

To whom this may concern,

I have recently been made aware of bill HB 2804 and am in complete opposition of it. This bill does not adequately address the concerns listed. Upon reading through the bill, it is clear that the goal is to prevent inhumane treatment by establishments selling dogs, cats and rabbits. However, I can state that with extreme certainty that our local pet store (Critter Cabana in Newberg and Wilsonville) is an example of the humane treatment of animals in the pet industry. Preventing an organization that is practicing safe and loving animal husbandry (like a hometown pet store) is only going to encourage the sale of animals from inhumane and unsafe places such as puppy mills. Understanding this shift in sales would have both a short term and long term negative effects from Inhibiting individuals from adding a healthy, happy animal into their life to increasing the number of sick or poorly bred animals into the community. If you were only to look at dogs, "Puppy mills" rarely vaccinate, neuter/spay or care for sick. This level of care is the expectation of a pet store. And, I can assure you, with the amount of social media in our current environment, any less than that expectation of care is quickly scrutinized publicly. So it is clear that an establishment such as Critter Cabana sources animals from ethical, local, loving families and NOT "puppy mills " and feel a great sense of responsibility in the treatment and care of these animals. This is witnessed by the knowledgeable staff, happy/healthy looking puppies/rabbits and cats, and cleanliness of the facilities and living conditions.

Passing this bill would have substantial adverse effects to the community and small business owners. In addition, the bill is unfair to the animal community.

Thank you for your time.
Molly Robertson

Mother, pet lover, animal and human advocate