SB 2113 SD2 – RELATING TO ANIMALS

Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai‘i (UH) supports the intent of the measure.

The University of Hawai‘i is appreciative of the Legislature’s willingness and understanding to make the necessary amendments to previous versions of this measure -- to help dispel the existing misinformation from public testimony that resulted in misconceptions about UH’s federally compliant animal research practices.

While UH is authorized to conduct research on animals for the purpose of science, medicine and education, it has not ever and nor does it intend to use vertebrate animals for cosmetic or household product testing. The animal studies conducted by UH is solely 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 lung worm and eradicating the coqui frog and other invasive species.

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