

Good day representatives. I am writing to you from North Carolina where I am judging at a National dog show for a breed with which I have been involved since I was a child. A breed my parents raised here in Oregon and helped bring back to its original purpose as a "gentleman's hunting dog." It is a breed with hundreds of years of history designed to make it predictable as to size, function, temperament and appearance. As such, it is a much sought after breed as a family pet, bird dog and much more.

I am a life long registered Democrat. And I vote.

Enabling unregulated rescues to replace highly regulated sources of dogs for pet owners in Oregon is a bad decision for our residents' health and that of all of our dogs. Brucellosis, distemper and rabies, never mind new strains of canine influenza, are just the tip of the iceberg of dangerous vectors introduced to our communities due to the cavalier "rescue" of dogs from around the world to fill empty runs in unregulated "rescues." These diseased, unsocialized, temperamentally unstable animals are ill-suited to be the "easy option" for the average pet owner.

As a hobby breeder, I am rarely in a position to provide a puppy to fill the desires of the "want it now" generation. The existing establishments (all eight of them in the state) are currently meeting that need with well-supervised services that are receiving no complaints.

Why are we creating a "solution" to a problem that doesn't exist?

I recognize there are outside pressures advocating this legislation. I am offering my testimony that home grown Oregonians oppose it. For the safety of all Oregonians and their pets, I hope you do as well.

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