

<u>Testimony of Humane Voters Oregon on HCR 8</u> House Committee on Rules

January 17, 2023

Chair Fahey, Vice Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice Chair Kropf, and Members of the Committee:

Humane Voters Oregon is a nonprofit organization that works in Oregon's political process and elections to promote humane treatment of animals. We are not affiliated with any other state or national organization.

Humane Voters Oregon supports HCR 8.

Designating rescued shelter dogs and cats as Oregon's state pet would do several important things:

- It would help promote adoption of dogs and cats from animal shelters, which would help find homes for more homeless dogs and cats.
- It would help reduce costs to taxpayers by reducing the number of dogs and cats in government-run animal shelters.
- It would honor the hard-working staff and volunteers at Oregon's numerous animal shelters, along with all the compassionate Oregonians who choose to give shelter dogs and cats another chance by adopting them.
- It would honor traits in shelter dogs and cats that many Oregonians share, including resilience, endurance, strength, and hope.
- It would follow the good examples of several other states, including Colorado, Tennessee, California, Illinois, and Georgia.

Please refer HCR 8 to the full House with a "Do Pass" recommendation.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Brian Posewitz

Brian Posewitz
Director