



Date: March 29, 2017

To: **House Committee on Judiciary**
Representative Jeff Barker, Chair
Representative Andy Olson, Vice-Chair
House Democratic Leader Jennifer Williamson, Vice-Chair
Representative Chris Gorsek
Representative Mitch Greenlick
Representative Ann Liniger
Representative Bill Post
Representative Tawna Sanchez
Representative Sherrie Sprenger
Representative Duane Stark
Representative A. Richard Vial

From: **Sharon Harmon**
CEO, Oregon Humane Society

Re: **House Bill 3282**

Established in 1868, the Oregon Humane Society (OHS) 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 are here today to ask for your support of HB 3282.**

Farming of livestock is generally associated with the production of food, fiber, eggs, and labor. The traditional uses for livestock do not pertain to parrots who are themselves the commodity, much like dogs and cats, and as such should enjoy the same protections under Oregon's minimum care law.

Including parrots in the definition of livestock for purposes of the criminal animal cruelty laws misrepresents the role of parrots in this state. Over the past two years OHS has adopted out 475 birds. Those birds were adopted by people seeking the unique companionship of a bird, not individuals operating a commercial enterprise.

Parrots have specific dietary and environmental requirements in order to maintain their health and welfare and we expect their owners to meet those needs. By removing parrots kept as

companion animals from the definition of livestock in ORS 609.125, you would be awarding them the necessary protection of the minimum care requirements that other domestic animals already benefit from.

Please vote yes on HB 3282.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharon Harmon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Sharon Harmon
CEO, Oregon Humane Society
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(503) 416-2992