

March 14, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of HB 3871. As President of Rogue Valley Street Dogs, I and all of our volunteers work tirelessly to help dogs and cats living with people in poverty in Southern Oregon. We see daily how the lack of access to veterinary care impacts people and pets in our community. With rising veterinary prices and decreased availability of veterinary care, the number of unvaccinated, unneutered, and unhealthy pets continues to grow. We facilitated and funded 510 spay and neuters last year but currently have almost 250 more animals on our waiting list with more requests coming in every day. Local shelters and rescues are all full, and animals are being dumped every day as people have nowhere to turn. We provide help with vaccinations also, but the number of unvaccinated animals also continues to grow, and we have had four separate cases of parvo diagnosed in separate litters just this week. We also fund euthanasia for multiple pets every month. Having unneutered, unvaccinated pets also presents a major barrier to stable housing for people whose beloved pets mean everything to them. The situation is truly dire. Nonprofit organizations like Rogue Valley Street Dogs are shouldering much of the burden of the lack of access to veterinary care, and a statewide veterinary fund is desperately needed to ensure progress with the overpopulation problem of pets in our state and to improve the lives of people and animals most in need. I urge you to pass HB 3871.

Sincerely,

Laurie E. Cuddy President, Rogue Valley Street Dogs

Rogue Valley Street Dogs (formerly The Street Dog Project) is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Federal Tax I.D. #87-3140872. Our mission is to fund and facilitate spay-neuter and essential support services to improve the lives of pets living in poverty.

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