



· 八十三週年紀念 · 83th Anniversary ·

Society for the Prevention
of Cruelty to Animals (HK)
香港愛護動物協會

Mrs. Selina Tsang
譚美蓉女士
Patron Patron

9th November 2006

Ref : SC/L006/11/2006

Mr. Lau Ka Ki, Wallace
PAS for Health, Welfare and Food (Food & Env Hygiene) 1
Health, Welfare and Food Bureau
20/F., Murray Building
Garden Road
Hong Kong

RECEIVED
9 NOV 06
11.26am.

Dear Mr. Lau,

Re: Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Amendment) Bill 2006

Further to your letter of November 8, 2006, the SPCA is pleased that the Government has responded positively to the various presentations of views submitted during Bills Committee meetings over recent months.

As you are aware, most of the animal-welfare concern groups, including the SPCA, have communicated our collective view through the Honk Kong No Kill City Forum and our view on the request for increased penalties remains the same. Having stated this, we at the SPCA recognise that the Government's plan to raise the maximum fine for animal cruelty to \$200,000 and the maximum prison sentence to two years is seen as the best the administration can do to be able to gain support from all sectors at this point in time. It is also seen as being in line with other progressive, animal-friendly jurisdictions, and we are satisfied with it. If subsequently a higher penalty or 3 years prison become possible, then clearly the SPCA will support this.

While we are grateful that the government has agreed to increase the penalties in line with international standards, penalties are only a small part of the solution and hopefully the deterrent effect they represent will help to reduce the deliberate acts of cruelty.

We are also extremely pleased that the Government has agreed to undertake a full review and amendment of the relevant laws and has also agreed to include the major stakeholders - including representatives from animal-welfare groups - in this review and subsequent amendments of the law. We strongly urge you to include in this review all relevant CAPs including 132, 139, 167, 168, 169, 170, 340, 421 and look forward to being invited to the initial meeting to agree terms of reference and so on.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

Steven Calpin
Executive Director