



Testimony of Bailing Out Benji on House Bill 2915
House Committee on Business and Labor
Position: Support

Honorable Chair Holvey, Vice-Chair Sosa and esteemed Representatives:

On behalf of Bailing Out Benji and our Oregon supporters, we are writing in support of HB 2915. We believe that this bill would go a long way in shutting off the puppy mill to pet store pipeline by not allowing new puppy-selling stores to open and to prevent existing stores from transferring ownership.

For the last 11 years, our organization has been forensically auditing government health records surrounding the movement of companion animal sales across the country. The overwhelming majority of puppies and kittens that are for sale in pet stores are coming from some of the largest commercial breeding facilities in the midwest, many of which have federal or state violations. The parent dogs and cats are far too often living in substandard conditions and are not proven to be healthy prior to producing offspring. The lack of genetic testing coupled with the cross-country transports where the puppies and kittens are traveling 25+ hours mixed together in the back of vans causes the perfect condition for disease spread.

Due to the nature of our work, we hear from customers every single day who have fallen victim to this industry by either purchasing an animal that is sick or by getting locked into a high-finance predatory loan with interest rates climbing as high as 188%. This bill will no doubt help protect animals but it will also protect your neighbors and constituents.

Bailing Out Benji and our Oregon supporters thank you in advance for your support of HB 2915.

Sincerely,

Mindi Callison
Executive Director, Founder
bailingoutbenji.com
mindi@bailingoutbenji.com

Bailing Out Benji is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that is dedicated to ending puppy mill cruelty through research, education and advocacy. Our team provides transparency into puppy mills, puppy brokers and puppy stores by forensically auditing government health records and inspection records and making that information public. Our research is used from classrooms to policy rooms across the country in order to make necessary changes in the lives of countless animals protect consumers against this predatory industry.