

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY & CUSTOMER SERVICES

Voting Members:

Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, Chair; Matt Weyer, Vice-Chair
Radiant Cordero, Scott Nishimoto

Committee Meeting Held
August 21, 2025

Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair, City Council
City and County of Honolulu

Mr. Chair:

Your Committee on Government Efficiency & Customer Services, which considered Bill 5 (2025) entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ANIMAL RECOVERY,"

introduced on January 7, 2025 and which passed first reading at the January 29, 2025 Council meeting, reports as follows:

The purpose of Bill 5 (2025) is to address farm animal control by repealing Article 4 in Chapter 3 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 relating to "Poundmasters" and adding a new Article 4 to be known as "Farm Animal Control Contractor".

Kimberly Hashiro, Director of the Department of Customer Services provided comments.

Your Committee has prepared a CD1 version of the Bill, which makes the following amendments:

- A. Removes SECTION 2 of the bill, as ROH Chapter 3, Article 4 ("Poundmasters"), was repealed by Ordinance 25-26, effective June 30, 2025. Renumbers subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly.

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
Ke Kanihela o ke Kalana o Honolulu
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

ADOPTED ON SEP 3 2025

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 300

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY & CUSTOMER SERVICES

Voting Members:

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- B. Amends renumbered SECTION 2 of the bill, which creates a new ROH article entitled "Farm Animal Control Contractor," as follows:
1. Adds the new article to ROH Chapter 12 ("Animals and Fowls"), instead of to ROH Chapter 3 (as a replacement for the now-repealed Article 4);
 2. Throughout the new article, replaces all references to the Department of Customer Services with general references to the City (except as noted in amendment B.5.a);
 3. In proposed ROH § 12-___.1, amends the definition of "Estray" to refer to property generally (rather than property of a private individual or of the government), and remove "hog" from list of animals contained within the definition;
 4. In proposed ROH § 12-___.1, clarifies that the definition of "Farm Animal Control Contractor" is not limited to individuals, but may also include a partnership, corporation, or other legal entity;
 5. Amends proposed ROH § 12-___.2(a) to:
 - a. State that the Department of Customer Services or another department identified by the Mayor may enter into a contract with one or more farm animal control contractors; and
 - b. Clarify that the farm animal control contractor is responsible for the reasonable (rather than "proper") care of any estrays within their possession;

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6. In proposed ROH § 12-___.3, clarifies that the farm animal control contractor shall bear all expenses for the capture, removal, safekeeping, and reasonable care of estrays;
 7. Adds a new proposed ROH § 12-___.4 ("Application for impounding"), which sets out what is required before capturing and removing an estray from private property, and renumbers subsequent sections accordingly;
 8. Adds a new proposed ROH § 12-___.6 ("Notice and method of humane disposal"), which outlines the notice requirement after impounding an estray, and the process required before which the farm animal control contractor may proceed to humanely dispose of the estray; and
 9. Deletes the proposed section authorizing administrative rulemaking.
- C. Amends renumbered SECTION 4 of the bill to list the effective date as July 1, 2026.
- D. Makes miscellaneous technical and nonsubstantive amendments.

Your Committee on Government Efficiency & Customer Services is in accord with the intent and purpose of Bill 5 (2025), as amended herein, and recommends that it pass second reading, be scheduled for public hearing, and be referred back to the Committee in the form attached hereto as Bill 5 (2025), CD1. (Ayes: Cordero, Dos Santos-Tam, Nishimoto, Weyer – 4; Noes: None.)

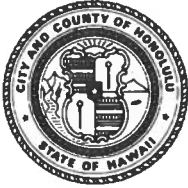
Respectfully submitted,


Committee Chair

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
Ke Kanihela o ke Kalana o Honolulu
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

ADOPTED ON **SEP 3 2025**

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. **300**



HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ORDINANCE _____

BILL 5 (2025), CD1

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO ANIMAL RECOVERY.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to address farm animal control.

SECTION 2. Chapter 12, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("Animals and Fowls"), is amended by adding a new article to be appropriately designated by the Revisor of Ordinances and to read as follows:

"ARTICLE __: FARM ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACTOR

§ 12-__.1 Definitions.

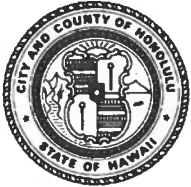
For the purposes of this article, the following definitions apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

Estray. Any horse, mule, ass, sheep, goat, or cattle that is found at large, and not upon the land of the owner or person having charge of such animal, or found doing damage to property.

Farm Animal Control Contractor. The individual, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity contracted by the city for the capture, removal, safekeeping, and reasonable care of any estray, which includes but is not limited to impounding and transporting estrays to a pound or back to the animal's owner.

§ 12-__.2 Duties.

- (a) The department of customer services or another department identified by the mayor may enter into a contract with one or more farm animal control contractors for the capture and removal of estrays. The animal control contractor shall be responsible for the safekeeping and reasonable care of any estray within the farm animal control contractor's possession.
- (b) The farm animal control contractor shall give estrays a sufficient quantity of food and water within reason, and any farm animal control contractor that abuses or neglects any estray in the farm animal control contractor's charge will forfeit the



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fees which the farm animal control contractor would otherwise collect, and will also be liable to the owner thereof for damages.

§ 12-__3 Expenses incurred—Appropriations.

The farm animal control contractor shall bear all expenses for the capture, removal, safekeeping, and reasonable care of estrays; provided that the council may from time to time make such appropriations to assist the city in providing funding for the farm animal control contractor as its discretion and judgment are deemed necessary.

§ 12-__4 Application for impounding.

The farm animal control contractor may not capture and remove an estray that has trespassed on private property until the person wishing to impound the estray has signed a statement setting forth the number and species of the estray, the locality trespassed upon, the name of the owner or owners of the estray, if known, together with the date on which the estray was taken and the amount of damages claimed.

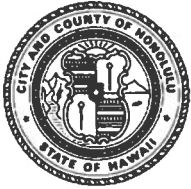
§ 12-__5 Annual report required.

The farm animal control contractor shall render a full report of its activities and operations relating to the impounding of estrays to the city and the council within one month after the end of each fiscal year. The report must include, among other things, the number of complaints regarding estrays communicated to the city, the number of estrays actually impounded by the farm animal control contractor, and the number of estrays returned to their owners by the farm animal control contractor.

§ 12-__6 Notice and method of humane disposal.

The farm animal control contractor shall publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the city as soon as possible from the time of impounding of any estray, giving a full description of the same together and with an announcement on the day the estray will be set for humane disposal. The farm animal control contractor shall give a reasonable time for the owner of the estray to claim the estray. If the owner does not claim the estray within a reasonable time, the farm animal control contractor may proceed with the humane disposal of the estray."

SECTION 3. The Revisor of Ordinances shall, pursuant to the Revisor's authority under SECTION 2 of Ordinance 23-7, update the Reporting Requirements Table to include the reporting requirements enacted by SECTION 2 of this ordinance.



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A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

SECTION 4. This ordinance takes effect on July 1, 2026.

INTRODUCED BY:

Andria Tupola

Tyler Dos Santos-Tam

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

January 7, 2025
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 20 ____.

RICK BLANGIARDI, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu

Report Title:

Poundmasters; Farm Animal Control Contractor

Description:

Replaces the repealed ROH article related to poundmasters with a new article addressing the duties and functions of a farm animal control contractor. Takes effect on July 1, 2026.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.