

House Bill 2804 Info regarding Pet Store Ban,

I am for animal welfare and welfare only. I have noticed an up take in the desire to ban legal retail pet stores from selling legal USDA puppies and kittens.

Do you have a clear understanding of Amendment 14, section 1 of the constitution and "The Sherman Act"? You are an elected official and it is your responsibility to fully research any proposed law and its impact on American citizens, their civil rights and their chosen legal profession.

Article XIV (Amendment 14 - Rights Guaranteed: Privileges and Immunities of Citizenship, Due Process, and Equal Protection)

1: All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Liberty: the state of being free within society from oppressive restrictions imposed by authority on one's way of life, behavior, or political views:

"The Sherman Act": outlaws "every contract, combination, or conspiracy in restraint of trade," and any "monopolization, attempted monopolization, or conspiracy or combination to monopolize."

Monopolize: (of an organization or group) obtain exclusive possession or control of (a trade, commodity, or service).

Federal law mandates pet stores to ONLY sell animals obtained from the 1908 regulated USDA facilities or from those who possess and maintain less than 4 breeding animals. The purpose is to protect the public, who acquires a pet thru a pet store, from receiving animals from UNREGULATED sources and be afforded the guarantees within the "lemon law". Unless shelters and "rescues" become USDA compliant using the AWA methods, they are prohibited from being a source of animals for pet stores as per law.

As it may seem warm and fuzzy to mandate the pet stores to only sell animals obtained from unregulated shelters or "rescue" facilities, it is illegal to participate in the attempt to monopolize an industry. Limiting a legal business's products, clientele, income and growth, violates amendment 14, section 1 of our constitution and "The Sherman Act". Are you complicit in this activity or a victim within its wake?

I will give you the benefit of the doubt that you were emotionally blackmailed into believing that the animal care being provided at regulated USDA kennels is equivalent to the visuals you have received of UNREGULATED "puppy mills" that can NOT sell to ANY pet store. Did you know Professional USDA facilities are the ONLY provider of pets for the public with strict rules and regulations. Did you know that they are federally inspected with the minimum of one inspection a year? Did you know the facilities residing in the states of OH and MO are also inspected by the state and are required to have each and every animal inspected annually by a veterinarian? Attached is an educational booklet.

Shelters are a public place to obtain a pet, funded by the state. Pet stores are a public place to obtain a pet, funded by the store owner. The state of Oregon will become liable for the overhead expenses of all the stores if you command that it only sell products obtained from the state funded shelters. The state pays, in grants, the shelters overhead, employees and veterinarian expenses. Surely you do not expect the store owner to operate selling the states goods for free? How would he be able to pay his employees, lights, and other expenses while being forced to sell non-profit state funded goods? The state of OR will

also be liable for the sale of bad goods sold as it's sourcing will be from the "state funded shelter". Oregon will also be liable for vouching for any "rescues" and their care practices.

Are you willing to cause an undue financial burden to your citizens? Somebody will have to make up the tax deficit this will cause. State mandating a normal tax paying business to exchange their current products with products from non-profit items from its own state funded shelters does not sound like a very good business model to me. I just cannot fathom why Oregon would choose to turn yourself into a communist state by dictating what goods a legal business must sell, not only what goods, but forcing your citizens to pay for it.

I am ashamed that you have failed to utter one concerned word for the animals that are NOT receiving ANY proper care while residing among the thousands of unregulated "rescue" facilities. If animal rights was truly about animal welfare, the well-being of ALL cats and dogs should have been the topic of discussion.

Please promote the current AWA "humane" care standards for all animals within unregulated "rescue" facilities. They may in turn, be able open their own legal businesses for retail "rescue" or be able to legally offer their USDA "rescue" pets to be placed alongside USDA breeder pets. Your citizens may then choose which type of pet they want and know that they both were sourced from facilities with proper care standards. Only when we clean up our thorns, can we walk barefoot. <http://imageevent.com/illegalrescues/legislationforall>

Concerned Citizen

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