

HOUSE RABBIT SOCIETY

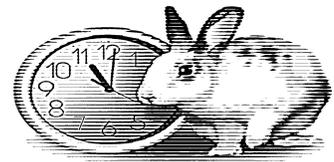
A NATIONAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

International Headquarters

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March 29, 2021

Dear Chairwoman Sylvia Luke and Members of the Committee,

House Rabbit Society is in strong support of SB969, the proposed legislation that would ban the manufacture and sale of fur in Hawaii.

In the US, millions of families share their homes with rabbits as companion animals – these domestic rabbits who are part of the family are the same breeds and have the same social personalities as the rabbits that are raised for meat and fur.

House Rabbit Society was founded in California and has 28 chapters and hundreds of licensed educators across the country. House Rabbit Society has been rescuing rabbits that would otherwise be euthanized in animal shelters and finding them loving homes for over 30 years. We strongly support a ban on the manufacture and sale of rabbit fur, which would save the lives of many rabbits who die for this unnecessary fashion accessory.

With House Rabbit Society members and educators in Hawaii who love their companion rabbits, we know this issue is near and dear to their hearts.

Rabbit fur is not just a byproduct of rabbit meat. Rabbits who are raised for meat are killed at a younger age than rabbits who are raised and slaughtered for fur. The fur from rabbits slaughtered for meat is used for toys and trim; the fashion industry relies on rabbits raised and killed solely for their fur. The meat from these fur rabbits is too “old” for human consumption.

In 2019, California became a more humane state with the passage of AB44, the fur sale ban. In 2021, Hawaii can become a more humane state with the passage of this fur sale ban.

On behalf of the rabbits, House Rabbit Society urges you to pass SB969.

Sincerely,

Anne Martin, PhD

Executive Director, House Rabbit Society

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