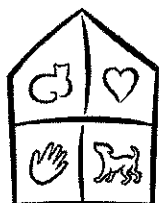


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**Date:** March 14, 2013

**To:** **Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee**  
Brad Witt, Chair  
Sal Esquivel, Vice-Chair  
Caddy McKeown, Vice-Chair

**From:** Emily Davidsohn  
Investigations Staff Attorney, Oregon Humane Society

**Re:** House Bill 2783

Established in 1868, the Oregon Humane Society is the state's largest and oldest animal welfare organization with over 50,000 supporters statewide. We are not affiliated with any local or national organization.

**We urge you to vote yes on HB 2783.**

A bicycle chained to a tree in a front yard will begin to rust in a matter of weeks here in the Pacific Northwest. Lawn furniture accidentally left out for more than a couple days in Oregon becomes water logged and likely damaged for future use. These minor abrasions to inanimate personal property pale in comparison to the physical and psychological injury that results from chaining a dog outside in perpetuity.

Large cities across the country boast numerous doggie daycares, dog groomers, dog boarding facilities and even dog bakeries, it is apparent that as a society we believe that our pets are part of our family. Forcing those "family members" to languish on chains for the entirety of their lives is akin to torture for those animals. A myriad of consequences inevitably befall a chained dog: mischievous passersby often taunt them, the loneliness and boredom consumes them to the point that it alters their personality, and although the law requires "minimum" care, what these dogs receive often falls woefully short of that.

The reason dogs have worked themselves so seamlessly into the confines of what we consider "family" is their capacity to embody those invaluable qualities that only a family member can; love, loyalty, strength and support. Dogs are resilient creatures and when they are given a second lease on life their ability to embrace that new life without regard to past injustices is unparalleled.

Oregon's chained dogs deserve a chance to exercise that resilience and devote those familial qualities to a person they love. Cats are said to have nine lives, Oregon's chained dogs have at least two and you can unleash them into their second chapter by voting yes on HB 2783.

**Please vote yes on HB 2783.**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emily Davidsohn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

Emily Davidsohn  
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