

Hello Ms. Hernandez, and all concerned parties,

I know you are likely being flooded with e-mails, calls and letters regarding the meeting to be held May 26th, so I will be brief.

I'm a veterinarian in Ohio, and a recently appointed state director with the Paw Project. As a veterinarian and a pet owner, it is clear to me that performing procedures such as declawing, and devocalization offers no benefit to any animal, and can only do harm. There is no acceptable reason to subject our pets to such harm.

As you move forward, I hope you consider not bringing HB 3494-A to a vote without amendments to remove all non-therapeutic exceptions. The way it stands, far too much leeway exists and the language leaves cases so open to interpretation and manipulation, we are concerned that it will have very little practical impact in helping the animals.

No doubt the attached information is not new to you, but I include it for sake of completion.

Thank you so much,

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