



House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources

House Bill 4045 (Neutral)

February 12, 2018

Dear Chair Clem, Vice Chair McLain, Vice Chair Sprenger and Committee Members,

While the intentions behind House Bill 4045 are good, we instead encourage a much broader discussion with regard to how animals are sold or adopted in Oregon.

Of particular interest is whether there is effective oversight and enforcement of animal rescue groups:

- Dogs continue to be imported into our state by various groups, including animal shelters and animal rescue groups.
- Some of these imported animals are entering Oregon without the required Certificate of Veterinary Inspection – a health certificate.
- In some instances, veterinarians have alerted us to illnesses and diseases from imported dogs. And if the appropriate documentation – this would include the CVI and other information required of animal rescue groups following passage of Senate Bill 6 – either doesn't exist or isn't available, there can't be the necessary traceback to learn more about the animal's origin and health.
- What's falling through the cracks? Where are we deficient? And how can we shore up these concerns?

Along with the Oregon Humane Society, we have discussed our concerns with Representative Boone, and she supports our looking at the issue more fully during the legislative interim. Our goal would be to return in 2019 with legislation that addresses some problems with existing laws that will more effectively serve the animals as well as the public.

Sincerely,

Glenn M. Kolb
Executive Director