

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2006

The Honourable York Y N Chow, SBS, JP,  
Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Dear Dr. Chow,

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Amendment) Bill 2006

Further to the meeting of the Bills Committee on the captioned bill held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2006, we would like to state our joint position regarding the new proposal given out by the Administration, namely a penalty of a maximum fine of HK\$200,000 and imprisonment of 2 years:

1. We welcome the Administration's decision to further increase the proposed financial penalty to the level stated above. **However we do hope that the maximum fine will be increased still further to HK\$250,000.** Should this not be possible we could accept the Administration's proposal of a maximum fine of HK\$200,000.
2. However, in order to give society a clear and determined message that cruelty to animals will not be tolerated and will attract a heavy penalty of real deterrent effect, **we believe a maximum custodial penalty of 2-years imprisonment is inadequate.**
3. **We sincerely request that the Administration set the maximum penalty of imprisonment to 3 years.**

Yours sincerely,

Animals Asia Foundation  
Animal Earth  
Asia Animal Protection Network  
BagMeHome  
Cheung Chau Animal Care  
Companion Animal Federation  
Concern Group for Pets

HK Cats  
Hong Kong Alleycat Watch  
Hong Kong Animal Adoption Centre  
Hong Kong No Kill City Forum  
Hong Kong Rabbit Society  
Lamma Animal Welfare Centre  
Laboratory Animal Defenders  
Society for Abandoned Animals  
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (HK)

cc. Hon James Tien, Chairman of the Bills Committee; and  
All members of the Legislative Council