April 22, 2019

Chairman Floyd Prozanski Senate Committee on Judiciary 900 Court Street, NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support HB 2500

Dear Chairman Floyd Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of The Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association, we submit the following written testimony in support of HB 2500, legislation that would allow the right of action to recover expenses concerning veterinary care for an abused domestic animal.

Animal abusers should be held accountable for their actions both regarding the crimes they commit and the financial harm they cause. Abused animals can suffer extensive injuries, and it is only fair that upon conviction they are responsible for reimbursement when there are significant medical expenses.

The reality is that many animals would otherwise be euthanized if it weren't for generous agencies, veterinary professionals and other compassionate people in Oregon who care for abused animals. The non-profits, taxpayers, and residents of our state should not have to foot the medical bill for an abuser's acts of violence or negligence.

For these reasons, we urge your support for HB 2500.

Respectfully, Kelly Peterson

Kelly Peterson Oregon Senior State Director

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The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's most effective animal protection organization, fighting for all animals for more than 60 years. To support our work, please make a <u>monthly donation</u>, give in <u>another way</u> or <u>volunteer</u>.

