



Greenhill
Humane Society

Date: April 19, 2023

To: House Committee on Business and Labor

**From: Cary Lieberman, Executive Director, Greenhill Humane Society,
Eugene, Oregon**

RE: House Bill 2915

Greenhill Humane Society, in Eugene, is Oregon's second largest animal shelter and welfare organization. Although we partner with both human and animal welfare organizations throughout the state, we do not have an affiliation with any local or national organization. **Today, we ask for your support of HB 2915**, a bill that would ensure that no additional pet stores can sell puppies or kittens in our state.

Greenhill Humane Society has been the leader in animal welfare in Lane County since its formation in 1944. Greenhill serves as Lane County's primary resource for people with pets. Our programs include pet adoption; sheltering of stray, abused, and neglected animals; reuniting lost animals with their families; crisis care boarding; spay/neuter; humane education; a pet pantry program; and disaster response.

Our programs focus on supporting a healthy community with education and wraparound support for families with pets. We know first-hand the importance of providing comprehensive support when a family is considering adding a new pet to their home, in the first weeks when they have questions, and in the months and years following. Our process is much more than the transactional sale that would happen in a retail store because it's necessary to ensure a positive outcome for both the animals and the potential owners. We've seen the failures when people don't get support, and we're seeing the successes when it's done right.

Most Oregonians obtain their pets from the many local shelters, rescues, or small, local breeders that treat their animals like we all treat our pets and only place directly with the public. Our state doesn't need additional pet stores to fill any demand for pets.

California and Washington have closed their markets to puppy-selling pet stores, and it makes sense that Oregon would also to ensure that out-of-state pet stores don't look to Oregon as a safe haven.

Please vote 'yes' on HB 2915.

Sincerely,

Cary Lieberman, CAWA
Executive Director

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