



Oregon Veterinary Medical Association

February 18, 2015

House Bill 2824

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer and Committee Members:

The Oregon Veterinary Medical Association is neutral on House Bill 2824, as the issue of landlord-tenant rights is outside of our expertise.

However, as veterinary professionals we do have a policy on **cat declaw**. In summary, it states: The declawing of cats may become necessary for medical or behavioral reasons, and should be performed as a last resort instead of abandonment, relinquishment, or euthanasia. The decision to perform surgery to declaw a cat should be made by the owner in consultation with their veterinarian and only after the veterinarian provides the client with a complete education with regard to the normal scratching behavior of cats, the procedure itself, as well as potential risks to the patient.

With regard to **canine devocalization**, the American Veterinary Medical Association notes that the surgical procedure should only be performed by veterinarians as a final alternative to euthanasia after behavioral modification to correct excessive vocalization has failed and after discussion of potential complications from the procedure with the owner.

Sincerely,

Glenn

Glenn M. Kolb
Executive Director



Oregon Veterinary Medical Association

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