

Submitter: Tim Kirkpatrick

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor

Measure: HB2915

I urge you to enact HB 2915, which would ensure puppies from puppy mills are not sold in local pet stores. Public records show most pet store puppies come from puppy mills—large-scale commercial breeding facilities with egregious animal welfare records. Due to the conditions the puppies are born into, the overbreeding of their mothers, and the long transport to pet stores, they are often sick, leading to expensive veterinary bills and sometimes the heartache of a new pet dying.

For these reasons, there is a growing coalition of Oregonians – individuals like me, pet store owners, animal rescue groups, shelters, responsible breeders, veterinarians, and more – who enthusiastically support the recently introduced HB 2915

Similar to legislation that recently passed in Washington state, HB 2915 would grandfather in the six remaining small Oregon stores that still sell puppies and kittens. Oregon is the only market left open on the West coast to puppy-selling pet stores, now that our neighboring states have enacted pet store laws prohibiting the sale of puppies and kittens in pet stores. In fact, Puppyland, an infamous puppy-selling pet store chain based in Washington has already filed for a business license in Oregon. That's why passing HB 2915 is more important than ever, to help end the puppy mill-to-pet store pipeline and continue to drive the statewide pet industry toward more humane sources such as shelters, rescues, and responsible breeders.

More than 440 municipalities, including Bend and Beaverton, and six states – including California and Washington – have already enacted humane pet store laws similar to HB 2915. Without this legislation, Oregon will remain the sole open market on the west coast for the puppy mill industry and its pet store sales outlets.

Please stand with all of us and vote in favor of HB 2915!

Thank you for your consideration.