

<u>Testimony of Humane Voters Oregon on House Bill 3384</u> House Committee on Judiciary

March 13, 2023

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Andersen and Wallan 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 House Bill 3384.

HB 3384 would create a felony-level crime of aggravated animal neglect and a misdemeanor offense of interfering with an animal-crime investigation The bill would also clarify limitations on a convicted person's contact with similar animals in the future and create a Proper Animal Husbandry Fund to teach proper animal husbandry to youths.

We support these changes in the law to properly recognize and deter the most serious cases of animal neglect, to deter interference with investigations into animal offenses, and to prevent future similar harm to animals. Oregonians care deeply about the welfare of animals and these changes in the law would help to better reflect that.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Brian Posewitz

Brian Posewitz Director