

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

February 15, 2023

Chair Lieber, Vice Chair Knopp, 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