



Date: May 22, 2017

To: **Senate Committee on Judiciary**
Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senator Kim Thatcher, Vice-Chair
Senator Michael Dembrow
Senator Dennis Linthicum
Senator James Manning Jr.

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

Re: **House Bill 3283-A2**

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 3283 and the proposed A2 amendment.**

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 3283 and the proposed A2 amendment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharon Harmon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sharon" being more prominent than the last name "Harmon".

Sharon Harmon
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