

Submitter: ROBIN BARKER

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4034

I help run a small volunteer rescue in Hermiston, OR and I support HB 4034.

The fines and violations for things that do not pertain to the care of the animal are in no way helping the animals. We receive no city or state funding and rely on donations, yard sales, can drives and a few grants. Last year we were fined \$3600 for missing addresses, missing source information, not putting their intake weight and no dosage information for pyrantel dewormer. Once corrected information was turned in on some of the violations it was reduced to \$360. That money could have been used for an animals emergency vet needs.

We pay these fines in addition to the yearly fee to operate a volunteer run animal rescue.

Most rescues and shelters are over stressed, financially burdened, and now we get to have the added stress of ARE fines. We were all pretty excited with what we thought the ARE program was going to do; weed out bad rescues, hold shelters accountable for abuse and neglect of animals and track diseases. Instead we are getting hammered with fees over not having a homeless persons name and phone number. I guess my question is, who will care for the animals on the streets when rescues close?