

Speaker Registration/Testimony

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Name Lissa Kam, DVM
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Email ohanavethospital@gmail.com
Meeting Date 04-10-2017
Council/PH Council
Committee
Agenda Item Bill 22
Your position on the matter Comment
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Dear Honorable Council Members,

My name is Dr. Lissa Kam and I have been a practicing veterinarian for the last 30 years. I have participated in the low cost spay/neuter program since its conception and have agreed to perform these surgical procedures at a significant reduced cost. The reimbursements have never covered the true cost to perform the procedures, however I feel that providing this service is my contribution to the community. Though the reimbursed fees have not completely covered the true medical costs to perform the surgeries, at no time were the certificate animals treated any differently in the care and treatment than those animals without the certificate. Though some of these certificate animals were feral and unowned cats, they were treated with the same standard of care as owned cats. Therefore I do not understand why in Bill 22 section E you are asking for the veterinarians to be reimbursed a smaller fee just because the animals are feral. Your requesting a lower fee shcedule for the "feral" cat certificates does not mean the veterinarians will be doing less care on these animals. If this bill should pass with these changes, I may choose to not participate in the program. Working in Kalihi, many of the low cost certificates submitted to our hospital for surgery were for feral cats in the community. My participation with this type of fee schedule would not be a wise business decision for my practice.

Written
Testimony

Please reconsider the changes in the fees. The change may actually decrease the number of procedures performed due to less practices participating.

Thank you for your time and considerations.

Respectfully submitted,

Lissa Kam, DVM
Ohana Veterinary Hospital Inc.