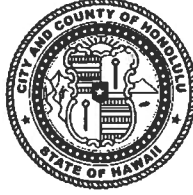


HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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KAHU MĀKA'I

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DEPUTY CHIEFS
HOPE LUNA NUI MĀKA'I

OUR REFERENCE RP-PA

March 14, 2025

The Honorable Kirstin Kahaloe, Chair
and Members
Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems
House of Representatives
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Kahaloe and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 1022, S.D. 2, Relating to Animal Endangerment

I am Major Randall Platt of District 4 (Kailua/Kāne'ohe/Kahuku) of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD respectfully opposes Senate Bill No. 1022, S.D. 2, Relating to Animal Endangerment, as it is written and offers the following concerns.

The introduction of an animal endangerment law will affect our ability to enforce laws and ordinances relating to property damage. A private citizen rescuing an unattended animal not under duress would not be held accountable under the current bill's language. Amending the act to permit only first responders as assessors and investigators for animal endangerment cases will help prevent the potential for malicious damage of another person's property.

The HPD urges you to oppose Senate Bill No. 1022, S.D. 2, Relating to Animal Endangerment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:


Arthur J. Logan
Chief of Police

Sincerely,



Randall Platt, Major
District 4

SB-1022-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:17:24 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/14/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong Support !!! Mahalo



AAA Hawaii

March 11, 2025

Chair Kristin Kahaloa
House Agriculture & Food Systems Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 403
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB 1022 (Lee) – Animal Endangerment
Position: Support

Chair Kahaloa,

AAA Hawaii supports SB 1022_SD2 (Lee) as amended, which strives to protect the health, safety, and well-being of pet animals in unattended vehicles during extreme weather conditions. It provides liability protection to emergency responders, animal control, and individuals when entering unattended vehicles to protect animals in distress.

AAA supports Good Samaritan laws that protects kids and pets left unattended in vehicles, especially in extreme weather condition. Similar to children, animals are equally impacted by extreme weather such as heat. Dogs are not able to sweat like humans do, but instead cool themselves by panting and by sweating through their paws. If they have only overheated air to breathe, they can collapse, suffer brain damage and die of heatstroke. Dogs in hot cars can suffer from potentially fatal heat stroke in as little as 15 minutes, even when a window has been left open and water left in the car.

Words like extreme “cold” or “heat” is rarely defined with specificity in state laws because temperatures inside and outside of vehicles can vary widely. In 90-degree weather, the inside of a vehicle, in direct sunlight, can exceed 130 degrees Fahrenheit. Even on a mild, sunny day, temperatures inside a vehicle can reach deadly levels in just 10 minutes.

AAA is a motorist-based organization with 61 million members nationwide. We recognize that in most circumstances, pets and children are unintentionally left behind in vehicles. Accordingly, we are committed to providing educational reminders and safety tips to drivers that help prevent such actions. We also encourage the public to act appropriately in notifying emergency personnel when they see dangerous situations involving kids and pets in vehicles. But these reminders are sadly not enough, which is why we effective support laws that encourage the public to act fittingly when to prevent inhumane fatalities to our pets.

1130 N. Nimitz Highway, Suite A170, Honolulu, HI 96817

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For all the reasons stated above, AAA Hawaii supports SB 1022.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marianne Kim". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marianne" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Kim".

Marianne Kim
Senior Public Policy Specialist



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Cotati, California 94931

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March 14th, 2025

RE: Memorandum of Support on SB 1022 SD2
Relating to animal endangerment

Dear Chair Kahaloe, Vice Chair Kusch, and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems,

The Animal Legal Defense Fund, the nation's preeminent legal advocacy organization for animals, and its hundreds of members in Hawai'i, strongly support the enactment of SB 1022 and the amendments made in SD2. This bill aims to limit civil and criminal liability to Good Samaritans who rescue domestic animals in distress from motor vehicles after taking reasonable steps. We support this common-sense measure to protect animals and citizens in the state.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund strongly supports "Good Samaritan" laws across the country. Although public awareness has been on the rise about the dangers of leaving children or animals in hot cars as a result of media coverage and outreach campaigns by many groups, including the Animal Legal Defense Fund, too many people remain unaware of the potential risk. Parked cars quickly trap the sun's heat. Even on a day when it's 70 degrees outside, the temperature inside a car with all the windows closed can hit 89 degrees in just 10 minutes, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association. On a hot day, the temperature inside a closed car can shoot as high as 114 degrees in the same amount of time. Leaving the windows open a crack does nothing to eliminate the danger of heatstroke or death.

Dogs and other companion animals are particularly vulnerable to heatstroke because they cannot cool themselves like humans and have a harder time maintaining a comfortable body temperature. And Hawai'i is a state that experiences hotter temperatures than most year-round. Having laws in place to protect citizens from liability in these cases is an important step toward empowering people to act when they see an animal or child in distress. In addition, in order to avoid liability, the Good Samaritan will have had to act in accordance with the commonsense steps outlined in the bill to ensure they have tried all other measures before breaking the window.

Further, there has been no evidence that the passage of these kinds of bills would result in a rash of car window smashing across the state. This bill protects the average constituent who wants to do the right thing and probably would not stand idly by while a dog is in distress anyway despite the current absence of this law. This bill would simply protect them under the outlined limited circumstances. By passing this bill, Hawai'i would join 14 other states with "Good Samaritan" laws in helping save animals from unnecessary deaths.

For these reasons, the Animal Legal Defense Fund strongly supports the enactment of SB 1022 SD1 and respectfully requests that it be passed by your committee. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Vierheilig
Legislative Affairs Manager
Animal Legal Defense Fund
lvierheilig@aldf.org

SB-1022-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 1:36:51 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/14/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support. Thank you.

SB-1022-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 8:50:22 PM

Testimony for AGR on 3/14/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Wiencek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

This bill is one of the easiest votes you get to take this year. Supporting the rescue of animals in dangerous situations is a no-brainer. I urge you all to SUPPORT this bill!

SB-1022-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 9:19:59 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/14/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judith Aikawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of this common sense bill, SB1022 SD2. The bill will save animal lives.

Judith Aikawa, MD, Vice-Chair Maui Humane Society BOD
Home address 37 Apali Way, Kula, HI 96790

SB-1022-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 9:38:31 AM

Testimony for AGR on 3/14/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathy Carroll	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a Hawaii resident and member of the board of directors of the Maui Humane Society, I strongly support SB1022.

This bill is vital for protecting animals from suffering and possibly death resulting from being left unattended in a vehicle. As noted in the text of the bill, temperatures inside enclosed vehicles can reach life-threatening levels very quickly. This is particularly true across Hawaii.

Please pass this life-saving bill without delay.