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## <u>Testimony of Humane Oregon on Senate Bill 326 (2017)</u> Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

February 8, 2017

Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Olsen, and members of the Committee:

My name is Amy Sacks. I am here today as a board member of Humane Oregon. Humane Oregon is a nonprofit organization formed in 2014 to help advocate for animals in Oregon's political process and elections. Although we have existed only a short time, we enjoy an excellent reputation as a moderate but progressive animal welfare group, with many of Oregon's leading animal welfare advocates on our board of directors.

In addition to serving on the board of Humane Oregon, I am the founder and the executive director of The Pixie Project, a non-profit animal adoption center and rescue in Portland.

Humane Oregon supports passage of SB 326. The bill would allow a tax credit of up to \$100 for adoption of a dog or cat from an animal shelter or rescue entity. We support this as one of many ways to help encourage more people to adopt dogs and cats and thereby give homes to more animals that otherwise might not have homes.

According to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 2.6 million cats and dogs are euthanized in animal shelters each year nationwide. Oregon's shelters and rescues do a better job than many states at finding homes for animals, and even find homes for a substantial number of animals from other places. Senate Bill 326 would further encourage and promote this great work.

Thank you for considering our comments.