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Recommended Citation

"WCRO Spring 2007" (2007). *West Coast Regional Office*. 20.
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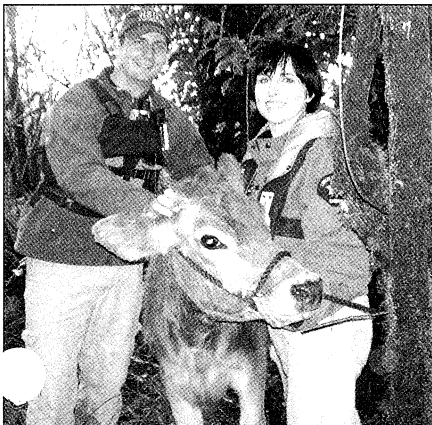


HSUS Helps Rescue OR Cattle

The heavy rainfall that descended on the Pacific Northwest last November led Oregon's Tillamook County Department of Emergency Management to request that The HSUS deploy disaster services staff to the area. The HSUS, accompanied by the Tillamook County Sheriff's marine division and an animal control officer from the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, assisted with locating missing cattle and moving them out of harm.

Initial reports suggested that close to 200 cattle were stranded as floodwaters rose. After assessing the area and meeting with local cattle owners, it was determined that less than 15 cattle were in need of immediate assistance. "We were pleased to find that the majority of cattle owners had moved their animals out of the area or to higher ground prior to the flooding," said HSUS's Drew Moore. "In years past, flooding in the Tillamook area has caused serious damage and many cattle were lost. We commend the Tillamook County Department of Emergency Management and Sheriff's Office for their assistance and concern regarding the animals' safety."

HSUS's Drew Moore and Lincoln County Sheriff's ACO Jackie Beckstead with a cow aided during Oregon floods.



THE HSUS

Canned Hunts Get Canned in Oregon

The HSUS and concerned citizens applauded when the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission unanimously approved an administrative rule in 1999 that banned the unethical and despicable practice of "canned" hunting of exotic and game mammals, sending a strong message that canned hunts have no place in Oregon. Canned hunts involve confining animals to cages or fenced-in enclosures and shooting them at point blank range. These animals are bred in captivity with little or no fear of humans, which make them easy targets for these guaranteed hunts.

After the regulation went into effect, Oregon's one known canned hunt operation, Clover Creek Ranch, flouted the Commission's rule by continuing to operate, drawing in clients from all over the country, including members of Safari Club International.

However in 2001, the Jefferson County District Attorney's office charged Clover Creek Ranch operator Clark Couch with 51 violations of Oregon fish and game laws stemming from the unlawful possession, sale, and hunting of several species of exotic deer kept on an enclosed, private game farm.

Shockingly, the court dismissed all charges, reasoning that non-native exotic deer could not be considered "wildlife" subject to the Commission's control. The Court of Appeals affirmed that reasoning. Finally last November, after more than five years in legal limbo, the Oregon Supreme Court upheld the Commission's authority to prohibit the canned hunting of captive, non-indigenous deer. The Oregon Supreme Court stated with an unqualified "yes" that whether captive deer are "wild" or not, deer clearly fall within the regulatory authority that the Commission has been given over "game mammals," defined to include antelope, black bears, cougar, deer, elk, moose, mountain goats, mountain sheep, and silver



Although Oregon's Supreme Court prohibited canned hunting of several species, some—such as this ibex—were not included and still face being hunted.

gray squirrels.

Since The HSUS filed an amicus brief in support of the Commission's rule prohibiting canned hunting, we hailed the Oregon Supreme Court's important and long-awaited decision. However, the ruling did not reference the Commission's ability to regulate canned hunts of other exotic mammals, such as ibex goats, exotic sheep, Russian boars, and other "trophy" animals.

Until this past November, Clover Creek Ranch had been in full operation, offering a full menu of captive, pen-raised animals to shoot and kill, ranging from \$600 for a Corsican ram to \$2,000 for a yak. Although the Oregon Supreme Court ruling was strong, it likely will not put a stop to the cruel killing of animals on Clover Creek Ranch. Not surprisingly, Clark Couch has threatened to

continued on page 2



Buddy Recovers from Beating

The HSUS posted a reward for information relating to a cruelty case involving two transients who beat a dog (above) with a baseball bat in the Auburn area of King County, Wash. According to King County Animal Services, our reward led to one of the suspects turning himself in. King County Superior Court Judge Jay White sentenced both men to nine months in jail and prohibited them from owning or residing in any home where animals are present. The HSUS commends King County Animal Services, the King County Prosecutor's Office, and Judge White for their swift and serious prosecution of this case. Although Buddy did sustain lasting brain damage from the incident, he has since been adopted into a loving home.

Please call your local animal control agency or police if you suspect animal abuse or cruelty in your area, or call our office for more information.

Coast Guard Comes to Rescue

While HSUS teams were busy aiding the stranded cattle in Tillamook County (see page 1), the U.S. Coast Guard was rescuing people and animals from the same floods in both Washington and Oregon.

In Tillamook, Ore., crews from Station Tillamook Bay evacuated 31 people, four dogs, and eight rabbits from rising flood waters in downtown Tillamook. A Jayhawk

helicopter crew from Coast Guard Air Station Astoria also rescued seven adults, seven children, and two dogs from areas in Tillamook that were unreachable by boat or vehicle. In La Push, Wash., a Dolphin helicopter crew from Port Angeles rescued an elderly couple, their two dogs, and two cats after floodwaters from the Bogachiel River claimed their home. The crew also rescued four people and their dogs trapped in a van near Orting, Wash.

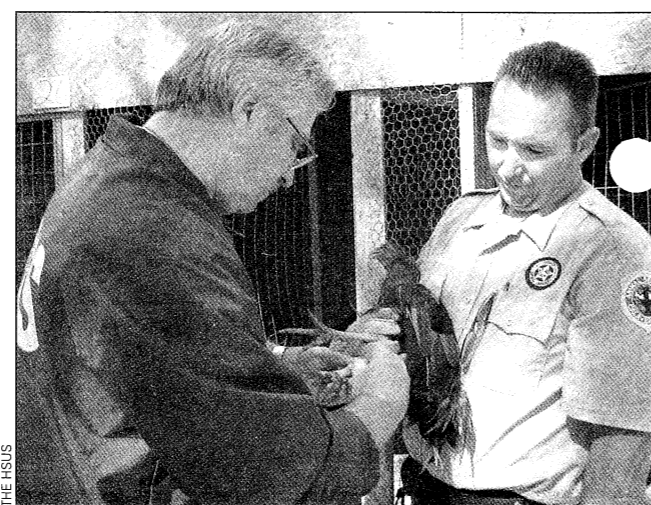
The HSUS commends the U.S. Coast Guard for including pets in evacuations and rescues.

Running A-fowl of Cruelty Laws

For the second time in as many years, authorities in Amador County, Calif., have broken up an alleged cockfighting operation. What started as a drug investigation soon turned into a multi-agency effort resulting in several arrests for drug and cruelty violations.

On Sept. 27, 2006, officers of the Amador County Sheriff's Department, aided by Amador County Animal Services, The HSUS, and other local animal control departments, raided a property near

WCRO Director Eric Sakach (left) examines a bird rescued during a cockfighting raid in Amador County, Calif.



continued from "Canned Hunts," page 1

continue his operation using animals not covered by the regulation. The Attorney General's office, in cooperation with state agencies, will soon be making a determination as to their next course of action.

In the meantime, Sen. Ryan Deckert, Rep. Jeff Barker, and other lawmakers have stepped in to champion this effort by introducing S.B. 572, which will place into statute a clear, indisputable law that outlaws canned hunts of exotic mammals such as ibex goats, Russian boars, Hawaiian black sheep, and four-horned rams. These are just an example of the sorts of "trophy" animals currently on Clover Creek Ranch who still need our protection.

What You Can Do

If you live in Oregon, please contact your state senator, state representative, and Gov. Kulongoski and ask for their support of S.B. 572. To identify your state senator and representative, please visit www.hsus.org/leglookup. To contact Gov. Kulongoski, phone 503-378-4582 or send an e-mail at http://governor.oregon.gov/Gov/contact_us.shtml.

Fiddletown, where they discovered drugs, cockfighting equipment, and more than 130 gamebirds.

WCRO Director Eric Sakach and HSUS's Curt Ransom and Paul Bruce took part in the operation and assisted with securing animals and the gathering of evidence. "It is not at all uncommon for cockfighting suspects to be involved in other illegal activities," said Sakach. "In this case it appears drug trafficking was also going on here."

Led by Director John Vail, Amador County Animal Services has been proactive in seeking out such operations and has shown a zero tolerance policy towards animal fighting. In 2005, Vail and his department led a raid on another Fiddletown property where more than 700 gamebirds were seized (fall 2006 "West Coast Regional News"). "Cockfighting is a cruel and barbaric activity," said Vail. "And this department will continue to go after anyone who participates in these illegal blood sports."

Legislators Praised for Positive Record on Animals

On February 28, 2007, The HSUS and Humane Society Legislative Fund (HSLF) presented awards to 134 members of the 109th Congress for their legislative efforts to protect animals during the past year. U.S. Rep. Christopher Shays (R-Conn.)—who, along with Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), is co-chair of the Congressional Friends of Animals Caucus—received the top honor for his leadership on three animal protection bills in 2006, one of which was enacted into law. Three senators and about three dozen representatives found time to stop by an evening reception in the U.S. Capitol building to accept their awards and visit with HSUS and HSLF staff.

From the West Coast region, Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), Sen. John Ensign (R-Nev.), Rep. Elton Gallegly (R-Calif.), and



Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii) receives his award as a Legislative Leader from HSUS President and CEO Wayne Pacelle (right).

West Coast States Honorees

WCRO is proud to have several legislators among the honorees, including Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), Rep. Sam Farr (D-Calif.), Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.), Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-Ore.), Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), Rep. Elton Gallegly (R-Calif.), Rep. Ken Calvert (R-Calif.), Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.), Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii), Sen. John Ensign (R-Nev.), Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), Rep. Doris Matsui (D-Calif.), Rep. Lynn Woolsey (D-Calif.), Rep. George Miller (D-Calif.), Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Calif.), Rep. Ellen Tauscher (D-Calif.), Rep. Pete Stark (D-Calif.), Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-Calif.), Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-Calif.), Rep. Lois Capps (D-Calif.), Rep. Brad Sherman (D-Calif.), Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.), Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.), Rep. Hilda Solis (D-Calif.), Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-Calif.), Rep. Susan Davis (D-Calif.), Rep. Shelley Berkley (D-Nev.), Rep. David Wu (D-Ore.), Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.), Rep. Jay Inslee (D-Wash.), and Rep. Norman Dicks (D-Wash.).

Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) were all recognized for their work to strengthen the federal law to combat illegal dogfighting and cockfighting. Ensign also led the effort to stop horse slaughter, and Blumenauer also worked to improve funding for the enforcement of animal welfare laws. Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii) was a leader on two important animal welfare bills: one to stop the sale of "downer" livestock, who are too sick or injured to walk to slaughter, and another to stop Class B dealers from trafficking in stolen pets for research. Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.) successfully passed legislation requiring state and local agencies to include pets in their disaster planning, Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-Ore.) led an effort to create animal welfare standards for meat, dairy, and egg products purchased by the federal government, and Rep. Sam Farr (D-Calif.) led efforts to crack down on abusive

From left: HSUS President and CEO Wayne Pacelle, Rep. Ken Calvert (R-Calif.), and HSLF President Michael Markarian at the presentation of Calvert's Legislative Leader award.



Legislative Update

For up-to-date reports of proposed legislation in California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington, go to www.hsus.org/legislation. Click on "State Legislation" in the box in the upper left of the page and you will be taken to a map where you can click on your state.

California

The 2005–2006 legislative session was a huge victory for animals in California. Gov. Schwarzenegger signed four major animal protection bills that serve as examples for other states.

▣ Felony cockfighting penalties (S.B. 1349), sponsored by The HSUS and introduced by Sen. Nell Soto (D-Pomona), increased the penalty for a second or subsequent violation of the animal fighting statute to a felony offense. California became the 33rd state to have felony laws for illegal cockfighting.

▣ Disaster planning for pets (A.B. 450), co-sponsored by The HSUS and introduced by Assembly Member Leland Yee (D-12), the Disaster Planning for Animals Bill requires the Office of Emergency Services to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the California Department of Agriculture to incorporate the California Animal Response Emergency System program into their emergency planning. HSUS is sponsoring an all-day workshop to unveil this MOU to attendees at the Animal Care Conference in April 2007.

▣ Tethering of dogs (S.B. 1578), introduced by Sen. Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach), makes it an infraction or misdemeanor, depending on the offense, for dog owners to tether or chain their pets to stationary objects for more than three hours in a 24-hour period. "Owning a dog can be a very rewarding experience. As a dog owner, I know first hand that having a pet requires a lot of responsibility," said Gov. Schwarzenegger. "This bill helps protect dogs from cruelty and enhances public safety by preventing aggressive animal behavior that can result from inhumane tethering."

▣ Pets in hot cars (S.B. 1806), introduced by Sen. Liz Figueroa (D-Fremont), makes it a crime for pet owners to carelessly leave animals unattended in vehicles during dangerous conditions such as hot weather. "California lawmakers are to be commended for advancing these crucial laws to prevent animals from cruelty and abuse,"



Thanks to Gov. Schwarzenegger's leadership, dogs will no longer suffer continuous tethering in California.

says WCRO Director Eric Sakach. "The anti-cruelty laws of a state are a reflection of basic values and attitudes toward animals, and this collection of bills is a measurable step forward for California. We are especially grateful to Gov. Schwarzenegger; Sens. Soto, Figueroa, and Lowenthal; and Assembly Member Yee for their strong leadership on these important issues. We are introducing several new bills to protect animals in the new 2007–2008 legislative session."

Hawaii

▣ Inhumane trapping. H.B. 278 and H.B. 489 ban the use of leghold, conibear, and snare and body gripping traps in the capture of animals except for use by state, federal, or county officials in protecting public health and safety. S.B. 631 and S.B. 918 also prohibit the use of body gripping traps to hunt game mammals. These bills are working their way through hearings in both the House and Senate. *HSUS Position: Support*

▣ Felony cruelty. H.B. 676 and H.B. 729 set out to create a new felony offense of aggravated animal cruelty. S.B. 1665 is a Senate companion bill to the House measures. Aggravated cruelty is specifically defined to include acts of violence such as torture, beatings, or starvation. This new section only applies

to pet animals (dogs, cats, guinea pigs, domestic rats or mice, caged birds, or rabbits who are not bred for consumption). We are hopeful that proposed amendment language will protect all animals from acts of violence. *HSUS Position: Support*

Oregon

▣ Dissection choice. On July 1, 2005, S.B. 383 went into effect, protecting Oregon's K–12 students who wish to refrain from animal dissection based on religious, ethical, and moral beliefs. S.B. 383 requires that teachers notify students and their parents that they have a choice not to dissect an animal and to opt to use an alternative in order to demonstrate their competency in the course. In passing this bill, Oregon was added to the growing number of states actively involved in placing this decision in the hands of families rather than the state. Since 1985, 14 states have passed laws allowing students to participate in activities that serve as alternatives to dissection.

Washington

▣ Felony animal fighting. Gov. Gregoire signed S.B.6568, which made attending an animal fight a felony.

▣ Inhumane trapping. The HSUS successfully defended Initiative 713, initially passed by popular vote in 2000, that made it a gross misdemeanor to capture an animal with a steel-jaw leghold trap, neck snare, or other body-gripping trap. It is also unlawful to knowingly buy or sell an animal pelt trapped in this manner or to poison any animal using sodium fluoroacetate (Compound 1080) or sodium cyanide.

▣ Exotic animal regulation. H.B. 1418 protects the public from the keeping of dangerous wild animals. Under current law, there are no regulations pertaining to the keeping, breeding, or selling of dangerous wild animals. This bill would prohibit such abuses, protecting both public safety and animal welfare. *HSUS Position: Support*

CA, OR, WA Aim to Protect Calves, Pigs

Bills in three states will help eliminate intensive confinement of pregnant pigs and veal calves if passed. California's A.B. 594, Oregon's S.B. 694, and Washington's H.B. 2085/S.B. 6062 all seek similar protections.

Most veal calves raised in the United States are intensively confined and tethered in crates and stalls too narrow for them to turn around, let alone walk, during their entire 16-week lives before slaughter. Pigs face an even bleaker existence. They spend nearly 80 percent of their lives before slaughter—up to four years—confined in gestation crates, individual metal stalls approximately two feet wide and seven feet long. The pigs can't turn around or take more than a step forward or backward. During their shortened lives, sows are repeatedly impregnated and confined. Unable to exercise or move, they suffer muscle and bone weakness that often leads to lameness. Gestation crates are among the cruelest forms of confinement used on large-scale farms. They are illegal in Arizona and Florida, and the European Union is phasing out both veal and gestation crates. Recently, Smithfield Foods and Canada's Maple Leaf Foods announced that they will phase out gestation crates over the next several years.

Please support these important bills.

How Humane Is Your Society?

With pets residing in 63 percent of American households, most Americans are engaging with an animal (or animals) every day. At The HSUS, we know there is tremendous public interest in and support for protecting animals at higher levels—as evidenced by the scores of laws that pass each year in city councils, state legislatures, and in Congress, as well as by the growing markets for humane products, among other signs.

But what does it mean to live in a humane society? How can we judge our community?

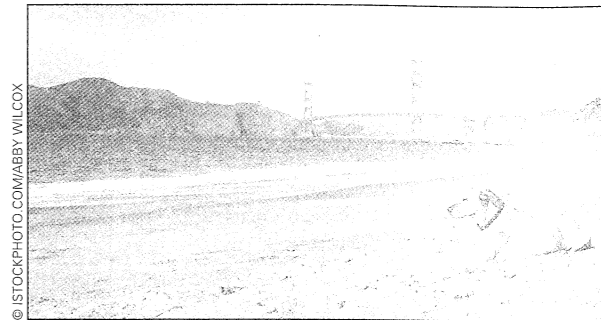
Our new project, the Humane Index, offers residents in the largest 25 U.S. metro areas an opportunity to evaluate how humane their community is. The Index—and the dozen criteria upon which the rankings are based—provides new insights into what it means to be a humane society, but also establishes a benchmark for future measurement. What percent of local pet stores showcase puppies in windows? How much "fur shame" is in your town? Are you represented by congressional compassion?

At www.humaneindex.org, you can compare major U.S. cities and find things you can do to make your city more humane. This highly interactive site provides details about the rankings, lists recent highs and lows in your community, points you to videos and other resources, and gives you one-click ways to take more action!

The San Francisco metro area earned the honor of being America's most humane city, according to the Humane Index. But humaneness is an evolving process, and no metro area is perfect. In fact, every Humane Index city is in the bottom five on at least one measure. The good news, however, is that we all do something well. Every Humane Index city has at least one top 10 ranking. That's reason enough to believe that with a little more work—on each of our parts—we can all live in a humane society.

Ranking of WCRO Cities

San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA	1	San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, CA	5
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	2	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, CA	7
Portland-Vancouver-Beaverton, OR-WA	3	Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA	10



San Francisco tops the list as most humane city.

I want to learn how I can help our animal friends and The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

Please send me information about

- Making a memorial donation to honor the life of a pet, friend, or relative.
- Providing for my pets in my will and in case of emergency.
- Planning my estate and will to help animals and The HSUS.

- Using charitable gift annuities and trusts to support The HSUS.
- Giving The HSUS a gift of stock.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____

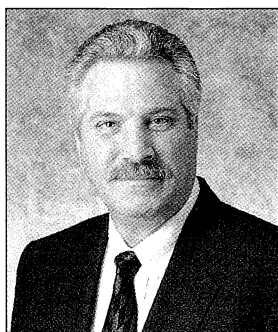
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**Celebrating Animals,
Confronting Cruelty**

**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

WEST COAST REGIONAL OFFICE
P.O. Box 417220
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Director's Report



By Eric Sakach
Director of the West Coast
Regional Office

Hawaii: Anything But Paradise for Animals

Imagine a seemingly perfect day in paradise being shattered by the vision of your beloved pet being chased by men with dogs across your own property. Despite your pleas and begging and that of witnesses, the trespassers corner and then stab the frightened animal to death.

It's difficult to believe, but that's just what happened last October to Porky, a family's pet pig, who lived on a lychee farm in Mililani, in Oahu, Hawaii. Porky had appeared in an Island Air commercial and an episode of the popular television series "Lost," according to news reports. As outrageous as it sounds, the man who killed Porky might not have been charged with anything more serious than a misdemeanor had police not been able to charge him with theft of livestock, which is a felony crime.

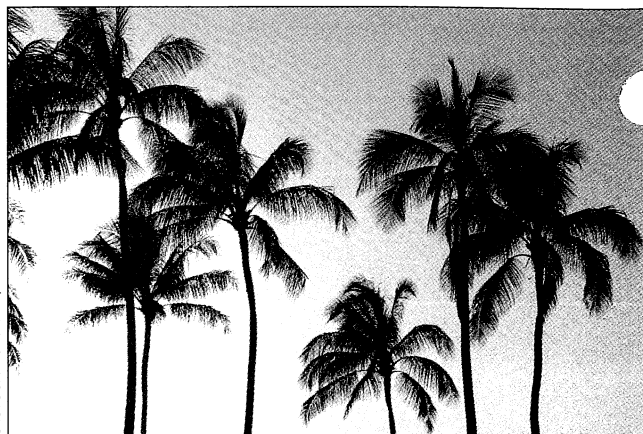
Unfortunately, acts of brutality and violence against animals seem to be anything but uncommon on the Hawaiian Islands. Other equally outrageous cases include the more recent shooting of another pet pig named Kipu by teenagers on the island of Kauai; the discovery of 17 abandoned and starving dogs and three deceased dogs at an Anahola home last December by local

humane society officials, also on Kauai; another case in January 2007 involving three sheep who were beaten, stabbed, and killed, again on Kauai; and the shooting deaths last summer of as many as 12 wild horses by a farmer after the animals allegedly entered his unfenced land and damaged his crops in the Waipio Valley on the big island of Hawaii.

Hawaii is one of eight states that do not have felony penalties for animal cruelty. And existing penalties, if a criminal case is actually filed and prosecuted, are sometimes so low as to be an insult to anyone who cares about animals. For example, there's the 2004 case of a Hilo man who was charged with two misdemeanor counts of animal cruelty after he dragged an injured steer behind his truck to the Hilo dump and abandoned the suffering animal on a pile of rubbish where he was discovered still alive by county workers the following day. Although the charges each carried a penalty of up to a year in jail, the man received a 15-day suspended sentence after one charge was dismissed under a plea agreement and he pleaded no contest to the second.

While dogfighting is a felony crime in Hawaii, it is one of just 16 states where cockfighting remains only a misdemeanor crime and the activity is considered rampant even though law enforcement agencies in Hawaii are reporting a surge in the number of arrests for cockfighting.

There is some encouraging news though. Hawaii Sen. Clayton Hee and Rep. Blake Oshiro proposed bills calling for felony penalties for cruelty to animals. As introduced, S.B. 1665 and H.B. 676 cover



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The beauty of Hawaii belies the fact that animal cruelty is not treated as the serious crime it is. One of only eight states that do not have felony penalties for animal cruelty, Hawaii needs to strengthen its laws to protect animals.

torture, torment, and beating or starving a pet animal but defines "pet animal" only as a dog, cat, rabbit, guinea pig, domestic rodent, or caged bird. These bills do not currently extend to pet pigs, sheep, horses, or other livestock, and they do not address cockfighting. We are hopeful that these bills can be amended to include all or some of these animals. Perhaps then, Hawaii will be closer to deserving the title of island paradise.

As we go to press, we have learned that H.B. 676 has been stripped of its felony provisions in the House Judiciary Committee. S.B. 1665 has passed the Senate intact, but it too must pass through the House Judiciary Committee.

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Celebrating Animals, Confronting Cruelty

The *WCRO Regional News* is a publication of The Humane Society of the United States, West Coast Regional Office, P.O. Box 417220, Sacramento, CA 95841-7220; 916-344-1710. Eric Sakach, director. The office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed on federal holidays.

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