BILL070(25)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 206

*ZONING & PLANNING (ZON)

***ZONING & PLANNING (ZON) Meeting**

Meeting Date: May 21, 2026 @ 09:00 AM

Support: 1

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Stephanie Kendrick	skendrick@hawaiianhumane.org	96826-1806
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Hawaiian Humane Society	Support	May 19, 2026 @ 05:27 PM

Hawaiian Humane Society
People for animals. Animals for people.

Date:	May 19, 2026
To:	Chair Esther Kiaʻāina Vice Chair Tommy Waters and Members of the Committee on Zoning & Planning
Submitted By:	Steph Kendrick, Vice President of Community Engagement Hawaiian Humane Society, 808-356-2217
RE:	Support for Bill 70 (2025), CD2 Proposed, Relating to Parks and Playgrounds Thursday, May 21, 9 a.m., City Council Chamber

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Aloha Chair Kiaʻāina, Vice Chair Waters and members of the Committee on Zoning and Planning. The Hawaiian Humane Society is in strong support of Bill 70 (2025), CD2 Proposed, Relating to Parks and Playgrounds.

Dog parks support the human-animal bond, integrate our pets into our daily lives, provide exercise for pets and their owners, and create a sense of community that benefits people and animals. Offering developers credit for the inclusion of dog parks when they seek to fulfill requirement for the dedication of land for park and playground purposes makes enormous sense.

A survey conducted by Ward Research last year on behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society found that 59 percent of Oʻahu households own pets and 41 percent own dogs. Yet even after the very welcome recent decision to double park access for leashed dogs, only 72 of the 308 city parks across Oʻahu allow dogs to walk with their owners. Dog owners are starved for places to get their pets the exercise they need to be healthy and well behaved. Oʻahu also lags the national average for the number off-leash dog parks per capita. Allowing developers to get credit for helping to fill these gaps is a step in toward helping pet owners lead healthier lives and provide needed enrichment for their canine family members.

We urge you pass Bill 70, Proposed CD2, to encourage developers to create resources that support the many local families who include dogs as members of their ʻohana. Mahalo for your consideration.