

Submitter: Kristi LaHaye  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: HB2915

I am writing to remind you that there is a growing coalition of Oregonians who enthusiastically support HB 2915 that prohibits retail pet stores from offering to sell (or selling) dogs or cats.

Similar to Washington state legislation SHB 1424, Oregon's HB 2915 would grandfather in Oregon pet stores that sell dogs and cats before this bill passes. Accordingly, there is real urgency here. In fact, Puppyland, an infamous puppy-selling pet store chain based in Washington, has already filed for a business license in Oregon.

This is why passing HB 2915 is more important than ever, to ensure an end to the animal mill-to-pet store pipeline and instead, drive the statewide pet industry toward more humane sources such as shelters, rescues, and responsible breeders. Without this legislation, Oregon will remain an open market for the dogs/puppies and cats/kittens mill industries and pet store sales outlets. Do Oregon legislators want to put out the welcome mat to a puppy selling chain?

It is unfortunate, however, that the bill does not prevent pet stores from selling dogs and cats in perpetuity within a reasonable time period, (i.e. within months of the bill's passing). Perhaps that language can be revised/added to the bill?

As an award-winning volunteer with the Oregon Humane Society, "CREATING A MORE HUMANE SOCIETY", I have accumulated thousands of hours participating in the care of shelter residents as well as the intake of animals from both in and out of Oregon state. These transfers are heart filling because they save the lives of thousands of animals and to facilitate the "stop the shop, adopt" initiative. Oregon Humane adopted out nearly 10,000 animals in 2022 alone.

I sincerely hope you will join us, and the more than 440 municipalities, including Bend and six other states, that have already enacted pet store laws to protect defenseless animals. I appreciate your shared concern to push this bill through and thank you in advance for your efforts. Is it possible to be updated on this bill from your office(s) so that I am aware of important hearing dates for the public?

Respectfully yours,

Kristi LaHaye

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