

September 13th, 2006

Clerk to Bills Committee on
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Amendment) Bill 2006
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong
(852) 2869 9200
Fax no (852) 2537 1851

By fax & post

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a member of the Animal Welfare Advisory Group (AWAG), I was involved in the consultation on the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) amendment in the AWAG meetings.

Although the amendment is long overdue, the proposal to increase the maximum fine to \$100,000 and imprisonment for 12 months under the Ordinance and to increase the maximum fine to \$25,000 under the Regulation is much needed. The suggested amendment will enhance the deterrent effect against cruelty to animals and is welcomed by many people in Hong Kong who care for animals.

I would add that the Judiciary, thus far, appears not to fully comprehend the seriousness in cruelty to animals by continually giving watered-down penalties to offenders. The increment in fines and imprisonment will therefore be more meaningful should the Legislature find, in its wisdom, to spell out to the Judiciary the spirit for such increments.

Your sincerely,



Kenneth Koh
Managing Director

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