



RE: SUPPORT FROM HUMANE PET STORES for HB 2804, Oregon's Humane Pet Store Bill

Dear Chairman Barker and Honorable Members of the Committee,

On behalf of a coalition of locally owned and operated humane pet stores throughout Oregon, we are writing to voice our support of HB 2804 to end the sale of puppy mill puppies in Oregon pet stores.

We are all franchisees of Nature's Pet Market, of which there are 15 stores around our beautiful state. All Nature's Pet Market stores operate a humane, sustainable business model, a model that relies on the sale of high-quality pet products and services that meet the needs of our local communities. We also use sustainable business practices whenever possible by promoting products that use green practices and recycled materials. When you walk into your local Nature's Pet Market you are likely to see professional dog grooming, self-wash stations, pet dietitians, or mobile veterinary services. And, because of our commitment to pet rescue, you will likely see adoptable animals looking for a forever home. This humane business model is one we can be proud of and is what has kept Nature's Pet Market in business and growing for over 40 years.

Something you will not see when you walk into one of our stores: overpriced puppies. Every signee of this letter is proof that a pet store does not need to sell puppies bred in puppy mills or by backyard breeders to stay in business. The practice of selling puppies has become socially unacceptable since it became common knowledge that pet store puppies come from places where dogs are treated like breeding machines, birthing litter after litter until their bodies wear out. Rather than exploiting puppies as products, all our stores work with local rescues to help find forever homes for our homeless furry friends. We are passionate about rescue because we believe pets are an integral part of our families and they deserve our utmost kindness and respect.

Thus far, Oregon lawmakers have done a commendable job to end puppy mill cruelty in Oregon. Unfortunately, the problem persists as so many of these mill animals are brought in on semi-trucks from the mid-west, destined for store fronts in Oregon pet shops. We hope that you will take this final step to shut down the market for puppy mill dogs in Oregon. Please vote in favor of HB 2804.

Thank you for your consideration of this impactful legislation,

Robert Tisdale, Owner at Nature's Pet Salem
Eileen Anderson, Owner at Canby Nature's Pet
Samantha Hyde, Associate at Canby Nature's Pet
Mason Hartman, Owner at West Linn Nature's Pet
Karen Sottile, Owner at Gresham Nature's Pet
Allyson Craddock, Associate at Gresham Nature's Pet
Jennifer Flanagan, Owner at Nature's Pet Sherwood
Stephanie Riley, Owner at Nature's Pet Northwest Portland
Claudia Katz, Owner at Natures Pet Beaverton - Murrayhill & Natures Pet Beaverton - Five Oaks

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