SB 2113 SD1 – RELATING TO ANIMALS

Chairs Taniguchi and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Rhoads and Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai‘i (UH) appreciates the Legislature’s willingness and understanding to make the amendments found in SB 2113 SD1 based on facts -- to help clear up the existing misinformation provided in public testimony and the resulting misconceptions and perceptions around UH’s animal research practices.

Additionally, the broad language of the original measure that was intended to protect animals from cosmetic or household chemical testing, could have instead inadvertently impacted animal studies intended to help the people of Hawai‘i and to advance scientific knowledge. Examples of these studies include, but are not limited to controlling rat lungworm and eradicating the coqui frog and other invasive species. Additionally, the original measure as drafted could have disrupted the academic endeavors conducted by UH investigators who conduct animal studies for non-medical purposes.

The University of Hawai‘i appreciates the opportunity to comment on this measure.