

February 13, 2013 Wednesday

Item #1
Bill 1 (2013)

Aloha All, Regarding Proposed Bill 1/2013, relating to the Keeping of Animals

I grew up on a farm and have lived in Hawaii for 33 years, including fifteen years in Palolo Valley. I love living in the Palolo Valley for the serenity. I am a retired State of Hawaii, Department of Education, disabled senior. I am home often.

I am opposed to bill 1/2013.

The increase from two hens to seven hens and a rooster per household is a huge concern for our city communities. These are farm animals.

When a rooster is with hens he fertilizes the eggs that each hen lays. One hen lays an egg daily (except when they molt) in her nest that will accumulate to about a dozen per hen. **When a hen lays an egg it declares the egg laying it in a loud shrill noise, repeatedly, similar to a rooster, a disturbance that echoes in our valleys.** All the people around the area will hear each of the six hens after it has laid its egg each day from just one household, along with the repetitively crowing rooster. **This creates a racket in our now peaceful residential communities**

The families that have chickens can only eat so many eggs before they grow tired of them. The bill says they can't sell eggs so they will be thrown out! Or the eggs will be sold illegally. The police are very busy with more important issues and will be annoyed with complaints of folks selling their chicken eggs. A fertilized egg is not tasty. The family doesn't need a rooster to fertilize the hen if they are not allowed to breed.

After the egg lying, each of the seven hens sets on the twelve fertilized eggs for twenty-one days. Twelve chicks will be hatched of both hens and roosters. That will accumulate to approximately eighty-four chickens running around crowing and declaring their eggs and or challenging another rooster in just one household.

Chickens escape their enclosures, become feral in our neighborhoods streets, interfering with traffic, creating hazards & increase their population.

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Chicken manure is extremely smelly and unsanitary, which flies are drawn to lay maggots in and the larva hatch into flies. This is a very unsanitary situation in a city that will bring diseases.

Roosters crow in the wee hours of the morning about three AM because of the street lights to disturb sleeping residents. The rooster thinks it daylight and continues crowing throughout the day and evening, back and forth with other roosters in the area. Roosters will attack each other, a cock fight, one will be killed, the winner will have the hens to breed.

Both roosters and hens will fly at people, especially small children, to dig them with their claw feet and the spurs of the rooster will cut your skin. I recall my younger sister was repeatedly attacked by our family rooster until it was slaughtered. Again, when I was married we had a rooster who flew at my young daughter and nearly put her eye out with his spur, he too was slaughtered. Chickens can be very vicious and dangerous when a hen is protecting her young and a rooster protecting his turf.

This new bill 1/2013 also decreases the distance of the current 300 ft to 25 ft.

This is an extremely close proximity for the smell, the flies and the noise that a flock of chickens create.

Reasons to oppose bill 1/2013:

1. The excessive noise and stench in our residential communities in Bill 1-3 can't be stopped nor enforced with 7 chickens.
2. Flies breed in the chicken manure increasing diseases for citizens.
3. Increased closeness 25 ft. to our neighbors with noisy animals that creates stress.
4. Increase amount of feral chickens on our busy streets.
5. Increase amount of feral breeding and a heavier feral chicken population.
6. Increase responsibility of our police force to enforce the new law.
7. Keeping of chickens for eggs is not cost effective. 50% of chicken feed costs \$23 that lasts only 2 weeks. A bale of straw costs \$20. A dozen of eggs costs \$3.00. 7 dozen of eggs laid in two weeks costs \$21.00
8. The city is promoting animal husbandry.

Please vote to kill this bill 1/2013 as Honolulu is a city not a farm in the country.

Sharon Young-Nakaue a concerned constituent of our community.

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