

## Watts Remy

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**From:** Renee Windsor-White <rev.reneew2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 25, 2019 1:32 PM  
**To:** SENR Exhibits  
**Subject:** In support of SB 268

I write in support of SB 268 as both an individual who regularly adopts both dogs and cats from rescues (primarily SafeHaven Humane Society) and as a professional in the animal care community. (I work on contract with the OSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital as their Chaplain.)

Companion animal overpopulation continues to be a problem in the state of Oregon. I believe this support for individuals adopting animals rather than purchasing them (whether from breeders or online) will be a great step forward in lessening the financial burden for those adopting. Many rescue organizations and humane societies rely on the funds gained through adoption fees to support their facilities and programs. I believe that allowing individuals to deduct the cost of adopting will stimulate the number of adoptions as well as allowing rescues to, if needed, increase their adoption fees and so increase the funding for other programs. Many rescues also use the funds gained from adoption fees to educate on animal care and fund low-cost spay and neuter clinics, hence working on the overpopulation problem at the beginning of the cycle as well.

As one who works with clients as their companion animals face medical situations, I constantly see the incredible value that animals bring to human lives. Some of these animals are expensive, pure bred show dogs. Others were literally once scruffy little kittens that wandered onto someone's porch. Each and every one of these animals

is showing humans how to love and be loved, an invaluable lesson that makes us all better people.

I appreciate the committee's attention to this email and hope that it adds value to the committee's deliberations on SB 268. It is a bill that should be passed, both through committee and on to the full legislative body.

Thank you,  
Rev. Renee Windsor-White  
Lebanon OR

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Take care,  
Reneé