

Members of the House Business and Labor Committee,

I am president of a non-profit organization (Coalition Advocating for Animals (CAFA)) that rescues and adopts cats/kittens in the Salem area. All cats/kittens that are rescued by CAFA are stray and/or abandoned. I am also a Petsmart and Petco adoption partner—we have adoption events with these stores. Especially during “kitten season” (June-November) many of my cats and kittens are placed in Petco’s adoption center on south Commercial in Salem. HB2804 is an extremely important bill for Oregon—it’s time our state passes this legislation which will improve the lives of dogs/cats/other pets in our communities. No retail pet store should be “selling” dogs/cats or other pets. They should ONLY be adopting them via a rescue organization or shelter. (One of my motto’s is “don’t breed or buy while shelter pets die”) This is the most ethical and humane thing to do.

It will also improve the lives of Oregonians. How? Because families in particular will be teaching their children how to be empathetic and humane individuals—by adopting a pet. With our overly commercialized society, isn’t the message we want to be sending is that adopting a pet is what a humane society does.....buy/selling pets is not the message we should be sending to our children and to society in general. This is one way to help deter/decrease puppy mills. A pet store that recently opened in Dallas, Oregon (Polk County) is selling puppies that they themselves breed on their residential property—a puppy mill feeding directly into a commercial operation—terrible. These are the situations that need to be stopped and HB 2804 will do that.

Please pass HB2804 and hopefully the Oregon Legislature will vote it into law. How proud we can be then. Thank you.

Lora Meisner, President
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Don’t breed or buy while shelter pets die
Get it done while it's only one, spay a stray