

Submitter: Jessica Knehr
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB3214

This ban impacts many aspects of our local animal hobby. While I understand that this is meant to encourage the ethical treatment of animals, this is not the way to achieve the end goal.

I worked at a local pet shop for the past 3 years that provides animal educational sessions small events and parties. These sessions often included our own personal animals as employees, as well as animals available for purchase/adoption at the shop. These educational experiences offer children and adults safe opportunities to come in contact with these animals, many they have never seen in real life before, with the intention of growing understanding, passion and therefore a future generation of people who are going to support the proper care and treatment of these animals. Breeding passion for these animals directly impacts their future. We need more people, young and old to understand the value these animals bring and the quality of live they deserve through proper education. If we take away programs like these and limit these animals as captive kept pets, we remove them far enough from ourselves to negatively impact our relationship with animals like these for the foreseeable future. We understand what is close to us, and we do not understand the things we have never seen. This bill should not move forward. For the betterment of us as a people and these animals in the future.