

# OREGON HUMANE SOCIETY

**Date: March 15, 2023**

**To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means**

Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Co-Chair  
Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair  
Senator Fred Girod, Co-Vice Chair  
Representative David Gombert, Co-Vice Chair  
Representative Greg Smith, Co-Vice Chair  
Senator Dick Anderson  
Senator Winsvev Campos  
Senator Michael Dembrow  
Senator Lynn Findley  
Senator Lew Frederick  
Senator Sara Gelser Blouin  
Senator Bill Hansell

Senator Tim Knopp  
Senator Janeen Sollman  
Representative Vikki Breese-Iverson  
Representative Jami Cate  
Representative Paul Evans  
Representative Paul Holvey  
Representative Rick Lewis  
Representative Susan McLain  
Representative Khanh Pham  
Representative E. Werner Reschke  
Representative Andrea Valderrama

**From: Sharon Harmon, President & CEO, Oregon Humane Society**

**RE: House Bill 5002**

Established in 1868, the Oregon Humane Society is Oregon's largest and oldest animal welfare organization with over 50,000 supporters statewide. We are not affiliated with any local or national organization. As a leader in animal welfare, we understand the vital connection between animals, people, and the environment. To care for one is necessary to ensure the welfare of the others.

Oregon Humane Society stands in support of HB 5002. This bill will empower the State Department of Agriculture to fund critical programs that support the health and wellbeing of our community members – both people and animals – across the state.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture's Animal Rescue Entity (ARE) Licensing Program is essential to ensuring that animals are treated humanely and receive the care they need consistent with state guidelines. It ensures entities that have been empowered to care for animals are able to provide basic care and supplies, keep adequate records to verify ownership, and deliver medical care and behavioral intervention when necessary. In the ever-changing landscape of animal welfare, the ARE program provides the continuity and stability needed to keep animals safe.

**Please vote 'yes' on HB 5002.**

Sincerely,



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