Submitter:	Christine Arth
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	House Committee On Rules
Measure:	HCR8

I cannot imagine a more appropriate state pet than the shelter dog and cat. I volunteer with a small rescue, and we are inundated with requests from municipal shelters to take dogs and cats in need of homes - but we can help with only a tiny percentage of the cases. Animals end up in shelters for many reasons - the one thing they have in common is that none of them asked for this status, and all of them deserve a chance at a good life. The focus on specific breeds leads to irresponsible overbreeding, whereas this designation will encourage humane guardianship of ALL breeds and will recognize the kindness of Oregon's millions of animal lovers.