Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.
By
Nicholas Comerford
Dean, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
And
Michael Bruno
Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

HCR 225/HR 195 – REQUESTING THE HAWAII VETERINARY MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION TO CONDUCT A SURVEY OF ITS MEMBERSHIP ON THE
FREQUENCY OF CASES OF RAT LUNGWORM DISEASE IN ANIMAL COMPANIONS

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the House Committee on
Consumer Protection and Commerce:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of the intent of HCR 225/HR 195.

As the home of the animal science program in the University of Hawai‘i System, CTAHR
is interested in the effect that rat lungworm disease may be having on companion
animals. The connection between man and companion animals is strong. In 2015, the
veterinary care of companion animals cost approximately $15.7 billion. The first step
toward solving a problem is to identify it and its scope. This would be the first step in
that process.

While we are in support of the intent of the resolution, we recognize that this is a task
being designated to the Hawai‘i Veterinary Medical Association and defer to their
testimony as to the ability to address the resolution.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of the intent of HCR
225/HR 195.