



HUMANE VOTERS | OREGON

Testimony of Humane Voters Oregon on Senate Bill 696
Senate Committee on Judiciary

February 22, 2023

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, 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 Senate Bill 696.

SB 696 would provide funding for an animal-cruelty focused attorney within the Criminal Justice Division of the Department of Justice in Oregon. Through this funding, Oregon law enforcement agencies will be better equipped to enforce Oregon's animal welfare statutes and to prosecute violators, which will help both animals and people.

This bill will improve animal welfare by helping animals who are suffering from animal cruelty. In addition, this bill will improve public safety because research has shown that people who commit animal cruelty are more likely to commit other crimes, including domestic violence and child abuse.

For the above reasons, we hope you will give SB 696 a "Do Pass" recommendation.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Akela Baldwin

Akela Baldwin
Policy Advocate