



[HB 3871 | Relating to an animal welfare trust](#)

Animal Policy Group (APG) works with veterinarians and the animal welfare sector to increase access to care.

**We reach out today in support of HB 3871.** The establishment of an Animal Welfare Trust would increase access to veterinary care for low-income pet households and in underserved communities, including in Oregon's sovereign nations. The [Veterinary Care Accessibility Project](#) (VCAP) designates veterinary care [nearly inaccessible](#) in parts of Oregon, finding counties with [one or less veterinary employee per 1,000 households](#).

The Animal Welfare Trust would issue grants to organizations and other entities providing veterinary support services to low-income pet households and underserved communities. Increased veterinary costs and the national veterinary shortage impact individuals and families with pets. Nonprofit organizations provide low to no-cost veterinary services in communities across the state. If not for these organizations, many pets would likely not receive any veterinary care in their lifetime.

Please support HB 3871 to remove barriers and provide critical services for those families who need it most.

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