

Hello Maria,

I am deeply troubled by the state of Oregon right now. I find it completely appalling that bill HB 3494-A contains unacceptable loopholes that will not protect dogs and cats.

The bill would allow declawing and devocalization to continue unchecked in Oregon at the sole discretion of veterinarians. The bill is not a step forward for animals. Rather, it is a step backwards in the movement to protect animals from unnecessary harm.

Please, please visit Paw Project's website, explaining and showing how painful this procedure is.

- Declawing is amputation; it is not merely the removal of the claws. To declaw a cat, the veterinarian cuts off the last knuckles of a cat's paw – cutting through bone, tendons, skin and nerves. In a person, it is equivalent to amputating each finger or toe at the last joint.
- Declaw surgery can be an extremely painful procedure with associated health risks and complications such as infection.
- Declaw surgery can produce permanent lameness, pain or arthritis.

I am not proud to be an Oregonian if this bill passes. Please amend bill HB 3494-A to save our kitties from this barbaric procedure.

Thank you,
Alisha Kryszylowicz
Gresham, OR