

To whom it may concern,

My name is Mindy Roberts, and I would like to send a quick message as to why I think "shelter dogs" should be the official state dog. The problem with over burdening county programs with stray, neglected and abused animals is nationwide. I have volunteered with programs in 4 different states, I have seen almost every breed pass through the doors of pounds and rescues. Making the state dog a shelter dog will encourage people to think about adoption, reducing costs and hopefully, it will save healthy animals from euthanasia. It won't cost the state anything to enact but will help reduce costs in the long term.

I have attached a couple of pictures of my Boston Terrier named Wally to this email. Wally and his brother are not from here but their story is one that repeats far too often. Wally was slated for euthanasia at two different places after he was on the adoption floor too long. Thankfully, Facebook alerts drew my attention to his situation and I was able to adopt him before it was too late. Please, do what you can for dogs in shelters and demonstrate to the nation that Oregonians are compassionate and that we are a state that values life in its many forms. Vote, "Yes!" on H.C.R 16, and make Wallys everywhere the Oregon state dog.

Thank you for your time and service to the people of our state.

Mindy Roberts



