or release of cats on State land. Instead of this misguided bill, please support/fund animal organizations such as Catfriends (hicatfriends.org, an all volunteer organization whose main goal is the humane decrease of the feral cat population on Oahu through TNRM methodology (Trap, Neuter, Return, Manage). Withholding feeding of feral or pet cats on State lands is not only inhumane but counter productive. A hungry cat is only going to look/hunt for food and this will only increase the possible demise of birds or other endangered wildlife. It is a misconception that cats can survive on their own. They are dependent on humans for food. Withholding food is not going to make the animal go away but will only lead to suffering, starvation and death. For instance a feral cat from Democrat St. which Catfriends took the time to trap, fix, and microchip was later caught and dumped by someone way in Kalihi Valley. It was later found half dead in someone's front yard. Hawaiian Humane Society was notified and through the microchip found out one of our volunteers had fixed it. She went to retrieve the cat, took it to our clinic on School St. where she gave it fluids & wet food. It could not even stand up to eat, was severely dehydrated and ultimately died the following day due to this abandonment. It did not know where to look for food, water or shelter and it suffered & died a slow death of starvation due to ignorant people. Trapping & fixing these cats is the only humane way to decrease the population through time, assuming they can no longer replace themselves through breeding and uneducated people don't dump them all over the Island, unfixed. Instead please give organizations such as ours the right or permission to go anywhere (state, city or even private property) in order to sterilize these animals. Killing them is never the answer. Please oppose this bill SB2450.

Sincerely,

Christine Minatoya
(808) 375-9619
2324 Mamane Place
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: bonsaikimura@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 10:22:22 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clyde Kimura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose the passage of SB 2450 relating to predators. We do have a feral cat problem but not feeding them would be cruel since what is out there would essentially starve. I feel that sterilization would be a better alternative to address the feral population.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

I am submitting my opposition to SB 2450 RELATING TO PREDATORS.

As a colony caretaker who has been responsibly managing a state park colony for over 10 years I will tell you that starving cats is not the solution. Responsible caretakers spay and neuter cats which decreases the population. The problem is not with feeding cats on state property, the problem is irresponsible individuals releasing cats on state property without consequence.

The state needs to enforce existing laws against animal abandonment and strengthen existing penalties.

Starving cats is not a solution and certainly not humane.

If cats are removed it will increase the rat population.

Enforcing laws against feeding will be next to impossible and will take away valuable resources for more urgent state needs.

I urge you work with the people who care about this issue to help humanely decrease the population through Trap, Neuter, Release programs because it does not cost the state anything and it is the humane, compassionate solution.

Sincerely,

Colleen Haviland

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: cfrith@fbsmgt.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 1:27:14 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia Frith	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill as it is cruel, inhumane and unnecessary. The Humane Society has a very successful program to catch, spay/neuter and return felines to their respective colony. They can no longer procreate and the colony fades away. Ordinary citizens basically run this program and it works! Dogs normally will seek human help and are taken to the Humane facility for assessment and rehoming if possible. Unlike felines, they rarely have the opportunity to return to the wild to form a pack. Perhaps a better solution to this problem might be found in funding the Humane Society as needed so they may continue the more appropriate and humane work that they have developed over time. All animals should be licensed-including hunting dogs!-and domestic pet owners should be STRONGLY encouraged to spay/neuter. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Let's be honest here. This bill is a LAZY way to deal with the feral cat issue. Turn hunting dogs loose on State property and let the dogs handle it. We already have incidents of hunting dogs attacking pet dogs on State property. What are you going to do when these dogs attack and kill a small child or elderly person or even a healthy adult which can not fight off the pack? This is just stupidity at its finest, because that is a very real possibility!

Why not take money that you will pay out in lawsuits in the long run, and put it towards HUMANELY Trapping Neutering Returning and Managing? Why not enact laws that would PROTECT us, the people carrying out TNRM, from the harassment of police, sheriff's department and the DLNR. Yes, I have had run ins with all three divisions, as well as citizens.

You see, everyone wants someone to do something. But not everyone is willing to anything. Therein lies the problem. Help me and all of the others in our "Cat Community" to DO THE RIGHT THING.

You will receive a lot of testimony regarding disease and lack of proof that it's actually the cats spreading the disease. You will hear testimony about the "vacuum effect". I will not repeat it and waste your time.

What I can tell you, is that the best possible thing is to pass bills allowing us to do what we do best. Allow us to do it unencumbered from red tape and restrictive laws, forcing us to be the outlaws, when in reality, we are the only ones thinking straight.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cynthia Keiki', with a stylized, cursive script.

Cynthia Keiki

2/8/2016

My name is Cynthia Keiki. I'm a resident of 759 Laukea Street, Honolulu HI 96813. I'm submitting a testimony opposing SB 2450. I would like to state that I am a board member of Hawaii Cat Friends, but this is my personal testimony and is not on behalf of Hawaii Cat Friends.

Almost three years ago my neighborhood had a rapidly increasing amount of feral cats. Like most people, it didn't occur to me that I should do something. I just kept wondering WHEN someone was going to do something. You see, we had three cats of our own. Cats that had "adopted" us. They just moved in. We fed them, we fixed them and we felt that we had done our part.

About ten houses up the road from us, there's a house that's falling apart. There were people living there on the property and on the street and they were feeding the cats, which were rapidly breeding. We live along Kalawahine Streamside in Papakolea and there are a lot of cats in this area.

My husband, a friend and I were driving up the road when we saw some kids with a tiny kitten. I asked my husband to pull over so I could see what they planned on doing with it. They handed it over and knowing that it was starved, its ribs were broken and it was suffering, we took it to the Hawaiian Humane Society. That was the tipping point for me and that is when I realized I had to do something.

I did my research and I found Hawaii Cat Friends. Jennifer Kishimori, the President, told me that she would help me. And it was going to cost \$5.00 per cat to spay and neuter them. Less than a week later, she and I started trapping the cats. We collectively trapped and spayed and neutered 50 cats at this location. That was almost three years ago.

Out of those fifty cats, I pulled out six kittens. Two were adopted by a lady that saw my ad on Craigslist to get them a home. Four stayed here with me and since then, one of them has come up missing. I can certainly attest to the death of five of the cats. One was hit by a car, one was attacked by a dog, one I had put to sleep because it was sickly and two that I believe had been poisoned. Quite a few of the other cats came up missing, never to be seen again, and I believe those cats had also been poisoned. To date, there are 20 cats in this colony. Every evening we go up the hill and feed them. I do a head count, I have named the majority of them and I make sure each cat has a notch on its ear, because that is how I know that they are all spayed and neutered. TNRM – Trap Neuter Release Manage DOES work. I can testify to that.

Since then, I volunteer with Hawaii Cat Friends every other weekend, where large clinics are held, allowing others to spay and neuter their feral cats for \$5.00 each. There are many programs available to help aid people to do this.

Here is the problem with your proposed bill SB 2450. It is horribly cruel! It would allow dogs to attack and kill cats on state land! Have you personally witnessed anything being attacked and killed by a dog? How can you even consider this for a moment? I find this bill disgusting. Dog fighting is illegal, animal cruelty is illegal and this bill will set us back 50 years.

You want to ban feeding on State Land. Without feeding, there is no way to gain the trust or to trap the cats, in order to spay and neuter them.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: leolady808@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:54:06 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia Lowe	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Feral cats are a serious issue in Hawaii. However, starving them, and other animals included in this bill, is not a humane solution. Trap, spay/neuter, release is a better and safer approach to controlling the overpopulation. Of concern, also, is that with a decrease in healthy cats we should anticipate an increase in rodents and all that goes with them. Please reconsider this proposal and don't make a blanket ban on feeding these homeless animals.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [David Bangert](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: I strongly oppose SB2450.
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 8:42:55 AM

SB2540 seeks to essentially criminalize feral cat caretakers and feral dog caretakers, and lets the State kill innocent defenseless animals, "by any means deemed necessary", essentially circumventing state and county anti-cruelty laws, and programming.

--

David C Bangert
dbangert@hawaii.edu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: panther_dave@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:27:31 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dave Kisor	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Diehard cat haters give cats far too much credit for the destruction of bird populations. Human habitation does far more damage. Cats are probably responsible for controlling the rodent population than most realize. As for birds, they only tend to catch the sick, dying and infirm, as birds tend to have a very good warning system when a predator is about. Mongoose will decimate their populations effectively. If there were feral legislators, I would refuse to feed them! Trap, neuter / spay and return! They are a part of the ecosystem. Any time humans mess with the ecosystem here in Hawai'i, they make the problem worse.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: dstursiops@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:52:25 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Schofield	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: To: State of Hawaii From: David Schofield Date: 2/10/16 Re: SB 2450
Although, I work for NOAA Fisheries Service as the Regional Marine Mammal Response Program Coordinator for the Pacific Islands Region, I am submitting private testimony as a citizen of the State of Hawaii. I am writing in strong support of SB 2450 to prevent the feeding and introduction of feral cats on State lands. Feral and unattended cats are the sole source of the presence of toxoplasmosis in the environment. Toxoplasmosis represents a significant threat to Hawaiian monk seals and other precious wildlife of Hawaii, in addition to being a threat to human health. Pregnant women and immune compromised individuals are at great risk (CDC). From my personal experience, and as a canoe club paddler, I know that some paddling club members are very concerned about their health risks due to the presence of feral cats at our canoe site on Sand Island. Toxoplasmosis is a significant threat to wildlife in Hawaii. Pets are an important part of many homes in Hawaii but feral cats, and domestic cats that are let outside unattended, kill bird life including the endangered Nene and shed disease. Feral or unattended cats are the sole source for the disease known as Toxoplasmosis which is caused by the parasite *Toxoplasma gondii* whose oocysts are shed into the environment that have the potential to infect and kill monk seals and more recently identified in cetaceans. Since 2001, 8 monk seals have been attributed to toxoplasmosis and this is considered a minimum estimate given cause of death investigations are not possible for seals that disappear and die undetected. Toxoplasmosis was also the cause of a recent local spinner dolphin death on the Big Island, and the disease has is becoming a growing concern for (cetaceans) whales and dolphins. Investigation into the deaths of cetaceans is being further investigated by HPU looking at past cetacean strandings. It is alarming that this parasite is now found in the marine environment out as far as cetaceans can encounter them. The feral or unattended cat issue is obviously a controversial issue and cats have the right to live in humane settings but these cats fed in the wild by well-meaning people lead a miserable life. They often suffer from ringworm, hookworm, toxoplasmosis, feline distemper, feline leukemia, and other diseases. These cats can pass disease on to people, wildlife, and pets. Visualize for a moment, endangered species going extinct because humans introduced an invasive species, they maintained that invasive species, and it is that species that caused the extinction of endangered species. From an

environmental perspective that is the ultimate in environmental irresponsibility. As a resident of Hawaii support the following measures: • That make it illegal to introduce unwanted cats to the wild in Hawaii • The humane reduction of feral cat populations, via reduction of cat colonies, through adoption of eligible cats into homes that will only keep them inside and the humane euthanasia of unadoptable cats by a veterinarian or authorized facility. • Legislation against the formation of feeding centers or designated areas for cats on state AND private lands. • Legislation that recognize feral or unattended cats as invasive species and a threat to Hawaii's wildlife. More outreach needs to be done by the State of Hawaii to encourage cats to be kept indoors by their owners and about the true life cycle of toxoplasmosis. Many cat advocates are in denial of the fact that cats are the sole source of the transmission of the disease and this message could be made clearer through PSAs. Another misconception is that trap, neuter, return (TNR) programs are keeping up with the problem. It is estimated that at least 70% of the feral population would need to be neutered in order to keep the population at level that could begin to reverse the impacts to wildlife. Another misconception is that the cats that are being fed is a humane action. Just feeding them does not treat them or cure them from the above mentioned diseases. By feeding them, in many cases, well-meaning citizens are prolonging their suffering. As an animal care expert of 27 years, 15 of that spent in marine mammal rehabilitation of sick or injured marine mammals and sea turtles, I can I can testify that they do not lead healthy or comfortable lives. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: nateanddawnkim@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 12:27:21 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dawn Kim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposing this bill for a number of reasons: 1--While feral cats and colonies can be considered a nuisance to many, "starving" cats are NOT a compassionate solution. It is also conceivable that if these cats are starved, they may begin to look more aggressively for food in nearby garbage cans and dumpsters causing hygiene and litter issues. 2--If cats and cat colonies are removed from these areas, the rodent population is likely to increase. Cats assist in keeping the rodent population to a minimum. 3--Sterilization and NOT starvation will reduce cats in the community humanely. The Hawaiian Humane Society has a program that supports these efforts. The Hawaiian Humane Society supports responsible Trap-Neuter-Return-Manage (TNRM), a humane and effective long-term strategy to reduce the number of cats at large and improve their quality of life. Those caring for ferals are independent caregivers and not Humane Society volunteers. Those who use the Humane Societies sterilization service are encouraged to seek landowner permission to care for cats. When people trap, neuter and then return cats to their colonies, the population stabilizes and decreases as cats live out their natural lives without reproducing. As a result, millions of unwanted kittens have been spared from life on the streets. In the last five years, we have helped more than 12,000 feral cats at a cost of over \$250,000 for needed sterilizations. This service is funded entirely by donations. Please consider a more reasonable way to address the issue of feral cats and colonies by working proactively with the community and organizations to create and support programs that will help these animals, that through no fault of their own, find themselves "living on the streets." There also has to be an alternative that will allow individuals to assist in the care of these animals without making them "criminals."

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: onebarbie2@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 2:40:12 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
debra	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: Dolcydonesa@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:32:13 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dolcy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose to SB 2450!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Elaine Partlow](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2450
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:27:57 PM

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to oppose SB2450, relating to the release of cats on state land. The well-established practice of TNRM (Trap/Neuter/ Return/Manage) has been proven to be the effective and humane way to control pet over-population. When hard working volunteers monitor cat colonies to spay or neuter all individuals, then feed them in place, the cats stop reproducing and engage in very limited hunting. Rather than roam afar looking for prey, they stay close to their feeding stations and rely on caregivers for sustenance. Often they become, or already are, tame enough to be offered for adoption and become part of a loving family.

The people who abandon unaltered animals on state land, or anywhere, are the ones who should be prosecuted.

Please support, and don't penalize, caregiving volunteers promoting TNRM, and please oppose SB2450.

Thank you,
Elaine Partlow
Pahoa Hawaii

Elaine Dobashi
845 Kii St
Honolulu, HI 96825

Re: SB 2450

I oppose this bill because

1. It is inhumane. Cats are not to blame for the fact that someone dumped them on public property. Most feral cat feeders belong to one of several nonprofit organizations that work diligently to reduce the feral cat population by humanely sterilizing cats and letting them live out their lives without reproducing and without suffering. Please help them do their job instead of punishing the animals.
2. It is probably unenforceable, or would be very costly to enforce.
3. Our tax dollars would be better spent capturing and prosecuting people who dump their unwanted pets on public land instead of relinquishing them to the humane society or to another rescue group.
4. Our tax dollars would be better spent supporting those groups who capture, neuter, release, and feed feral cats in an effort to reduce the cat population humanely.
5. Our tax dollars would be better spent providing land for the care of animals who are not adoptable. Allow nonprofit organizations to manage the land, sterilize and feed the animals, and further reduce the overpopulation of abandoned pets.
 - a. Providing a sanctuary would also encourage people with unwanted pets to drop them off at the sanctuary instead of dumping them on public land.

Please don't starve innocent animals due to the irresponsible actions of humans.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: eebrowni@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 8:43:46 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eliza Browning	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please Oppose SB 2450 Dear Committee Members, As a long-time resident and citizen of Hawaii, I strongly urge the committee to oppose SB 2450. I particularly oppose this bill as it relates to the potential impact on feral cat populations. I understand why some citizens of Hawaii are opposed to feral cat populations. I think that everyone in Hawaii would agree that we have a large amount of feral cats. I understand that people dislike the appearance and smell of cat populations. Perhaps the most valid concern is the negative impact of feral cats on the native bird population. I understand these concerns. However, passing this bill would simply exacerbate the existing problems. By having citizens feed and monitor cat colonies, they are actually maintained, not increased. I have friends who know each cat at the colony they feed, and they know which cats are neutered, and which still need to be neutered. They are intimately aware of how difficult it is when cat colonies increase, and actively strive to maintain low numbers. Many have been and continue to be very successful at this. By passing this law and making it illegal to feed and water cats, cats will not disappear--they will only roam further to find food and become more visible. They will increase hunting native birds, and will start to try to access food from more residential areas. Their starvation will make them desperate. This will have devastating effects on neighborhoods with feral cat populations, and will exacerbate the very issues that the bill is attempting to address. This law is criminalizing a compassionate and effective system. Yes, the feral cat population needs to continue to be maintained and further reduced. No, this bill is not the appropriate mechanism to do that. As a resident (and cat and dog lover) I strongly urge you to please oppose the bill. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Eliza Browning

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: I_dubb@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:42:45 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Wagner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: lnmelonln@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:25:13 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ellen Kischel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please eliminate this unusually cruel and inhumane bill. The feral cat colonies need to be fed in order to trap them to be neutered & spayed to ultimately control the population. Starving them is not the answer nor the solution. Shame on you for even trying to propose such a morbid bill. Where is the compassion? We need to assist those that try to find solutions for these cats not hinder their good deeds. I am disgusted that this bill was even drawn up in the first place. Please work with associations like the Hawaiian Humane Society not make their jobs more difficult.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: kjwatanabe@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 1:59:45 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karin Choi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This testimony is being submitted on behalf of Eric Altenbernd MD FACEP 1741 Ala Moana Blvd 15 Honolulu HI 96815 This letter is in opposition to Bill 2450 and to clarify misunderstanding regarding the feral cat population in the Kakaako Waterfront Park area. I am one of many cat colony caretakers, and have cared for the cats daily since 2004. I provide food, water, vet services and most importantly, trapping for sterilization purposes. Personally, I have trapped and sterilized over 250 cats by organizations such as Cat Friends, the Hawaiian Humane Society, and private veterinarians in order to contain and reduce the feral cat population. Over the years, I have never seen an endangered species of bird preyed upon by feral cats, only rats and common birds. All this time, effort and expenses (thousands annually) is borne entirely by colony caretakers so to criminalize this would be a travesty and counter productive. Signed, Eric Altenbernd MD FACEP

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: fwaialae@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 1:11:49 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Felicia Ann Waialae	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Oppose. For many humane reasons.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

**Testimony: DR. FERN P. DUVALL II, Private citizen
Makawao, Maui Island, HI**

Before the Senate Committees on WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE

AND

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY

**Hearing date: Friday, February 12, 2016 at 2:00 PM in State Capitol,
Conference Room 414**

RE: SENATE BILL 2450

Title: RELATING TO PREDATORS

Thanks for this opportunity to testify. In my 32 years of work for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry & Wildlife as Wildlife Biologist and now as manager with the Native Ecosystems Protection and Management Program I am a qualified expert on the subject of the harmful impacts of introduced predators on Hawaiian Native biota and ecosystems.

I fully support Senate Bill 2450 in prohibiting the releasing of and or the caring for predators on all state lands. I applaud also redefining “predators” to include all rodents. Introduced predators are among the most ubiquitous and influential agents causing the decline of Hawaii’s special flora and fauna. I have personally witnessed hundreds of losses of Hawaiian birds, and plants by predators – many of the species being rare or endangered Hawaiian taxa. The scope of the overall loss of life to introduced predators is immense in Hawaii.

If the predators are owned “pet animal species” like cats – these should not be allowed onto the landscape. Such fixed and neutered animals still kill. Such animals still transmit diseases to wildlife and humans alike. Finally, truly feral individuals are *not* pets but wild predators, this bill will help in addressing their removal from State lands.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: owlit1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:16:25 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frances Pueo	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose SB 2450 and HB 2118, As an active observer of our environment let me share what is really killing our bird population. What is weakening and killing our birds? Random truck poison spraying to control weeds along the road way is constantly being done, even when it rains. The County does the same on our public streets, and private sub-divisions are doing the same. Birds and other animals drink from the water standing poison puddles along these road ways. Its getting into our fresh water and costal waters. Right now the visiting Golden Plover is being poisoned. Bird nesting and feeding areas are destroyed by humans, we are encroaching with new sub-divisions, housing, shopping areas, etc. yet we blame the cats. Rats are immune to most poisons. I have observed rats easily climbing the Ohia trees to get into the bird nest for food, forcing the fledging's to drop to their death. Rats eat various types of tree seeds like Ohia seeds, and bark causing deforesting,(I have pictures of my Ulu tree stripped of bark caused by rats. Science has documented that rats were the 2nd leading cause of the deforesting on Eastern Island. Rats carry the Rat Lung Disease. The only effective 24/7 control for the rat overpopulation is cats, and cats under a T-N-R-M program should and must be allowed! it's really a balanced partnership in saving the bird population and forest. Yes some cats will eat birds, but under a controlled feline TNRM program Birds are generally safe where as Rats are not. It is our island custom as we have done for generations of generations of giving food as kindness, is to never allow a human or animal starve. To prevent us to care and feed cats on State Land while allowing hunting dogs to kill all species and be allowed to be fed and watered is a double standard that makes no sense. Much too much authority is given to DLNR. SB 2450 bans the feeding and release of cats on public lands. Caregivers would face heavy fines and be unable to practice Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), the only humane and effective approach to the cat population. A release ban would prevent newly neutered cats from being returned to their outdoor homes. Feeding bans are also cruel, ineffective, and not scientifically supported. Cats who are accustomed to a consistent feeding schedule can become dependent on their caregivers for food, and discontinuing care can lead to a cruel death. However, cats will not disappear--they will only roam further to find food and become more visible. Managed colonies and TNR prevent cats from roaming and make the community a better, safer place.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

February 9, 2016

The Honorable Glenn Wakai
Senate District 15
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 216
senwakai@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senator Wakai:

As a citizen of Hawaii, I ask that you oppose SB 2450. This bill would have a devastating impact on caregivers who are responsibly caring for cats and benefiting the community.

SB 2450 bans the feeding and release of cats on public lands. Caregivers would face heavy fines and be unable to practice Trap-Neuter-Return, the only humane and effective approach to the cat population. A release ban would prevent newly neutered cats from being returned to their outdoor homes.

Feeding bans are also cruel, ineffective and not scientifically supported. Cats who are accustomed to a consistent feeding schedule can become dependent on their caregivers for food and discontinuing care can lead to a cruel death. Cats however will not disappear—they will only roam further to find food and become more visible. Managed colonies and Trap-Neuter-Return prevent cats from roaming and make the community a better, safer place.

Countless people in Hawaii dedicate their time and money to responsibly care for cats, which benefits the community. SB 2450 would make their efforts illegal. As a citizen of Hawaii, I ask you to please oppose the bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

George Motoyama

George Motoyama
2107 Ala Mahamoe St.
Honolulu, HI 96819

gmotoyama@hawaiiantel.net

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: GerritOsborne@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:09:50 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerrit B Osborne	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Senate Bill 2450 Relating to the feeding of “predators” on state lands. • Destroying “by any means deemed necessary by the department” could easily lead to inhumane treatment of these animals and cannot be tolerated by a humane nation. • As dogs do not read, posting signs warning that animal destruction is taking place will not keep them out of such areas. • Creating exemptions for hunters can easily lead to others gaining exemption by masquerading as hunters. • This bill serves no useful purpose: the “predators” defined by this bill roaming free on state lands pose no risk whatsoever to humans. Most dogs have owners who care for them. Feral cats control rodents. Mongooses are cute, family oriented animals whose worst crimes are taking sandwiches out of unattended picnic baskets, and they are afraid of humans. • This bill must be defeated.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Ginger Towle](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2450 - Prohibiting the feeding, care or release of cats on state lands. STRONGLY OPPOSE
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:33:31 PM

To - Water, Land, Agriculture & Environment Committees

Subject - Bill SB2450-----STRONGLY OPPOSE

Attention - Chairs Gabbard & Wakai

Unfortunately some people and agencies are misguided in thinking that if cats are not fed the whole problem disappears. This couldn't be further from the truth. Not only is this cruel and inhumane but past history has shown this simply doesn't work. These animals have been abandoned by their owners and we as a humane society must not also abandon them. We must step up and take over. It is the very least we can do! Those agencies that have established and managed trap-neuter-release and feeding programs have succeeded in controlling the population. Cats can also help keep the rodent problem in check. There are records showing a community that eliminated the cats suddenly had a serious rodent problem! They quickly brought the cats back.

What should happen is that the legislature should strength penalties for the intentional abandonment of pet animals. This would be a step in the right direction to curb the overpopulation. Yes, this will cost and more funds are needed for spay-neuter programs for both cats and dogs. All humane societies that I know of are working hard to hold spay/neuter clinics but more are needed. The humane society community has made a commitment and the state legislature needs to also.

It's time that Hawaii becomes a leader in animal welfare!

Please do not support this bill...replace it with Bill SB2512

Thank you for your attention to this critical situation!

Ginger Towle - President
West Hawaii Humane Society
Box 1208
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745
towle@hawaiiantel.net
808-329-2051

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: gwokamoto@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 11:29:11 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gwen Okamoto	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I oppose SB 2450 as starving cats is not a humane or compassionate solution. If cats are moved it will increase the rodent populations. Sterilization is the answer not starvation.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: leea_5@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 1:26:15 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hanna Kath	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose Bill SB2450 because starving feral cats to death is not a compassionate and humane solution to the overpopulation of cats. Sterilization is a much more effective and humane way to control the cats on this island.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: rounduptime@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 9:50:47 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heather Cook	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: NavaroH001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:32:22 PM
Attachments: [strongly oppose SB2450.wps](#)

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Helene P Navaro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Thank you for your kind consideration.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: bramanteh71@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 12:18:43 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Helene Yates	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please consider the alternative methods to controlling the cat population on O'ahu. The starvation method that is under consideration with this bill is a barbaric method and does not help resolve the underlying issues. Education to the public in regards to spay/neuter, as well as the catch/release method that feeders currently are using is a much kinder resolution to slow the population of these feral cats. Please consider working with the local shelters as well as the feeders in gaining knowledge and coming up with plans to work together to resolve the issue in humane ways. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: einew@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:15:37 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Irene Newhouse	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill is LONG overdue!! The feral cats in Iao Valley have been a major problem, getting into kids' lunches at Hawaii Nature Center. I've never been in a park area in which you hear so few birds - gotta be the cats. I've seen them 15' up a tree. Don't listen to the cat-lovers. They can trap the cats and take them home! Cats don't belong in the 'wild' in Hawaii!!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jrrubalcava@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 12:16:49 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J. Robin Rubalcava	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose SB2450.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: retro.lavie@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 5:47:15 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline Diaz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose SB2450 Killing cats and dogs! This is your solution? It's disturbing beyond words. It's something we would expect of the Republican party. What gives you the right to play God deciding who gets to live and die? Hawaii intentionally imported mongooses and now they're on your hit list. Why are hunters afforded special rights? The absolute number one threat to birds is people. As an animal advocate I respect all animal life and do not wish harm to come to any species. They must all be protected. The homeless cats and dogs exist through no fault of their own but because of irresponsible pet owners that abandoned them unsplayed and unneutered. Why is this never addressed? Hold these people accountable for animal endangerment/cruelty. Most cat and dog colonies are cared for and managed by compassionate tax paying residents who do so selflessly day after day and at their own expense get these animals spayed and neutered helping to keep the population at bay. This is the solution. These people should be applauded but instead you want to persecute them and cause the deaths of countless defenseless animals. Island paradise? Sadly I don't think so.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jadenr@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:05:47 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jaden Ruff	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jamiekikeda@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:00:10 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jamie	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: • Starving cats is not a compassionate solution • If cats are removed it will increase the rat population • Sterilization, not starvation, will reduce cats in the community humanely

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jmfortin44@live.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 9:58:58 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jean Fortin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill because it will prevent cat colony caretakers from maintaining the colony. Allowing cats to starve is an inhumane way to reduce the population. A better solution is TNRM. Cats are trapped, spayed or neutered and returned to the colony, which will be managed by the caretaker. Over time the population will be reduced. In addition, the rat population is likely to increase because the cats will no longer be available to kill the rats

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Jeanne Fuller](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose SB2450; Predators
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:38:54 PM

This bill is prohibiting the feeding, care, or release of cats on state lands. Trap-neuter-return is the only way to control populations of feral cats or cats that owners have dumped. These animals must be fed and managed to humanely control their populations. If feeding is abruptly stopped in these colonies, these animals will die or become more predatory. The state should be making laws to strengthen penalties for people who intentionally abandon pet animals that contribute to pet overpopulation. Also the state should provide funding and support for increased spay-neuter programs to control cat and dog populations. A recent free spay-neuter clinic at our local humane society had at least 50 to 75 pet owners and people with captured feral animals standing in line for each of the 5 days that it was held, so at least 250 to 300+ animals were neutered or spayed preventing more than over 1000+ extra animals in the next 3 to 6 months.

Since there are many animal groups feeding, spaying, and neutering these animals, the colony sizes will remain static until the animals die or find real homes.

Going out to garage sales each weekend, we see many dogs chained with 4 foot chains to dog houses or in 4'x6' pens. Laws should be made to make a minimum chain length of at least 20' or on a runner and a minimum pen size of 8'x10'. Most of these dogs go from puppy to adult to death chained to a dog house.

Thanks,
Jeanne Fuller (jfuller@hawaiiintel.net)
HC2-Box 6408
Keaau, HI 96749

Honorable Chair Gabbard and Honorable Chair Wakai, and Members of the Senate Committees on Water, Land and Agriculture, and Economic Development, Environment, and Technology, thank you for the opportunity to explain why I oppose Senate Bill (SB) 2450, relating to predators.

There is no scientific proof that feeding bans are effective, not to mention that it's cruel. This bill is very short sighted and will not achieve what most of us desire -- fewer feral/community cats. How can we achieve this?

Abandonment laws need to be strengthened and enforced. The penalties are too weak to deter people who dump their pets or dump their neighbors' pets. I am aware of only one person ever being prosecuted in Hawaii for abandonment. A man was caught dumping kittens at Heeia State Park, where I volunteer to trap and sterilize cats. The population at Heeia State Park has decreased more than 25% in one year through active trap, neuter, return, manage (TNRM). TNRM is a humane approach that works. National statistics can be found through The Humane Society of the United States showing the effectiveness of TNRM.

This bill in its current form will criminalize hundreds of caretakers and starve thousands of cats with inevitable negative results. Many colonies throughout the islands have seen a significant decrease in population over the years thanks to compassionate caregivers who spend their own time, money and energy to make sure the cats are healthy and sterilized. I volunteer with a non-profit organization, Cat Friends, which has sterilized approximately 16,500 cats and rescued and found homes for more than 1,100 kittens and cats in the last five years on Oahu without any financial assistance from the City and County or the State. So much more could be accomplished to decrease the cat population with more funding for sterilization, outreach, and strict abandonment laws.

To give an idea how many births Cat Friends sterilizations prevented, I refer to a conservative projection from The University of Washington's Math Department, working with data from a study of feral cats in North Carolina. The assumptions used for the population projection: One female cat gives birth to six kittens per year. Kitten gender is 50 percent female, and only 25 percent of kittens survive to reproductive age. All surviving female kittens become adults and reproduce with the same birth and kitten mortality rates. It estimates that one female cat and her offspring could produce between 100 to 400 cats by the end of

seven years. These statistics show how much worse the cat population would be today had dedicated volunteers and groups such as Cat Friends not been actively involved in sterilizing these feral/community cats using their own time and money. And now this bill is ridiculously trying to criminalize these same people.

Cat Friends charges clients \$5 to fix a feral/community cat and subsidizes the additional balance of \$25 per cat using funds we've raised through grants and other means. If we could create a full time spay neuter clinic with financial assistance from the State and/or City and County, rather than hosting clinics only twice a month, we could make an even greater impact on reducing the feral/community cat population, and in a humane way.

I ask that you please vote AGAINST Senate Bill (SB) 2450 and consider more humane options.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Kishimori

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: honigirl@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 8:32:26 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

February 9, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to oppose the SB 2450 "Relating to Predators" on State Property. The premise of this Bill would lead to outright inhumane treatment of animals – especially the 'feral or community' cats throughout the State. The Feral cat problem is an issue imbedded into the State, over 20 years ago I did a project on the topic while in high school at Waialua. Due to Hawaii's tropical, warm weather with no extremes, Feral or Community cats thrive. The issue is State-wide and there are many organizations that have been working with communities and 'Feral or Community' Cat caregivers to sterilize the cats to control the populations. It needs to be a controlled, diligent, exerted effort, supported by the State's Legislature. The concept and practice of TNRM – 'Trap, Neuter, Release, and Manage', is the accepted, humane approach to cat populations.

Some of the Community Cat Caretakers have been doing so for many years – 10 or more. It seems a bit ludicrous to impose administrative fines to these people. There are cats all over State lands – from Community College Campuses, UH Manoa Campus, to State Parks and Facilities. Dogs and cats are pets, they are species that are considered of value to people on a moral level.

Yes, Hawaii has a problem with 'feral', unrestrained predators – but again this Bill is not the ethical, humane way to deal with this problem. I urge you to think about what this Bill is truly proposing, because the statement: "Any predator may be destroyed in a posted area without claim or penalty whether or not the predator is the property of some person." is unethical, inhumane, and that action should actually be illegal.

Please do not pass this Bill and I urge you to look into an acceptable way to deal with the issue. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

Jenny Kelly, DVM, MVetSc, DACVS

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jeriyamamoto@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 10:16:27 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeri Yamamoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I do not support this bill and I cannot believe our legislatures are supporting this inhumane bill. This is not a long term solution. The focus should be on sterilization and education not starvation.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: j@klineworks.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 9:10:44 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jesse Kline	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill because rat populations would increase.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: apachicat@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 2:03:44 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Bernal	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am the proud and happy owner of 7 cats. They are strong, healthy, happy and a part of my ohana. EACH of these animals were strays that I had either found on the street or adopted from the Hawaiian Humane Society. If it were not for the efforts of kind people with the spirit of Aloha, my beautiful cats may not be with me today. Someone, somewhere had to have chosen to take care of them, feed them, take them in and give them the love that they deserve...all in their journey to finally make it to me. The very thought of this bill is a disgusting violation of what it means to have the spirit of Aloha. Defining a domesticated creature as a predator simply because they do not have a loving home is a horrible crime and only shows the lack of compassion and kindness toward those less fortunate - even if they are animals. To disregard their need for nurturing and to treat them as lesser, undeserving creatures subjected to our judgment is cruel. Can the state of Hawaii really allow this to happen? Education is what is best - teach our people to love them, care for them and give them the chance for a happy life. Sterilization is the answer, not death by starvation. We are not talking about animals who threaten life or cause pain and suffering. We are talking about a creature that we (humans) chose to domesticate and it is our responsibility to ensure that we do what is right for them. In addition, has the Dept. thought about the effects of a lack of cats? Rats are a problem and I adopted my FIRST cat because of a rat infestation that he VERY quickly rid me of. I absolutely OPPOSE this bill and the horrible effects that it will have on these innocent creatures!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jessica.panzer@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:02:53 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jessica middleton	Individual	Support	No

Comments: When will we finally eradicate all feral cats on our islands! They do not belong here!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha

Mahalo for seeking input from the community regarding SB 2450.

My name is Jessie Mitchell and I living in Mililani, HI

I am **STRONGLY OPPOSED** to SB 2450 relating to predators. As I truly believe it is not inforcable and it does not purpetuate and role model our value of Malama, we must protect the mana inherent in all things.

Disregarding animals in community spaces is not appropriate. But straving them is not appropriate either. Lets not replace one inappropriate behavior, with a worse behavior. Lets search for a humane way to care for targeted animals.

Mahalo for your hearing my voice

Jessie Mitchell

95-982 Wikao St. L204

Mililani, HI 96789

TESTIMONY ON SB2450

**To: Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment and Technology**

From: Jim Crisafulli, Hawaii Resident

Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, Vice Chairs Nishihara and Slom, and members of the WLA and EET Committees:

I would like to express my deep personal concern and strong opposition to not only the proposed amendments in SB2450, but also to the related statute in general.

As some of you may know, there have been teams of concerned citizens in Hawai'i that have worked assiduously to support the lives of feral animals on the islands that, through no fault of their own, were brought into this world through the gift of life. I joined a team supporting the feral cats around 'Iolani Palace many moons ago, and for years helped neuter and feed these animals to ensure that they posed no threat to people or other animals in their vicinity, and that their qualities of life were as best as they could be - given their homeless circumstance.

I personally watched these feline souls grow and prosper over the years, and even took one of them home to become part of our family in Kailua (which we named "Einstein"), who today is like a son to our family, and whose deep love and appreciation for our kokua is unequivocal (photo attached with this testimony).

The remaining felines at the Palace have since passed on, but I could relate many stories where, as a result of our sustained care and nurturing, these souls were not in any sense of the word "predators", but rather members of a living community.

The language in SB2450 (and the existing statute) is truly disturbing, and clearly does not reflect the "spirit of Aloha" which underpins the fabric of our local community. The definition of "predator" is certainly askew – "animals destructive of wildlife by nature" would certainly include human beings, not to mention "hunting dogs" (which this statute tries to "protect from dogs"!)." "Destroying animals deemed harmful to wildlife" using "any means deemed necessary by the department" also speaks legions to a disrespect for compassionate means to resolve whatever problems might be related to feral animals on State lands.

Furthermore, the provision that individuals who "feed, water, or otherwise care for unrestrained 'predators' (*italics mine*) on State lands" shall be subject to administrative fines would mean (if applied repeatedly and retroactively) that I for one would be fined at least \$5,840,000 for all the nights I spent feeding the Palace felines (the thousands of dollars spent using personal funds to support this effort notwithstanding).

If you could look into the eyes of one of these community neutered/supported felines and other feral “predators” to witness the affection and appreciation that they hold for their volunteer caretakers, I think you might rethink the intent and language of this statute/legislation.

I would be happy to address any questions you may have concerning our approach to humanely manage feral wildlife on State lands, and thank you for the courtesy of considering these concerns.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: robmik2000@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 6:20:34 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JJ McKibbin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this important bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jti70@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:35:29 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joann izumi	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: As a constituent, I urge you to please oppose SB 2450 which would prevent good samaritans from feeding & caring for stray dogs and cats.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: j_m_fujita@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 10:35:49 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jo-Ann Fujita	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly oppose SB2450. Starvation of cats is not a humane or morale solution! Funding for trap, spay/neuter and release programs should be considered instead. Cruel extermination practices should never be legalized!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: trippydoo64@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 10:38:37 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jocelyn Bouchard	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: joeandtami@juno.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 6:36:23 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joeandtami	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: My name is Tami McIlhenney, In reference to SB2450: Not all cats and dogs should be killed because they are left behind. Some have caregivers, and the cats and dogs are spay and neutered and are safe from harming people. The caregivers feed and water them daily so they don't bother the wild life. After my son, Jamie, died I would walk by the beach and the cats that people dumped and left behind because they were moving would come and comfort me. They would sit with me and let me love on them. They gave me a will to go on because they needed me like I needed them, so please reconsider passing bill SB2450 that would cause the animals to completely suffer to death. There are many a people that are not nice at all and cause society havoc by robbing, stealing, and killing but they are not starved and put to death. Most of the time they are put in jail or a half-way home where they receive three meals, a place to sleep, and even go to school get a degree and them maybe set free. That is by fay a comparison to just starving the humans that cause such havoc and killing them, which is what you want to do the animals. All animals feel pain and suffering equally. PLEASE HAVE A HEART AND DON'T STARVE OUR CATS AND DOGS. Please have the aloha spirit for the animals that have been here for a long time.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jbickel15@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:18:49 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Bickel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: In 2001 I wrote a cover story for the Honolulu Weekly on feral cats. I pointed out the value of neuter/release programs. This is a better solution to any problems with feral cats rather than banning their feeding.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: boyne@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 10:16:04 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Boyne	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As a constituent, I urge you to please oppose S.B. 2450, which would prevent Good Samaritans from feeding and caring for stray cats and dogs.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: solarlox@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 12:55:34 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I have multiple cats that are allowed outdoors, and because they are fixed and well fed, they rarely catch birds or any other wildlife. What do they do? They sleep most of the time, groom themselves, and, on occasion, catch rats! And, now your proposing criminalizing those compassionate individuals who feed cats and who practice, at their own cost, TNR (trap, neuter, release). This will make for bad publicity as most people don't suport extreme and ruthless measures such as these!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: lava6catt@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:55:31 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judith 'Nickel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I totally oppose this bill and find it cruel and unnecessary. Cats are persecuted enough already in Hawaii, a dog-oriented state.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: tiazi1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:46:25 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
julia callicrate	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: To Whom It May Concern: I am outraged at the proposed SB2450, specifically the section that deals with the treatment of "unrestrained predators": (c) It shall be unlawful for individuals to release, feed, water, or otherwise care for unrestrained predators on state lands. An individual who violates this subsection shall be assessed an administrative fine not less than: ~ (1) \$100 for a first violation; ~ (2) \$500 for a second violation; or ~ (3) \$1,000 for a third or subsequent violation. This subsection shall not apply to hunters that deploy, feed, or water unrestrained dogs in the course of hunting." I do agree that no one should be releasing their cats/dogs into the wild to exacerbate and already difficult battle of feral animals in Hawaii. However, I am strongly opposed to the outlawing of any feral colony caretakers. They are our ground troops, the only people who show any compassion for these animals - animals who are in the wild through human negligence. Additionally, they are currently our best, and often the only, line of defense of actually keeping these animals neutered, since the Hawaii government is apparently not poor enough for a massive rail project but too poor to help fund mobile spay and neuter clinics or new animals shelters. I understand that one is planning for our future but isn't the other also important, so we do not end up mirroring the way of Australia (i.e. recent massive culling of feral cats). The local government seeks to propose these ridiculous bills to criminalize compassion without putting forth any proposed funding for new shelters or other ways to increase our animal breeding control. Additionally, these laws circumvent other regulations that govern the ethical treatment of animals. I strongly oppose this bill and I am not alone in the community. Feeding cats and dogs that these amazing people managed to trap and neuter, which can take weeks of planning, and then penalizing them for caring and trying to keep our feral colonies under control is wrong. If the local government wishes to criminalize something, then please let them criminalize abandonment of pets. It may difficult to enforce, since many people abandoning pets are military moving off island, but it's a much more elegant solution to preventing population excess. Letting these poor animals starve as a way to control will never work, nor will it give a good PR impression once proposals like these hit the media. Surely, our government has better uses of their time than criminalizing something that most people today believe is the right thing to do. I am not a colony caretaker but my two cats are my family, for me and my husband, and it's not a huge leap to say that 1) I am not the only one like this in

today's society and 2) it doesn't take that much though to see that all these stray animals could have been someone's pet (and the feral ones are all traced back to lack of neutering of abandoned pets). Please do the right thing and modify the language of SB2450. Thank you for your time.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

OPPOSING Testimony for SB 2450

SB2450

Measure
Title: RELATING TO PREDATORS.

Report Title: Predator Control; Natural Resources

Description: Prohibits individuals from releasing, feeding, watering, or otherwise caring for unrestrained predators on state lands. Establishes administrative fines for individuals that violate this prohibition. Exempts hunters that deploy, feed, or water unrestrained dogs in the course of hunting.

I am writing to **strongly OPPOSE** SB 2450. People who care for feral/stray cats and feral/stray dogs are law abiding citizens and Samaritans who are compassionate about these forgotten animals in the community. Do not criminalize these people just because they are doing the job on what the government should be doing to care for these homeless animals. Punish those people who abandon their animals severely instead.

Also, Trap-Neuter-Release-Manage (TNRM) works to reduce the overpopulation of feral/stray cats in Hawaii. Fund the TNRM program instead of trying to starve these homeless cats so they end up roaming everywhere and die in horrible death. Think about the diseases similar to the Black Plague spreading throughout the islands from overpopulation of rats and death of the feral/stray cats.

Thank you.

Julie Chen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: meatstinks@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:25:24 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
K. Saiki	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Starving cats is not a compassionate solution - If cats are removed it will increase the rat population - Sterilization, not starvation, will reduce cats in the community humanely. Here where I live in Kaimuki, we have a rat problem already. Those rats are very smart avoiding the same traps they sell.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: keepthafaith@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:26:11 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kahye ryan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill. I feel animals are living creatures and deserve to be fed. It should be our choice to feed them or not with our own money.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: kaitlin.hao24@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:43:59 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaitlin Hao-Magno	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: kallygos@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 9:15:26 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kally	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As a constituent please listen to me. I know that trap spay and neuter and release works I see it work in my community and Will only be problems for you if you prevent people from taking care of the needy. This is part of the ridiculousness going on in the world of keeping people from taking care of those in need, legislated by those who are not in need."As a constituent, I urge you to please oppose S.B. 2450, which would prevent Good Samaritans from feeding and caring for stray cats and dogs." It's that simple!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

To Hawaii State Legislatures:

I am appalled and opposed to the measure SB2450. It is understandable that you want to control the animal population. However, I find it mind-boggling that your solution is to starve animals to achieve this end. Are we not humans/humane? Besides, killing animals will not solve the problem unless you address the root of the problem, which is animals procreating. Yes, you can successfully kill some off, but just like many-headed serpent Hydra in Greek mythology, more will be born in its place. Wouldn't it be smarter to control the animal population through a sterilization program? Also, please consider the benefits of having cats in our midst – they keep the rat population in check. So let's not cut off our noses to spite our faces. Please reconsider and do away with the SB2450 measure.

Sincerely,

Karen Curry

98-501 Koauka Loop

Apt 603

Aiea, HI 96701

This testimony is AGAINST Measure SB-2450 Related to Predators
Friday, February 12, 2016 , 2:00pm (Conference Room 414)

Submitted by Karin Choi

While preserving indigenous and endangered species unique to the Hawaiian Islands is important, this legislation is not the solution. Rather than target all the homeless animals in the islands, which is largely a result of cruel or irresponsible pet owners who abandon or neglect their animals, special effort should be made to plan humane solutions in targeted areas where certain bird populations are at risk. A blanket ban on feeding stray and feral animals throughout the state only serves to punish many innocent animals and criminalizes the community volunteers (rescuers and cat colony managers) who are dedicating their personal time and resources to address the problem.

This legislation presents a cruel and inhumane solution to the homeless dog and cat population on the islands, and places the people and politicians who support this legislation in the same pool as the irresponsible pet owners who abandon or do not spay or neuter their pets. We are part of a first world nation and are capable of implementing a first world solution to the problem. The suggestion to do otherwise reflects ignorance to animal welfare best practices, in particular to research and programs that demonstrate what is effective in managing feral cat colonies.

As someone who helps to maintain a cat colony in Honolulu, this legislation is quite disturbing. Firstly, I am appalled that it is even being suggested that we allow populations of animals, who are homeless by no fault of their own, face death by starvation. We are honestly no more evolved than any third world country if we allow this to happen, while criminalizing community volunteers in the process. If colony caretakers are not allowed to feed cats, the possibility of trapping for sterilization is not possible. Successful trapping takes place after a feeding routine is established so that cats can be located for trapping and are drawn to an area by an expected meal. Also, cat behavior is such that they form colonies or groups. Without established feeding areas and routines, it would be extremely difficult to identify when new and unneutered cats join a colony. Therefore, if this legislation is passed, I would expect the feral cat population to grow rather than decrease.

When feral cats are sterilized and have access to food and water, their overall health and quality of life improves. And most of this maintenance is financed by the generosity of their colony caretakers who do not receive any money for their time and for the cost of food. Folks like myself do this because we are compassionate and hope to ease the suffering in the world. I am a community volunteer NOT a criminal.

Throughout my life, I have rescued and rehomed many cats and dogs that were abandoned. I have paid for the cost of sterilization and vaccinations out of my pocket, and have taken the time to find homes for these animals if I was not in a position to care for them myself. This legislation not only targets stray cats, but also stray dogs. Again, we are talking about animals who are innocent bystanders to the cruelty and ignorance of their human caretakers. It is also extremely difficult to befriend and gain the trust of a

stray dog who may have been abused, without the incentive of a meal. Criminalizing a person who is trying to help a starving and neglected animal, and agreeing to allow an animal to starve unnecessarily is absurd.

This legislation is not a humane or educated answer to the problem. Trap-Neuter-Release-Maintain programs have proven effective in other states, and I believe this proposed legislation has been drafted without consideration to current research, animal welfare best practices and consultation with the Hawaiian Humane Society and other animal welfare programs who strongly oppose this legislation.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: kadc31999@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:41:48 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katarina Culina	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, Please oppose bill SB2450. Feral cats can be controlled through Trap Neuter Release programs. More significant problems for birds are rats and human interference into their environment. Mahalo, Katarina Culina Po box 2142 Pahoa, HI 96778

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear committee members,

I'm writing to oppose SB 2450, relating to predators. I understand community concerns, but starving cats is not a compassionate solution, and penalizing volunteers who care for cat colonies is not productive. Trap-Neuter-Return methods, which use sterilization to limit cat colonies, will reduce cats in the community humanely and safely. Furthermore, removing cats will just increase the rat population. Please do not pass this bill, which is not consistent with humane treatment of animals.

Sincerely,

Katharine Beutner
katharine.b@gmail.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: krubiano13@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 9:52:58 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katherine Rubiano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: kchapman808@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:26:49 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathleen Chapman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, I am writing to oppose SB2450, a bill relating to predators. While I agree there is a need to come up with strategies in dealing with the feral cat population, I feel this bill is flawed. Starving cats as a policy is the wrong approach to take. It's neither an effective nor compassionate solution. Community and Government collaboration through education and sterilization programs will have a much bigger impact than starvation. Let's return to the drawing board with a long-term solution to this complex issue. I thank you for all of your hard work and I hope you will also oppose SB2450. Mahalo, Kathleen Chapman

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: leekooslee@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:40:32 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathryn Koos-Lee	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Starving cats is not a compassionate solution. If cats are removed it will increase the rat population Sterilization, not starvation, will reduce cats in the community humanely. No not penalize people that want to help animals.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: littleones7@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 8:48:39 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Takayama	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This would be a very sad and inhumane method of reducing any population. Starvation is not the answer. Anyone with a heart and soul knows that strays are the fault of humans so why should we punish the animals.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: katie_koch22@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 4:34:15 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katie Koch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: littleonetakai@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 4:11:38 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kellie Takai	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I believe that we should not starve the animals. It is not right that people want to resolve the cat population. If cats were removed then the rat population will grow tremendously. Instead of starving the cats people can sterilize it.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
and Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and
Technology

Written testimony submitted by Kevin Kawamoto as an individual.

RE: Senate Bill 2450 Relating to Predators

Dear Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, Vice Chairs Nishihara and Slom
and Members of the Committees:

I oppose SB 2450, which would prohibit individuals from releasing,
feeding, watering, or otherwise caring for unrestrained predators on
state lands.

Although I do not personally feed or water cats on the University of
Hawaii at Manoa campus, I have seen others who do and have
occasionally stopped to talk to them over the years. I've found these
people to be socially responsible individuals concerned about the well-
being of feral cats on campus, and they also seem to be aware of the
importance of reducing and managing the feral and homeless cat
population on campus. UH Manoa already has policies in place to
manage the cat population on campus, and these seem to be working
well. I agree with the Hawaiian Humane Society that starving cats is
not a compassionate solution and that large-scale sterilization of cats
is the way to control the feral cat population. People have been
volunteering for many years to help capture feral cats for sterilization
and re-release so that they can no longer breed in the wild. **Continued
education and cooperation should be the way to deal with this
issue, not the passage of SB 2450.** Thank you for your thoughtful
consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: kimsnoozer@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:53:47 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kim patterson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. There are too many feral animals and feeding them just encourages the population.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: krischu@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 8:59:56 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kris Chu	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I oppose SB2450. I feel sterilization is key to minimizing the feral cat population. Starving animals is cruel and if they are not fed on State property they will move somewhere else and continue to multiply. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: anastasia.shnyreva@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:54:57 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
anastasia shnyreva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: LANCE.TANINO@GMAIL.COM
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 5:25:07 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
LANCE TANINO	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please support SB2450.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: l.lum@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:17:48 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Lum	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Sterilization is more humane and compassionate than starvation for reducing the animal population. Rats will increase if cats are removed.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Legislators,

I Oppose SB 2450

As a citizen of Hawaii, I ask that you oppose SB 2450. This bill would have a devastating impact on caregivers who are responsibly caring for cats and benefiting the community.

SB 2450 bans the feeding and release of cats on public lands. Caregivers would face heavy fines and be unable to practice Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), the only humane and effective approach to the cat population. A release ban would prevent newly neutered cats from being returned to their outdoor homes.

Feeding bans are also cruel, ineffective, and not scientifically supported. Cats who are accustomed to a consistent feeding schedule can become dependent on their caregivers for food, and discontinuing care can lead to a cruel death. However, cats will not disappear--they will only roam further to find food and become more visible. Managed colonies and TNR prevent cats from roaming and make the community a better, safer place.

I am a member of AdvoCats, the West Hawaii group that has been promoting and practicing free TNR for community residents since 1999. As a colony feeder and trapper for the last 15 years - I have seen the difference that a managed approach makes - healthier, fewer cats and less impact on public and private property. In my experience, the only new cats I see are usually ones that have been dumped by other people. Why? Because people know that very few cats dropped off at our local humane society will be put up for adoption (most are euthanized). So thinking that they will give these cats a chance at survival - they dump them at places where other cats already live.

The long term solution is free cat (and dog) neutering for all Hawaii residents, no questions asked. Mobil clinics have been successful in other states in reaching poorer neighborhoods where cost and transportation hinder cat and dog owners who would neuter their animals if these two things weren't barriers.

Banning something without looking at all of the facets and long term solutions is not the way to go on this issue.

Countless people in Hawaii dedicate their time and money to responsibly caring for cats, which benefits the community. SB 2450 would make their efforts illegal. As a Hawaiian, I ask you to please oppose the bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Laurel Gregory
Kailua-Kona
lgregory@hawaii.edu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: lauri@toppingus.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:59:10 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauri Topping	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Dear Legislators, I urge you to OPPOSE SB 2450. Passage of this bill would mean death by starvation for community cats - defined as cats who live at large in our community. This action would not only be cruelty towards animals who depend on people for survival, but also an extremely poor method for management of the community cat population. Also, I cannot stand by a bill that plans to fine and penalize compassionate people who care for the cats. In addition, it seems very unlikely that enforcement would be possible, and/or result in legal complexities costing the State taxpayers too much money and taking away from other humane matters our state should attend to, such as homelessness and education. It's quite easy, sterilization, not starvation is the answer to humanely managing community cat populations. Community volunteers do the work to trap the cats and non-profit organizations provide low cost sterilization - all at no cost to the State. Please accept my testimony as I strongly urge you to OPPOSE bill SB 2450. Thank you, Lauri Topping

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: cookl001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 8:16:47 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leslie Cook	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: liana96815@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 1:44:26 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Liana Hodges	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I have been feeding my colony since 1998. With care given them, TNR, feeding, flea meds, and veterinary care when needed the cats are just as healthy as pet cats - with equally low rates of disease. TNR benefits the cats and community. They are spayed, neutered and then returned to thier outdoor home. The colony's population stabilized, and no more kittens. As far as these cats killing birds, I haven't seen any sign of this as they are well fed and happy. Occasionally, they will drop a rat or mouse at my feet as a thank you for their care. We all know that causes of wildlife and Bird death are habitat loss, urbanization, pollution, and environmental degradation...all caused by people, not community cats. Please focus on our Homeless population which are a much larger problem than our Community Cats.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

January 10, 2016

Linda Anegawa, MD, MS, FACP
1296 Kapiolani Blvd., apt. 902
Honolulu, HI 96814

Aloha:

I am writing to oppose bill SB2450, which would criminalize the feeding of feral cats.

While I understand that Hawaii's wild bird population needs to be protected, this unfortunate, misguided bill only will exacerbate animal cruelty. Starving cats is in no way compassionate – in fact, is would amount to torture for these creatures. Only sterilization, not starvation, can reduce the feral cat population in the community humanely.

As a concerned physician, business owner, and voter in Honolulu County, I urge you to oppose this bill.

Sincerely,

Linda Anegawa MD

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: lynda@sunsettileandstone.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:29:03 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynda Stark	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I think more research and more thought needs to be done regarding this. There has to be another solution rather than penalizing those people who humanely take care of the feral population. Starving these animals is no solution or are you planning to hunt and kill?

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: lisa.ferentinos@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:43:45 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Ferentinos	Individual	Support	No

Comments: If we don't control Hawaii's feral animal populations there will be little left of our unique, important cultural and natural heritage. I love dogs and cats but if no one can adopt them and take care of them in their home, they should be humanely eliminated. Why do we favor cats and dogs over the many amazing and beautiful native birds that are killed by feral animals? Cat colonies spread diseases, including toxoplasmosis that is dangerous to pregnant women and the developing fetus. It kills monk seals. Wild dogs are dangerous. It's not an easy thing to kill an animal but our human mistakes have created an untenable problem. We need to have the guts to solve it. There are estimates that there are hundreds of thousands of feral cats in Hawaii. Our native birds are hovering on the brink of extinction. Let people keep cats indoors and dogs in fenced areas. We need to take responsibility for eliminating the rest. Stand up for what is right even if it's not easy. Please pass this bill to eliminate a huge problem before it's too late. What will you tell your grandchildren when they ask why there are no more seals or native birds in Hawaii? Mahalo, Lisa Ferentinos

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: lisaefowler@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 6:09:23 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Fowler	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to this bill. Starving cats is not a compassionate solution and will cause unnecessary suffering. I support sterilization, not starvation as the humane way to reduce the cat population in our community.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jetskis@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 12:32:22 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Hatzenbuhler	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: lokelani.medina@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:45:43 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lokelani Medina	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: lynndilewis@msn.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 12:43:06 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynn Fuchigami	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

I STRONGLY OPPOSES B2450!!!

THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO CARE FOR THE "STRAY" ANIMALS, WHO THE MAJORITY OF THE TIME, HAVE BEEN ABANDONED BY THEIR OWNERS WHO NO LONGER WANT TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM.

CARE TAKERS OF THESE ABANDONED CATS/DOGS HELP TO CONTROL THE POPULATION BY TRAPPING, SPAYING/NUETERING THE ANIMALS. THEY ALSO TRAP THE KITTENS AND FIND THEM HOMES AND TAKE IN THOSE THAT NEED MEDICAL ATTENTION AND ADOPT MANY THAT NEED A GOOD HOME. STARVING AN ANIMAL IS ALSO CRUEL AND INHUMANE!!

BY ALLOWING THIS BILL TO PASS TO INCLUDE DESTROYING "PREDATORS" AND FINING THOSE THAT CARE FOR DOGS/CATS IS NOT THE ANSWER.

PEOPLE OF ALL AGES NEED TO BE EDUCATED ABOUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF BEING A PET OWNER AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SPAY /NEUTER PROGRAM.

KILLING IS NOT THE ANSWER!!

PETS/ANIMALS MAY AND DO WONDER OFF ONTO STATE GROUNDS AND WILL IN DANGER OF BEING KILLED IF THIS BILL IS PASSED. HOW MANY OF YOU HAVE HAD A PET WONDER OFF???

PLEASE DO NOT PASS THIS BILL. WE SHOULD VALUE LIFE, AND COME UP WITH A BETTER SOLUTION. NOT TO KEEP ON KILLING.

MAHALO FOR YOUR TIME,

LYNN FUJIMOTO

From: [M Markl](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose SB2450
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:30:15 PM

Hello Committee Members:

Imagine if you were dumped somewhere by people you trusted & the deep hurt, confusion of trying to find food, water, shelter and safety for the first time? That is the reality for many cats who also the past caretaker may not have gotten sterilized, which is not the cats fault. This is pretty traumatic. We humans are of the animal kingdom too. If we were dumped in a hostile environment, how many of us would survive by our instincts alone, not many & it's not much different for them. If they are lucky enough to have a compassionate person who cares enough to feed and get them sterilized, if we were in their place, I think we'd call that person a Hero. But instead with all the pain they'd been through already, they additionally had to experience by people with a mindset who started this bill who also want them murdered and want to criminalize the compassionate people who helped them, I think it would feel the adjectives of heartless, cold blooded and evil.

The #1 destructive pest, invasive species and predator by far has been humans including in these islands. So please put those human predators at the top of your predator list with the same consequences you think a predator deserves. Who through their massive invasive building and other practices have destroyed so many habitats and creatures. Their extreme narcissism tends to think that everything & other beings are disposable objects only for them. Creation also created all creatures so they have equal rights to the land and have a right to their one life too. We have bullishly taken their land & frequently their lives. It is people who should be getting off the land if they have to be so greedy that they can't respect and help our fellow creatures right to be there too.

Weren't we taught somewhere about evolving into compassion not devolving into extermination. Plus in the internet age, tourists in the world would be shocked by the real cruelty done to animals here and how difficult it is often to get animal protection laws from the legislature here. Please stop these heartless Senate and House bills now & any cruel law on the books and help and not kill even one of these innocent animals. Just because someone does not want an animal or person somewhere, does not make it fair to kill them. Please use compassionate creative problemsolving you'd want if you were in their situations so that species can coexist. Public funds, public education & volunteers towards trap & neuter, sterilization seeds for birds & other species, and no kill shelters & other kind solutions. May only those who give compassion especially to our fellow creatures in need who cannot speak receive compassion in their time of need.

Thank you

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: xoxo.qozio@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:23:00 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mami Yokoyama	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: margeneayers@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 7:06:08 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margene Ayers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It is not in the best intrests of our communities to starve any animal. We have been down this path before and the community of voters have testified against these bills again and again. I testify as opposed to SB2450

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: mariehaw2@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 9:58:03 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marie ishol	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: oppose

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: elleiram@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:49:24 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marielle Terbio	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I do not support this bill. Starving of animals deemed predators is not a compassionate solution. Sterilization, not starvation, is key to reduce these populations.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: mcabral101@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:23:57 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marilyn Cabral	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: SB2450 should not be enacted. The Feral Program to feed, trap, neuter, release, and maintain has proven historically to be very beneficial to the communities that have endorsed it. The Program controls the cat population which is a main argument. Costs are absorbed by the care providers. Feeding sites are often in obscure areas to allow safety and privacy for the cats. The care providers keep their sites clean and picked up, disposing of litter, etc that humans have tossed. The cats enjoy a healthier life and the community benefits from the program so it is a win-win situation. There is no need to create a horrendous starvation situation. After the cruel deaths of the cats, the parks etc will have rat and mice infested garbage areas. Let the Feral Communities thrive and encourage more participation in the Program. Do not punish the cats that have been abandoned by irresponsible humans. It is an on-going problem because pet owners do not have personal integrity to continue caring for their pet. Do not endorse the cruelty that people have already shown to these animals.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: mbataiff@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 5:43:37 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marion Bataiff	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Strongly Oppose this non humane unrestricted killings of dogs and cats. I am hoping that my senators can come up with a more compassionate solution. Starving the animals are cruel and not necessary. " There can never be perfect civilization until man realizes that the rights of every living creatures are as sacred as his own" Author unknown. Thank you for your kind consideration and again Strongly Oppose SB2450.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: shanahanm001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:19:32 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Daniel Shanahan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It seems ridiculous that if a pet wanders onto state land it can be killed by any means without determining whether it is a pet with a microchip or not. Also, the penalties for feeding, watering etc. homeless cats etc. are extreme. Most of the loose predators I've seen on state land are lost hunting dogs

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony in opposition to SB2450
February 12, 2016, WLA/EET Hearing

I **oppose** SB2450. It is simply a bill to halt all trap, neuter, return, and manage programs (TNRM). It may have some other minor goals but it's most disturbing result will be to either halt TNRM or penalize persons who provide this service to the State free of charge. A better plan to control the increase in feral cats would be to increase the penalties for pet abandonment as contained in SB2512 and increase funding to help people with pet cats afford spay/neutering services.

I'd also like to note that anyone who stops feeding animals they have taken the responsibility for will be in violation of **HRS §711-1109 Cruelty to animals in the second degree**. This section includes the intentional, knowing, or reckless deprivation of a pet animal of necessary sustenance or causes such deprivation. The definition of "pet animal" includes cats among many others. Violation of this section can be as high as a C felony.

I was the colony caretaker for the cat colony in the parking lot behind the Department of Health. I began taking care of these cats in the 1990s when I worked as a staffer for the Legislature. The cats were totally feral and quite fertile. After some months of effort, I managed to spay and neuter all of these cats, removed those who were not suitable for living outside (to safe homes), and found homes for the kittens. The colony is no longer there and there is no longer a group of abandoned and feral cats living in the parking lot. I was fortunate that during that time, only a very few cats were dumped in the area. In addition, there was also a well-run colony on the grounds of a nearby school. And the cats around the Palace were also well-cared for and fixed.

Why the State would want to make it a crime to spay and neuter cats and manage colonies is hard to understand. The caretakers take on the entire expense with the help of nonprofit organizations such as Hawaii CatFriends and the Hawaiian Humane Society who offer low-cost spaying and neutering for cats as well as support from the Hawaii Cat Foundation. There is no cost to the State. The goal of the caretakers is to see the colony go away due to natural attrition and adoption where possible. These are not substitutes for pet cats. I realize that one of the major issues is native bird protection but I assure you, I have never seen a native bird near the colonies I know of. I saw only doves in my colony. And for all the years it took me to see the colony disappear, I saw 1-2 dead doves and one dead mouse in the area – and those might have been from cars. I never saw a single native bird in the area.

As an aside, I find it interesting that the bill provides an exception for hunting dogs that could also be a threat to native birds, yet there is no exception for those who feed and sterilize cats. A cat that is fed and sterilized is less likely to hunt (and, of course, will not reproduce) and those colonies in areas that I know of have little or no access to native birds.

Finally, I'd like to point out that any person who cares for cats, also cares about birds – though I doubt the opposite is true as often. Cat caretakers are more than willing to work with those who want to protect birds to see if there are any areas we can agree on. Admittedly, we have tried but it's always worth another try.

Mary James
B.A. Grinnell College
M.S. University of Hawaii
TNRM Supporter and Practitioner

09-Feb-2016

I am writing today to express my concern for a ban that will be imposed on feeding stray cats. Starving cats is not a compassionate solution. All animals should be treated humanely, and not feeding them is going against treated all animals humanely. Do you not realize that if cats are removed by starvation it will increase the rat population. I refuse to see to an animal go hungry and find it very alarming that a bill is trying to be passed that will leave cats to fight for their self. A better alternative would be Sterilization, not starvation. By choosing sterilization instead of starvation this will reduce cats in the community humanely. I hope you seriously reconsider what you will be doing to stray cats if you push this bill forward. One great thing our Great Nation is founded on is Freedom Of Choice. Choices should not be made for the welfare of animals that will hinder their very existence. I hope and pray that you will find it in your heart to have compassion for these animals.

Thank You

A Concerned Citizen

Megan Leon
67-1185 Mamalahoa Hwy D-104 PMB:234
Kamuela, HI 96743
808-494-8393

Testimony for Public Hearing
Committee on WLA/EET
February 12, 2016
2pm
Room 414

IN OPPOSITION OF SB2450 - Relation to Predators. Predator Control; Natural Resources.

I, Megan Leon, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on bill SB 2450 – Relating to Predators. Predator Control; Natural Resources.

I strongly **oppose** SB2450 for the following reasons:

1. It is Impractical, Costly, and Will Not Work:

SB2450 is a flimsy patch, not a solution. Time and time again history shows killing programs as a method of population control does not work, and is a costly, impractical undertaking.

Kill-method is a whack-a-mole at the taxpayers expense. Once a population is removed from one area, others will move in to take their place. This “vacuum effect” has been well documented¹²³ in several different species. New populations move in as others are taken out, rendering the kill-effort moot. Years of kill-method control shows these programs do not work.

Kill methods do not address the root issue of irresponsible breeding, and pet abandonment that is continuously contributing to a growing population of dogs and cats.

Kill-method control is costly and impractical. Consider the Marion Island study⁴, a review of an eradication program for a feral cat population. In this study, no new cats were entering the population, and it took 19 years and multiple killing methods to eliminate a population of 2,500. And I emphasize, no new cats entered the population during this time. Based on these results it is unreasonable to assume years of slaughter will be effective in Hawaii.

¹ McKinney, Billy Pat. "Mountain Lions, Deer and Predator Control." The Role Of Predator Control as a Tool in Game Management - Symposium Proceedings. Kerrville, TX: Texas Agricultural Research and Extension Center, 2001. 70-73.

² Killian, Gary, Kathleen Fagerstone, Terry Kreeger, Lowell Miller, and Jack Rhyen. *Management Strategies for Addressing Wildlife Disease Transmission: The Case for Fertility Control*. Staff Publication, Lincoln, NE: U.S.D.A National Wildlife Research Center, 2007

³ Gibson, Karen L, Karen Keizer, Christine Golding "A trap, neuter, and release program for feral cats on Prince Edward Island." *Can Vet J* 20002; 43: 695-698

⁴ Bester, M. N., et al. "A Review of the Successful Eradication of Feral Cats from Sub-Antarctic Marion Island, Southern Indian Ocean." *South African Journal of Wildlife* 32, no. 1 (April 2002): 65-73

This bill also intends to fine those who “release, feed, water, or otherwise care for unrestrained predators.” The costs of enforcing these fines would be insurmountable, and impractical. Enforcement dollars should not be spent on a futile effort, and harm the compassionate.

Also, curbing the feeding and watering of populations may lead to a slow, painful death for some, but the majority will find other sources of food. This source of food includes the wildlife population this bill intends to protect and invasion of garbage.

2. It punishes groups and individuals who contribute to Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) and halts real progress made by these programs:

Advocats Hawaii, a non-profit with limited funds and an all-volunteer staff has spayed/neutered 17,869 cats. And this is only one TNR program’s effectiveness at curtailing a population humanely. One could only imagine what the population would be today without the efforts of this program and others like it.

If this bill is passed, these volunteers will face fines and forced to halt this effective method of population control.

TNR is a program that should be encouraged and helped, not punished. TNR is shown in multiple studies to be an effective method for population control.⁵⁶⁷ They stop a population’s growth before it starts through spay/neuter, not ineffectively and inhumanely terminate them after they are part of the world. They also vaccinate to prevent disease in the population.

3. It Punishes Compassion

This bill not only punishes TNR participants, but the compassionate individual. A citizen should have the right to express their compassion without retribution by the government. Also, compassion is a trait that should be encouraged in populace, not hindered, not punished. A society that is compassionate is a society compassionate to others.

4. It is Inhumane and Dangerous

The language “may be destroyed by any means deemed necessary by the department” permits the destruction of these animal by inhumane methods. These animals have the capacity for pain and suffering, and should never be terminated by inhumane means.

⁵ Hughes, Kathy L. and Margaret R. Slater. “Implementation of a Feral Cat Management Program on a University Campus.” *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science* 5, no. 1 (2002): 15-28

⁶ Levy, J.K. “Effect of high-impact targeted trap-neuter-return and adoption of community cats on cat intake to a shelter” *Veterinary Journal*. Volume 201, Issue 3, September 2014, Pages 269–274

⁷ Natoli, Eugenia, et. al. “Management of Feral Domestic Cats in the Urban Environment of Rome (Italy).” *Preventative Veterinary Medicine* 77 (2006): 180-185.

Ambiguity in the language leaves open the use of methods (such as poisons) that could be dangerous to the human population (particularly children), their pets, and the wildlife this bill is trying to protect.

5. It Threatens Pets

Signs are not enough to prevent loved pets from possible termination by this program. Even responsible owners can have a pet escape their property. It is hard enough to recover a lost pet without the additional concern of termination because the pet was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

6. Killing is not the way

Killing as a society should never be the first option. We created these populations, and we need to take responsibility. These creatures are living their lives out not with the intention to be pests, but living out their lives as they are.

Conclusion

In conclusion, controlling a population effectively and responsibly needs to be comprehensively smart not cruel, ineffective, and punish compassionate individuals and those working towards the very goal this bill intends to accomplish. As a community, we should encourage TNR programs to flourish, expand spay/neuter programs, educate the importance of spay/neuter, take responsibility for our fellow animal residents, and research more humane and effective methods of control.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Megan Leon

2/10/2016

67-1185 Mamalahoa Hwy D-104 PMB:234

Kamuela, HI 96743

808-494-8393

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: pacislandparts@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 10:27:57 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa A. Aiona	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I belong to New Hope Canoe Club- so I am at the paddling site at Sand Island 2-3 times a week... The stray cat populations is getting REALLY bad. They are every where... the smell from their poop and urine is every where.... and it is getting worse. As I drive into the paddling site- I often see people feeding the stray cats from the back of their cars.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Melissa Grevstad](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Opposed to SB2450
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 9:44:40 PM

Dear Senator,

I am opposed to SB2450. Catch, release, spay, & neuter is the best way to take care of the over growing cat population. Starving them is just cruel & they will be more likely to kill our precious island birds if they do not have a place they know they can get food. Plus not to mention to enforce this law will take man power we just don't have. In time, if we keep up with the spay & neutering the population will dwindle.

Sincerely,

Melissa Mendoza

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: duke8895@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 3:55:03 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Donahue	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Many places where feral cats live do not endanger other wild life and this bill does not exclude the areas where they have been fed for years. This would be cruel as they are now used to being fed by humans. Trap neuter release programs should be increased and used as an alternative to this bill! I oppose this bill as it is cruel to existing feral cats.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: simmonsm@telus.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 12:03:25 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michael simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a very important measure to protect indigenous species particularly birds on all islands. Please support it.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: mbowerman@islandshospice.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:28:03 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Bowerman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: mlgarcia99@my.sanjuancollege.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:22:12 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Missy Graves-Baeseman](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2450
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 9:17:03 PM

Please oppose SB2450

Sent from my iPhone

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: rohmonica8@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:28:27 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Monica Roh	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Please Do Not support this bill!

What is the goal of this bill?

This bill has no justification... just to allow hunters to shoot at almost anything they want! Or to let anyone kill something on state land just because!! This is a hate bill, all about killing an animal some individual doesn't like! It's about torturing, maiming, allowing more cruelty and pain... and has no place in Hawaii!

It certainly is not to *help* native wildlife! This bill says it is ok to kill any "predator" Harmful to wildlife? Yet it is OK to let hunting dogs run free even though hunting dogs are responsible for the killing of lots of native wildlife, perhaps even more than that predator they are talking about!

If it is really intended to stop feral dogs, then something else must be done, not just kill anything... One needs to work with professionals... Get the animals used to food then trap them... Once you start shooting scatters the dogs, making catching them almost impossible. What if someone hiking with a dog, and the dog runs off? Under this bill a hunter sees the dog they can shoot it! Oops... Oh well... This bill says it's ok...

If you are concerned about cats, then look at the facts about TNR! If you want to control cats, then you *want* to feed them! You *want* to keep them in a certain area. They will stay close to food, not forcing them to look elsewhere for food! All cats in all public areas should be part of a TNR program. If you just kill a kitten, makes a mother go into heat again, and have more kittens. Shooting also scares the animals and makes it much harder to control them. Etc.. etc... If you have any questions about TNR, or cats check into it!

The bill says it is ok to kill any of these predators, with no recourse! Really! Just let someone shoot at anything, killing anything without consideration for life at all! Hawaii is better than that. Hawaii is supposed to be an ethical place, which is supposed to care about other life... Compassion should always be considered when involving any sentient life!

Plus, this land is public land, state land! For the use of other people besides hunters! People like to hike, and camp, and if they feed a cat or mongoose, it would only help prevent that animal from being forced to kill for food. Feeding an animal helps control it. If you want to control animals you feed them. If you want them to hunt on their own, you don't feed them!!

It is not right to allow the general public to shoot anything they want! Or just kill an animal because it is on state land! Please do not support this bill or anything like it!

Pam Wolf

From: [Patricia Lau](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: [Patricia Lau](#)
Subject: Oppose SB2450
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 5:47:17 PM

Dear Legislators,

Please oppose this bill which intends to prohibit the feeding, care or release of cats on State land. Instead of this misguided bill, please support/fund animal organizations such as Catfriends (hicatfriends.org), an all volunteer organization whose main goal is the humane decrease of the feral cat population on Oahu through TNRM methodology (Trap, Neuter, Return, Manage). Withholding feeding of feral or pet cats on State lands is not only inhumane but counter productive. A hungry cat is only going to look/hunt for food and this will only increase the possible demise of birds or other endangered wildlife. It is a misconception that cats can survive on their own. They are dependent on humans for food. Withholding food is not going to make the animal go away but will only lead to suffering, starvation and death. For instance a feral cat from Democrat St. which Catfriends took the time to trap, fix, and microchip was later caught and dumped by someone way in Kalihi Valley. It was later found half dead in someone's front yard. Hawaiian Humane Society was notified and through the microchip found out one of our volunteers had fixed it. She went to retrieve the catt, took it to our clinic on School St. where she gave it fluids & wet food. It could not even stand up to eat, was severely dehydrated and ultimately died the following day due to this abandonment. It did not know where to look for food, water or shelter and it suffered & died a slow death of starvation due to ignorant people. Trapping & fixing these cats is the only humane way to decrease the population through time, assuming they can no longer replace themselves through breeding and uneducated people don't dump them all over the Island, unfixed. Instead please give organizations such as ours the right or permission to go anywhere (state, city or even private property) in order to sterilize these animals. Killing them is never the answer. Please oppose this bill SB2450.

Sincerely,
Patricia Linda Lau
(808)203-7576
lindal@hawaii.edu
55 S. Kukui St. #1901
Honolulu, HI 96813



This email has been sent from a virus-free computer protected by Avast.
www.avast.com

From: [Peggy Gentle](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: "OPPOSE SB2450; Predators"
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 5:00:53 PM

Please don't pass this bill. I do not believe it will fix the problem. It is not the fault of the cat, but the humans who have made this a problem.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: pyep0905@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 10:25:04 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
peggy pratt	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: ppetersenjr@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 8:14:26 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter Petersen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need to do our part in saving our native birds because when they're gone....they are gone forever!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: pgkline_uk@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:32:31 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Philip Kline	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I urge you to pass this bill. Cats are very destructive non-native predators on Hawaiian wildlife. I enjoy visiting Hawaii to go birdwatching and hiking. Trap, spay, and release programs simply do not work. Feeding or releasing feral cats should be discouraged and if that takes passing a bill with financial penalties, I am 100% for it.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony of Rachel Neville
Supporting SB 2450 Relating to Predators
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture and the
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment and Technology
Friday, February 12, 2016 2:00 PM Room 414

I support SB 2450 which would prohibit the feeding and watering of cat colonies on state land. Supporting feral cat colonies is bad for wildlife and public health. Feral cat colonies are supported at Kea'iwa Heiau State Park and the University of Hawai'i Mānoa campus. I have seen feral cats stalking nesting Hawaiian petrels at 9,000 feet on the slopes of Mauna Kea. They are everywhere. I have also read scientific research that found the toxoplasmosis parasite in soils around the University of Hawai'i Mānoa campus where feral cats colonies are fed. Humans can catch this parasite if they come into contact with cat feces and it can cause serious health issues for pregnant women and those with compromised immune systems.

Many people in the state have devoted their lives to caring for feral cats and their compassion is admirable. However, seabirds deserve the same compassion. They cannot defend themselves against feral cats and don't survive where feral cat colonies exist. The state's citizens also deserve the right to use public spaces without fear of exposure to cat feces, which occurs at higher rates in places where feral cats are supported. Ending the practice of supporting feral cat colonies will protect Hawai'i's wildlife and public health.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony,

Rachel Neville
Honolulu, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: brandphillips@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:54:04 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Reese Phillips	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Esteemed Committee Members, Introduced predators have a detrimental impact on Hawaii's unique birdlife. Through the efforts of DLNR and its partners, State's lands provide a refuge from these predators; however, a growing problem is the release of predators onto State lands, which threatens Hawaii's native birds. It is essential the practice be made illegal and a means to enforce the law is included. Therefore, I urge you to support SB2450.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Renee Fulkerson](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: "I strongly oppose SB2450."
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:01:43 PM

Please Oppose SB 2450

Dear Senator Wakai,

I strongly oppose SB2450 and as a citizen of Hawaii, I ask that you oppose SB 2450. This bill would have a devastating impact on caregivers who are responsibly caring for cats and benefiting the community.

SB 2450 bans the feeding and release of cats on public lands. Caregivers would face heavy fines and be unable to practice Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), the only humane and effective approach to the cat population. A release ban would prevent newly neutered cats from being returned to their outdoor homes.

Feeding bans are also cruel (willfully or knowingly causing pain or distress) ineffective, and not scientifically supported. Starving cats is not a compassionate solution. Cats who are accustomed to a consistent feeding schedule can become dependent on their caregivers for food, and discontinuing care can lead to a cruel death. However, cats will not disappear--they will only roam further to find food and become more visible. Managed colonies and TNR prevent cats from roaming and make the community a better, safer place. Sterilization, not starvation, will reduce cats in the community humanely.

Countless people including myself in Hawaii dedicate their time and money to responsibly caring for cats, which benefits the community. SB 2450 would make their efforts illegal. As a Hawaiian resident I ask you to please oppose the bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Renee' Fulkerson
5250 Ka Haku Rd. #324
Princeville, Hi. 96722
yoginilove@msn.com

From: [Richard Diaz](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: STRONGLY OPPOSE SB2450
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 12:06:37 PM

You are essentially allowing open season on all cats and dogs and other so called "predators". Disturbed individuals are already committing heinous acts of violence against cat and dog colonies, shooting, poisoning and more. Now they will feel even more justified in these acts because you choose not to hold them accountable. This is a man made problem and you are allowing helpless animals to suffer the consequences.

Richard Diaz

10 February 2016

Testimony on SB2450

To: Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

Senate Committee on economic Development, Environment, and Technology

From: Richard Flagg, Hawaii Resident

Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, Vice Chairs Nishihara and Slom, and members of the WLA and EET Committees.

I object strenuously to the provisions of SB2450 and its intent to amend SECTION 2. Section 183D-65, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Trap, neuter, return (TNR) has proven to be an effective and humane method of controlling cat populations in several hundred locations throughout the United States, The people who engage in TNR are the same caregivers that feed and care for homeless cats. SB2450, if passed, will result in more cats exhibiting predatory behavior because they have not been fed. This bill will also result in more feral cats reproducing, as it criminalizes the act of TNR.

It is ironic that 183D-65 protects the unsportsmanlike killing of animals through the use of hunting dogs while criminalizing the act of feeding and caring for animals – many of whom have been abandoned by their thoughtless owners.

If the legislature has any interest in humanely reducing the cat population in the state then TNR is the proven method.

Funds would be better spent to educate pet owners in their responsibilities toward their pets and to assist with the cost of spaying and neutering rather than paying DLNR employees to kill – “by any means deemed necessary by the department.”

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: ricktakikta@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 9:33:17 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Kikta	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Thank you for reading my comment. 1. I oppose SB2450 because it will adversely impact (not only) me and my cat colony of stray, abandoned, and feral cats (all of whom are spayed or neutered and microchipped, in my name), but also dozens if not hundreds of other local colony caregivers who must feed the cats to lure them to traps so they can be brought in for sterilization (spay/neuter), then also maintenance feed them as part of a continued humane management program. 2. The TNR program sponsored and endorsed by The Hawaiian Humain Society and several other local non-profit cat care and rescue organizations have demonstrated a proven track record of preventing our local cat populations from growing in number. Furthermore, in areas where cats are trapped, neutered, released and managed (fed and vet care), the numbers of feral cats have been significantly reduced. 3. In order to control our cat populations, and to care for our cat communities humanely, we must be allowed to continue to feed them. 4. Studies have shown that an adequately fed and otherwise managed cat colony significantly reduces cat roaming, scavenging and hunting, which enables local bird populations to better thrive. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

RICHARD SCUDDER

February 10, 2016

WLA & EET committees

Re: Senate Bill 2450 - Relating to Predators

I am in support of this measure.

The State Department of Land and Natural Resources needs the authority to better combat the four-pawed silent killers of our wildlife. Predators, such as feral cats, have the natural ability to increase their population to very high numbers with little in the way of stopping them. We should not be allowing people to feed these killers of wildlife. It only makes things worse. It is necessary for DLNR to have all the help they can get in the control of these predators. Please approve this measure.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Richard Scudder

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: hourandahalf@icloud.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:38:43 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rosemarie Patronette	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

I do not believe this bill is enforceable with current State resources. Catching and sterilizing/neutering the animals would be a better approach and in line with current community strategies.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: sanoe3@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 4:38:55 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
S Stephens	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii's native animals would be protected by this bill. Many of our native birds and other species are threatened or endangered, and preventing the artificial maintenance of invasive predators is necessary for their survival.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: sam.r.madan@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 10:24:21 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sam Madan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am in staunch opposition to this state bill for the following reasons:
Starving cats is not a compassionate solution, and if cats are removed it will increase the rodent population. I believe that sterilization, and not starvation, will reduce cats in the community in a more humane manor.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: malia@wisch-design.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 12:52:01 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara Wisch	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, I am writing to oppose a ban on the feeding of feral cats (and other animals). The feral cat problem is a big one, to be sure. But the most effective solution is in sterilization, not starvation. Banning the feeding of stray cats would likely only exacerbate the problem as cats are forced into neighborhoods looking for food. Food is also a way to socialize kittens so they can be more easily trapped, socialized, sterilized and adopted. Please do not pass this bill. Mahalo, Sara Malia Wisch

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sarah Crites

1917 S. King St. #3

Honolulu, HI 96826

Testimony of Sarah T. Crites

IN OPPOSITION OF SB 2450 RELATING TO PREDATORS

To the State Senate, 28th Legislature

As a six-year resident of Honolulu with prior experience in trap-neuter-return programs for feral cats in San Antonio, Texas, I urge the Senate to OPPOSE this inhumane bill. There is no doubt that the feral cat population in Hawaii is large, but starving cats is not a compassionate solution to this issue. Many of our state's feral cats live on state land including schools and beach parks, and thanks to individuals and organizations in our community who not only feed these cats but also systematically trap and sterilize them, these feral cat colonies are often the best cared for and regulated—and because they are sterilized, will not continue to expand. Sterilization is the best way to reduce cat populations in our community humanely and slowly—a key point if we are to avoid the explosion of pest populations the cats keep under control, such as rats. We must work to prevent humans from continuing to dump unwanted, unsterilized domestic cats into the community—not punish the animals by inhumanely starving them to death. For reasons of practicality and basic human ethics, I urge the Senate to OPPOSE SB 2450.

Sincerely,

Sarah T. Crites

Tuesday, February 09, 2016

Opposition Statement to SB 2450 Relating to Predators

I am writing this statement to relay my opposition to the bill mentioned above. Being a firm believer in the rights for all animals I feel the acceptance of this bill is not only inhumane but not very thought out. Below is a list of points I feel why

- 1) Starving cats or any other stray animals shows no compassion to other living creatures
- 2) Removing cats may increase the population of rats
- 3) Sterilization of animals is a more humane way of controlling the cat population
- 4) Currently, in the feeding of cats on state land, keeps them contained in one area. This would allow organizations to capture and care for them as well as spay or neuter them. This would also prevent these animals from roaming to other more populated areas looking for food.

There are other alternatives other than starving animals and punishing people monetarily. To me, passing this bill seems to me like a temporary solution to a problem. Questions in my mind which I think those people who are for this bill should be asking would be:

- 1) What would happen when the cats are no longer being fed?
- 2) Will they go elsewhere to look for food?
- 3) How would this control the cat population and the breeding of more cats?
- 4) Will it make it more difficult for Organizations to capture these animals and spay or neuter them, or treat them of any illnesses so that they do not get passed on to other animals?

These are just some of the questions I would be asking the people who are trying to pass this bill. In closing I would like to suggest instead of a quick bill to just starve the cats by preventing people from feeding them. I feel more thought and effort should be put into how to support organizations who try to care for the animals, as well as educating people about stray animals through schools and community events.

Sincerely,

Scott T. Lee

From: [Scott Stoddard](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE SB2450
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:25:36 AM

I oppose SB2450.

Scott Stoddard
16-1807 38th St.,
Keaau Hawaii 96749

RE: SB 2450

Aloha,

As a citizen of Hawaii, I ask that you oppose Bill SB 2450 that bans the feeding and release of cats on public lands. This bill would have a devastating impact on the compassionate caregivers who are responsibly caring for cats and dogs that benefit the whole community. Discontinuing care can lead to a cruel death; it is ineffective and not scientifically supported.

Also, these cats are a big factor in controlling the rodent (rat) population in the areas they are to be ban from.

This bill would prevent the practice of Trap-Neuter-Return (which is preventing newly neutered cats from being returned to their outdoor homes), the only humane and effective approach to the cat population. Managed colonies and TNR prevent cats from roaming and thus makes the community a better, safer place.

And, how you will make exceptions when there are cat/dog shows in these areas, animals visiting schools, and the actual lost of a pet that need to be caught with food?

Countless people in Hawaii dedicate their time and money to responsibly care for these cats (and dogs). This benefits the community. SB 2450 would make their efforts illegal.

I wholeheartedly oppose Bill SB 2450.

Sincerely,

Scott and Donna Sullivan

46-182 Lilipuna Road

Kaneohe, HI 96744-3648

donascot67@gmail.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: selene.eddie@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016 12:43:08 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Selene Mersereau	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: To: WLA / EET, WAM Committee RE: SB 2450 Oppose From: Selene Mersereau Date: February 11, 2016 Testimony: I do not believe SB 2450 is a viable or productive solution to the abandoned/feral/community cat problem in Hawaii and am asking that you oppose it. 13 years ago I decided not to turn a blind eye to hungry, abandoned cats. In these past 13 years, I have used TNR with 129 cats. The population is now at 63. Not more than 12 live in any given area. TNR works. It's as simple as that. Continued funds for TNR are needed but I also believe funding is needed for professional trappers that can help caregivers. It takes talent, knowledge and patience. If we want cat populations to decrease, we need to help caregivers, not penalize them. As a caregiver I have also removed injured cats with ruptured eyes, broken legs, mangled tails. You name it. I certainly am no different than hundreds of caregivers in Hawaii. Vast amounts of personal money, time, energy, space, pure dedication and love are given by these caregivers. There are also veterinary clinics that go out of their way to help these injured animals. SB 2450 places caregivers in a position to be viewed as detriments to society. To the contrary, I would like to request that we, as a society, recognize and honor these caregivers that show up, come rain or shine. If anyone knows we have an abandoned/feral/community cat problem, it is those that go out and actually deal with it. It is a community issue, created by humans and has community solutions. I ask you to oppose SB 2450 and instead request a task force be developed to create workable, humane solutions. There are many wonderful, dedicated organizations in Hawaii working towards these humane solutions. In closing: One night as I was feeding, an old man walked by. We had said good evening many a time. He stopped and looked me in the eye: "You one loyal lady". His words stay with me, that is who I want to be and all these people caring for abandoned, neglected cats are made of this fiber. They show up and are working towards positive solutions. Please oppose SB 2450.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email

webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [sharing lawrence](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2450
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 2:31:51 PM

I seriously oppose the bill SB2450 to be heard this month. This bill is absolutely insane and unjust for the other animals that live in the area.....like feral cats who are not taking down the entire species of birdlife. This practice is overwhelming cruel and abusive and has been an over reaction of those in political standing. This act is about ignorance and misguided control. Get better management with professionals that have a compassionate and competent vision about animals living together.....just as people have to live together.....finds ways to make this happen.....this is not impossible.....it is about kindness and tolerance and respect.

Sincerely,
Sharing Lawrence
Kula, Maui

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jas.lee76@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:37:20 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: What is the purpose of this bill? Is it to lessen the number of stray animals? Penalizing someone for showing compassion to another living creature goes against the principles of a civilized society especially when there is a more humane way to approach the issue. Trap/neuter/release is a win-win solution. Also, feral cats help to control the disease-carrying vermin population. Therefore, please vote down this bill. Thank you very much.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

February 11, 2016

Dear Senators:

I am deeply disturbed that Hawaii lacks the Aloha for our animals – especially targeting cats and dogs that roam on state land. They may have been abandoned through no fault of their own and now compassionate people are caring for these animals by their own means and even preventing future unwanted litters by having them neutered and bearing such costs on their own. Allowing caretakers to be fined \$1,000 for dealing with animal abandonment and overpopulation issues is harsh and unwarranted. Government needs to partner with their people or constituents to solve problems. Heavy handed regulations and fines don't work. People solve problems, not government. So, I ask you to look to the very people who are doing the work to address overpopulation issues in the past and ongoing now -- the community of animal advocates, such as me. I will continue to help animals and the community through my Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) and Manage (TNRM) philosophy. I ask for no government help with my costs, just do not hinder me -- I think of government working for me, so please do as I ask – stop this flawed bill, stop the flawed philosophy of no compassion, stop the flawed philosophy of assuming no one is doing anything about animal overpopulation.

Why don't you talk to animal and cat organizations in Hawaii? Do you disregard that they are knowledgeable about this situation and that they are doing something about this? Please respect their view and my view as well. Cats are valuable to communities whether you like it or not. Some people value their ability to control the rodent population. When there are no roaming cats to do this, you'll bemoan your actions. Please show compassion now. I and others in the community cat supporting community need you to listen and help us by stopping this bill to punish animals and us! Have Aloha for those who have no voice – our community animals!!! Mahalo!!!! Shelly Esmeralda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: shermanwing1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:44:17 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherman Wing	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Cats are threatening our native endangered bird populations

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

This bill is currently too vague and, in its current form, does not solve any issues and is inhumane to animals which are mostly abandoned domesticated creatures.

Animals of all sizes hunt for food. And, in that role, are predators. When abandoned animals do not have to hunt for their food (fed appropriate food for their species by people), they do not hunt as much.

Whether abandoned, or let/kept outdoors by persons claiming responsibility, feeding these animals by persons volunteering their time AND their own resources helps to MINIMIZE the animals predatory instincts. These same persons – again using their own time and resources – also participate in programs to spay and neuter the animals to work towards population control.

To make it a crime to feed animals domesticated & abandoned does not solve the problem of over population. It further limits the average caring citizen from trying to assist controlling the populations.

Concentrating the focus on positive population control techniques & incentives is a better use of our tax dollars, rather than penalizing a section of population for their generosity and kindness.

Sheryl Matsumoto

Aiea, HI

I believe that the authors of SB 2450 have the best interests of our State at heart. I truly feel that their intentions were pure in drafting this measure and that they were seeking to balance Hawaii's fragile ecosystem. However, while their intentions were good I believe they did not completely view the ramifications of their choices in the wording of this bill.

I completely agree with the idea of criminalizing the act of abandoning a dog, cat or what the measure identifies as a "predator". However, unless we are able to create a bill that stops people from opening their car doors and pushing their unwanted animals into the streets we are going to have a feral dog/cat population.

We can't house them all. We can't destroy them fast enough to keep up with the number falling into our parks. We can't blame the animals, and sadly we can't find the people that abandoned them.

So, instead of trying to tackle these larger, more difficult issues, we are targeting the only people that we can hold "accountable". The visible group of volunteers that are consistently in our parks using their time and resources to act with compassion. I understand how watching them feed these animals may look to the everyday citizen that they are supporting the problem. I thought the same thing until I had an opportunity to meet them, to talk to them about their work. I realized I had only seen the surface of the issue and wasn't recognizing the benefit of their efforts.

I discovered that while they are feeding these animals, they are also making certain these animals are spayed and neutered. We cannot kill our way to a solution nor as a civilized society should we try to. This issue is large enough that it will require the collective work of the Humane Society, Cat Friends, volunteer veterinarians AND individual volunteers to manage these colonies.

Even if we ignore the ethical issues involved in allowing blameless creatures to slowly die of starvation, we should at least consider the public health issue of creating large communities of starving animals wandering into our neighborhoods looking for food.

I would instead like to see a broader effort to develop a stricter animal registry for both cats and dogs to track abandoned animals and keep owners accountable for releasing them into the wild.

I sincerely hope you will vote down measure SB2450 or rewrite it to exclude penalizing the people on the front lines of the issues fighting for a compassionate solution.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Song Choi

My name is Stacey Spirz and I am writing to oppose SB2450 - Relating to Predators.

The feeding ban is counterproductive and is not humane. The ones whom are trying to care for these animals that were abandoned by their owners should not have to be penalized by the wrong doing of others. They are trying to help control the population and/or attempting to find the ones that can, into homes. These include dogs that have been abandoned by their owners. They are doing this with their own funds and time. By banning the people to not be able to feed these animals, they won't be able to gain their trust and capture them to try and get them off the land, humanely, or to do the humane thing to do with the feral cats, which is Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR).

Feeding bans will not help with the overpopulation of cats because they will find other ways to feed themselves and live; however, they won't be sterilized and they will continue to reproduce in huge numbers. Sterilization, not starvation, will reduce cats in the community humanely.

If Hawaii wants to decrease the feral cat population, TNR is the only humane and effective solution. Feral cats are the same species as pet cats, but feral cats are not adoptable because they are not socialized to people. Under TNR, cats are humanely trapped, neutered, and vaccinated and returned to their outdoor homes. Feral, fixed cats, can also help with the rodent situation.

-TRN works for the feral cat population.

-Feeding ban will be counterproductive and is inhumane.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

February 9, 2016

Dear Hawaii State Legislature,

My name is Stefanie Hsu. I am a resident of O'ahu and an undergraduate at University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am writing in opposition to SB 2450. As an animal lover and a former volunteer at the Hawaiian Humane Society, I do not believe that a ban on the feeding of feral animals on state-owned property is a humane way to control predator populations. Since it is a large issue, I will primarily focus on the feral cat population.

If this bill is passed, where will the hundreds of feral cats on the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus be relocated to? The feral cats on the UHM campus are managed only by authorized caregivers at authorized locations registered with the university's Facilities Management Office. This program is entirely managed by volunteer caretakers without any public funding. Unauthorized feeders are in violation of university policy and City and County ordinances and are cited if caught. Despite this system, pet abandonment is still an issue on campus that contributes to the feral cat population. This is illegal according to HRS §143-2.6. Pet abandonment also occurs in other cat colony locations around the island. Rather than passing a bill to ban feeding of ferals on state property, action should be taken to enforce pet abandonment laws and actively promote public education on responsible pet ownership and pet sterilization.

I propose for expansion of a program that already exists - the Trap, Neuter, Return, and Manage program that nonprofit organizations such as Hawaiian Humane Society and Hawaii CatFriends utilizes to reduce the feral cat population. Sterilization costs are paid for entirely by caregiver volunteers and the nonprofit organizations. Despite this, both organizations sterilize thousands of cats each year.

The feral cat population is an overwhelming issue which requires commitment and support from the entire island community. Turning a blind eye by simply placing a ban on feeding of feral animals is inhumane. What is necessary is enforcement of preexisting laws targeting pet abandonment, public education on pet ownership and sterilization, community awareness and support. Starvation is not the solution.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Hsu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: hawaiidogmom@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:54:51 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie McLaughlin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please vote against SB2450 which would ban the feeding of cats, dogs and other animals deemed predators on all state land. This draconian proposal if made law would condemn cats to death by starvation. We know there are alternatives and I request that the State work with the Hawaiian Humane Society to explore all options. Starving cats is not a compassionate solution. If cats are removed, it will increase the rat population. Sterilization, not starvation, will reduce cats in the community humanely.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: lwparisfrance@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:46:45 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
linda willaby	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: spay/ neuter and release programs are the humane way to control the overpopulation of abandoned cats. It would be inhumane to make it a crime to feed these abandoned animals. You should spend your time catching and punishing people who abandon their pets and not the people who care for them by feeding them. A well fed cat will still hunt rats and help to keep the rat population down.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: ginger.hobbes@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 5:23:26 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Culliney	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the bill prohibiting individuals from releasing, feeding, watering, or otherwise caring for unrestrained predators on state lands. Non-native mammals are terrible predators on native seabirds and forest birds. Feeding and caring for mammalian predators in urban areas and lowlands allows these predators to spread into more rural and upland native bird habitat. Prohibiting people from supporting predator populations on state lands will go a long way toward reducing the predator base and helping conserve native birds. Thank you for considering this bill, and I encourage you to pass it!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: wahl_susan@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:58:48 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Wahl	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Those who provide food and water to feral animals aid in the prevention of predation on endangered birds. If these animals are provided food, they are less likely to hunt prey such as endangered birds, thus aiding in the prevention of species loss. Human feeding of feral animals also aids in socialization of the animals to humans, facilitating their capture for sterilization and vaccination. While domestic animals are routinely fed, they contribute to reducing the rodent population where they are domiciled. The hunting practices within this state leave a lot to be desired. Hunting dogs are not treated with much care or compassion, nor are they trained to hunt correctly. The measure penalizes those who provide care and feeding of lost dogs that are emaciated and abandoned by their owners. I do agree with the section of the bill that penalizes those who discard animals on public lands, but not those who attempt to mitigate the cruelty by providing food and water to discarded domestic animals. Fines and jail time need to be increased and enforced for the cruelty humans inflict. Much of this bill furthers the decrepit situation the animals have been forced to endure.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: suzette@suzetterudolf.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:35:33 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suzette Y Rudolf Trehern	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: We have a problem with stray animals in Hawaii, however, starving them to control this problem is not the solution. I am sure more humane options are available. Everything starts first with (and must include) understanding, education, communication, and community support. I am opposed to this bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Sylvia Rogers](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE SB2450; Predators
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 6:51:12 PM

I strongly oppose this bill on the grounds that it is totally inhumane to the animals involved, many which are abandoned pets and would slowly starve to death if not cared for. Also, most of these abandoned pets are not spayed or neutered and would procreate before starving to death, thereby perpetuating the suffering. I feel strongly that this bill should be struck down and that Bill SB2512 to deter pet abandonment, along with increased funding for spay-neuter, should replace SB2450. The abandonment of pets is a major contributing factor in the growth of homeless cat colonies and to the suffering of these animals. I can personally testify to the fact that if pets are not abandoned to these colonies, and if the cats are spayed or neutered, the colonies would eventually shrink in size. I feed kitties in a small colony that is not known to a lot of people so not many pets are abandoned there. The rare time that kittens were abandoned to this colony, these kittens, including a sweet little Siamese cat, were trapped and fortunately were able to be adopted to homes. Over the approximately five to six years that I have been feeding this particular colony the size has decreased from 23 cats to only 3 cats. This is because all the cats were spayed or neutered and not many pets were abandoned there. Sadly, there are many areas where pets are abandoned faster than they can be trapped and spayed or neutered so those colonies grow. There are wonderful people who work tirelessly for the feeding, care, trapping, spaying, neutering and general wellbeing of these unfortunate creatures, but they cannot keep up with so many pets that are abandoned. Educating the public to NOT abandon their pets and increasing deterrents would, hopefully, help those who are working so hard for the humane treatment of these animals.

Mahalo and Aloha,

Sylvia Rogers

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: tchmielowicz@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 12:40:49 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Chmielowicz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is not an effective way to deal with this problem. There are other ways to reduce stray cat population without letting animals starve to death. In Addition, simply not feeding cats will just move the problem from state land into other areas. This is not a well thought out attempt to solve this very real problem. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: tres.silva2010@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:00:25 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Treston Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: tulsi@mauiishome.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 4:15:19 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tulsi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Valerie Nguyen](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Fwd: Oppose SB2450
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:34:01 PM

> > Dear Legislators,

> >

> > Please consideration oppose this bill its Ineffective and Cruelty to Innocent Animals! Animals need to eat too just like humans. We need to be compassionate! Many uneaten foods goes to waste everyday when we can share with Animals too! Humane society also needs to Stop euthanize Innocent Animals. Stop Cruelty to Innocent Animals because it may be the causes to natural disaster on earth.

Feeding cats is my therapy well being & for other people too!

> Instead of this misguided bill, please support/fund animal
> organizations such as Catfriends (hcatfriends.org, an all
> volunteer organization whose main goal is the humane
> decrease of the feral cat population on Oahu through TNRM
> methodology (Trap, Neuter, Return, Manage).
> Withholding feeding of feral or pet cats on State lands is
> not only inhumane but counter productive. A hungry cat
> is only going to look/hunt for food and this will only
> increase the possible demise of birds or other endangered
> wildlife. It is a misconception that cats can survive
> on their own. They are dependent on humans for
> food. Withholding food is not going to make the animal
> go away but will only lead to suffering, starvation and
> death. For instance a feral cat from Democrat St.
> which Catfriends took the time to trap, fix, and microchip
> was later caught and dumped by someone way in Kalihi
> Valley. It was later found half dead in someone's
> front yard. Hawaiian Humane Society was notified and
> through the microchip found out one of our volunteers had
> fixed it. She went to retrieve the catt, took it to
> our clinic on School St. where she gave it fluids & wet
> food. It could not even stand up to eat, was severely
> dehydrated and ultimately died the following day due to this
> abandonment. It did not know where to look for food,
> water or shelter and it suffered & died a slow death of
> starvation due to ignorant people. Trapping &
> fixing these cats is the only humane way to decrease the
> population through time, assuming they can no longer replace
> themselves through breeding and uneducated people don't dump
> them all over the Island, unfixed. Instead please give
> organizations such as ours the right or permission to go
> anywhere (state, city or even private property) in order to
> sterilize these animals. Killing them is never the
> answer. Please oppose this bill SB2450.

> > Thank you

> > Sincerely,

> > Valerie Nguyen

February 10, 2016

Dear Legislators,

Please oppose this bill which intends to prohibit the feeding, care or release of cats on State land. Instead of this misguided bill, please support/fund animal organizations such as Catfriends (hicatfriends.org, an all volunteer organization whose main goal is the humane decrease of the feral cat population on Oahu through TNRM methodology (Trap, Neuter, Return, Manage). Withholding feeding of feral or pet cats on State lands is not only inhumane but counter productive. A hungry cat is only going to look/hunt for food and this will only increase the possible demise of birds or other endangered wildlife. It is a misconception that cats can survive on their own. They are dependent on humans for food. Withholding food is not going to make the animal go away but will only lead to suffering, starvation and death. For instance a feral cat from Democrat St. which Catfriends took the time to trap, fix, and microchip was later caught and dumped by someone way in Kalihi Valley. It was later found half dead in someone's front yard. Hawaiian Humane Society was notified and through the microchip found out one of our volunteers had fixed it. She went to retrieve the cat, took it to our clinic on School St. where she gave it fluids and wet food. It could not even stand up to eat, was severely dehydrated and ultimately died the following day due to this abandonment. It did not know where to look for food, water or shelter and it suffered and died a slow death of starvation due to ignorant people. Trapping and fixing these cats is the only humane way to decrease the population through time, assuming they can no longer replace themselves through breeding and uneducated people don't dump them all over the Island, unfixed. Instead please give organizations such as Catfriends the right or permission to go anywhere (state, city or even private property) in order to sterilize these animals. Killing them is never the answer. Please oppose this bill SB2450.

Sincerely,

Valerie Nguyen

Valerie Nguyen

(808) 687-1725

cvjnicole@yahoo.com

617 McNeill St. #306
Honolulu, HI 96813

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: vera.cober@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 8:58:57 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vera Cober	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: In sight of the recent Toxoplasmosis related monk seal deaths the proposed bill seems to aim at reducing the current feline population and therefore minimizing the feces run-off. While several seals have died from this infection in the past year, many more are undergoing surgery or are dying from hook ingestions. However, despite the ongoing problem with fishing gear there seems to be no proposal in sight to enforce the use of barbless hooks, or to at least regulate an out of control fishing community. As far as the seal and cat populations are concerned, most, if not all of the problems are man-made, and it is man once again who decides which species lives, and which species dies. In addition there is the human aspect. Many caregivers are strongly attached to their colony. The cats might be the only thing that gives a caregiver a purpose and meaningful life. To make it illegal for them to care for their colony is inhumane both to the cats AND the caregivers. I am strongly opposed to the bill SB2450, and I urge you to find more suitable solutions that do not implement the suffering and slow death of hundreds, if not thousands of animals. Kind regards, Vera Cober

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: vkushima1957@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 10:00:12 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Kushima	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is without a doubt the most evil intentioned bill I have ever seen. You literally propose to poison and starve innocent, abandoned pets. To murder "by any means necessary". These abused, mistreated domesticated pets are thrown to the curb by thoughtless, careless humans to be made targets but heartless, ruthless thugs with our own Governments loving support. This is disgusting. I am ashamed of my state right now. You should be extending the Aloha spirit to all beings not just a select few. Be a leader, a progressive, shining example of what the world should look like, not Nazi's trying to exterminate the most vulnerable among us. They look to us for salvation and instead we deliver slaughter as always. Do you know what it feels like to starve? The trap, neuter, release program has been proven to work in other states. Stop harassing the good people trying to approach this issue in a positive way and help them. These animals have the right to the small portion of life that was given to them just as we are. You have no right to murder them.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Virginia Mendez](#)
To: [Sen. Clarence Nishihara](#); [Sen. Glenn Wakai](#); [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#); [Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz](#); [Sen. Sam Slom](#); [Sen. Laura Thielen](#); [Sen. Gil Riviere](#); [Sen. Russell Ruderman](#); [Sen. Mike Gabbard](#)
Cc: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: strongly oppose SB2540
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 5:29:55 PM

Dear kind people,

I am writing to urge to OPPOSE THE BILL TO CRIMINALIZE CARETAKERS & KILL ANIMALS!!!!

SB2540 seeks to criminalize feral cat (and dog) caretakers, and lets the state kill innocent animals, "by any means deemed necessary", circumventing state/ county anti-cruelty laws. Excerpts: (c) It shall be unlawful for individuals to release, feed, water, or otherwise care for unrestrained predators on state lands. An individual who violates this subsection shall be assessed an administrative fine not less than: ~ (1) \$100 for a first violation; ~ (2) \$500 for a second violation; or ~ (3) \$1,000 for a third or subsequent violation. NOTICE THIS*** "This subsection shall not apply to hunters that deploy, feed, or water unrestrained dogs in the course of hunting." On any game management area, public hunting area, or forest reserve or other lands under the jurisdiction of the dept. (of land & natural resources), predator s deemed harmful to wildlife by the dept. may be destroyed by any means deemed necessary by the dept. The entire bill can be found here: http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/bills/SB2450_.pdf

Stray cat and dog caretakers not only feed these poor, abandoned animals, but also make sure that they're neutered to prevent them from reproducing. Caretakers volunteer out of the kindness of their hearts, please OPPOSE this bill and do not punish them. Thank you,

Virginia Mendez

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: wannetteg@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:33:48 AM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
WANNETTE GAYLORD	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am an animal advocate. Because an animal is a stray does not mean that we should treat them inhumanely. We must not starve the cats, we can control the population by getting them sterilized. Thank you for letting me testify in opposition to SB2450.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: wailum99@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2450 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:26:19 PM

SB2450

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Coke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov