

VIRGLE J OSBORNE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 2
DOUGLAS COUNTY



COMMITTEES:
Member:
Business & Labor
Climate, Energy & Environment
Econ Development & Small Business

OREGON STATE LEGISLATURE
900 COURT STREET NE
SALEM, OR 97301

Testimony in opposition to HB 3214

March 15, 2023

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chair Wallan, Vice-Chair Andersen, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to you today in opposition to HB 3214.

This bill is simply too exhaustive, causing unintended consequences against ethical and lawful businesses in the quest to protect animals from abuse. As you all may know, Oregon already has very strict animal protection laws on the books. Enforcing existing laws should be the path forward.

As a state legislator, I have a responsibility to understand who these bills we discuss will affect. And it pains me to see many poorly thought-out bills go to our committees. Unfortunately, HB 3214 is just another one of those bills.

I understand the intent of the bill but let me explain who the bill will ultimately hurt: HB 3214 will put legitimate animal handlers out of business. In fact, every year when I attend our local sportsman's show, the animal education and displays are a large part of the attraction. The handlers spend time with the animals and to not only educate children and families about them, but teach them to respect the animals as well.

This bill will ultimately harm ethical, lawful businesses and those who wish to learn more about animals and their importance to the ecosystem.

I respectfully urge you to oppose HB 3214. We must enforce our existing animal protection laws, not introduce unnecessary legislation.

Thank you,

Virgle Osborne
State Representative, House District 2