JANEEN SOLLMAN STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 15



## **OREGON STATE SENATE**

February 10, 2023

RE: Support for House Bill 2915

Chair Holvey, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Sosa, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my support for House Bill 2915, which prohibits new retail pet stores from offering dogs or cats for sale. I currently serve as the State Senator for Senate District 15 in Western Washington County. Myself, along with numerous organizations, businesses in my district, and veterinary professionals support this policy.

Oregon's Humane Pet Store Law will prohibit additional pet stores from selling dogs or cats. With this policy, we can protect animals and promote humane businesses. Most pet store puppies come from puppy mills, large breeding operations and brokers. Puppies from puppy mills are often born in unsanitary conditions, leading to illness and disease, which are then handled by inexperienced staff and consumers. They are most often bred with bad temperaments and will have many health problems with high veterinary bills. Additionally, pet stores often push . financing options on customers and they end up having to pay high interest rates to finance a pet.

It is time to act to ensure the industry remains small and controlled. By passing HB 2915, Oregonians will be able to obtain their pet of choice from local shelters, rescues, and responsible breeders. Colleagues, I urge your support.

Sincerely,

Janon Saleman

Senator Janeen Sollman Senate District 15