

SB1076 OPPOSE

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the subject of a state licensing requirement for breeders.

First, it should be noted that the numbers of dogs in shelters are not resulting from responsible purebred dog breeders. As a breeder of 20+ years, the dog and bitch are health tested before breeding to avoid known health issues with the puppies. Dogs/puppies forever homes are carefully selected based on the ability to care for and train. Pups are microchipped and the new owner understands that if, for any reason or any age, if they are unable to care for the dog I will accept the dog back. Few purposely pure bred dogs bred by responsible breeders wind up in a shelter. Responsible breeders also have a written contract with every puppy covering whether the dog/bitch is to be shown or spayed/neutered to prevent casual breeding by owners wanting to make money. (These are the dogs that end up in the shelters, NOT the ones from responsible breeders) This is also the norm and enforced by individual breed clubs' Codes of Ethics.

Secondly, breeders registered by AKC are already subject to AKC inspections. These inspections are randomly selected. This is also normal within our community of responsible breeders.

Third, the numbers of dogs I have seen quoted in testimony referencing the shelter population includes dogs imported from overseas, introducing previously unknown or controlled diseases to our pets in Oregon. It also includes dogs imported from other parts of the country because *there are not enough shelter or rescue animals available to meet demand.* There are many “backyard” and “hobby” breeders that buy pups and breed them with no health testing or thought as to who will adopt and care for them. These are the ones that end up in shelters.

In closing, it is incumbent upon the state to NOT place an undue tax/licensing burden on its residents who are not responsible for excessive burdens on the shelter system.

Thank you.