

Support HB 2804
Prevent Puppies and Kittens from Being Sold in Pet Stores

Why? The overwhelming majority of Oregon pet stores have rejected commercial breeding facilities for their unsanitary conditions and cruel treatment of animals. But current law does not prevent pet stores from offering puppy and kitten mill pets, and seven pet stores statewide still offer them. To further our state's market preference for humane pet sources like shelters, rescues, and responsible breeders, we must cut off the puppy mill supply and demand chain.

Benefits? The proposed legislation promotes animal welfare, adoption, and responsible breeding. HB 2804 will ensure the pet stores can no longer sell puppies and kittens that were born into conditions Oregonians would find appalling and that are predisposed to be sick and have behavioral issues. Cutting off puppy and kitten mill sales will also lessen the burden on nonprofits and animal services/control. Reputable breeders will be unaffected and will continue to provide Oregonians with healthy, socialized pets because responsible breeders do not sell to pet stores.

Background? Oregon law currently does not regulate where pet stores source puppies and kittens, and federally licensed breeders face lax U.S. Department of Agriculture regulation. State legislation would encourage pet stores to partner with shelters and rescues to host adoption events. Two states (California and Maryland) and nearly 300 cities, towns, and counties have adopted similar laws. Oregon consumers want to be the next market example for other states to follow.