

Dear Oregon House Business and Labor Committee,
Honorable Representatives,

I am submitting this as testimony in support of HB 2804.

I have rescued animals for over 20 years, mostly cats, but I have taken in dogs and I have two horses.

I have heard many stories through the years from people who were lured into buying a puppy at a store and had to face horrible consequences and realizations as a result, in addition to costly veterinary bills. The stories I have heard about people buying puppies from pet stores include discovering that the puppy has a serious illnesses, and/or congenital disease, and/or ongoing allergy conditions.

Respectable breeders do not sell dogs or cats at pet stores. They have specific guidelines for homing their animals, want to meet and know the adopting family, and want to make sure that the people adopting the animal are prepared for caring for the animal and prepared for any reasonable expenses. To maintain a respectable reputation, respectable breeders take care in their breeding to ensure healthy genetics and thus healthy puppies.

By stopping the sale of puppies and kittens at pet stores, we curtail the sale of puppy mill puppies and animals from nefarious and disreputable breeders. Pet stores can then choose to host events for the adoption of puppies and kittens from rescue groups and shelters. I think this is brilliant.

Please support HB 2804.

Thank you.

Jane Bicquette