

Submitter: Corina Olsen-Fleming
Committee: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure: SB1076

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1076, which imposes unnecessary and costly regulations on responsible pet breeders in Oregon. This bill will not only harm Oregon's communities but also contribute millions to the state's budget deficit. Below, I've outlined the primary concerns:

1. Redundancy in Existing Laws

Oregon already has some of the strictest animal welfare laws, including ORS 167.374 and ORS 609.420, which ensure humane breeding conditions and regulate cruelty. **SB 1076 duplicates oversights already in place which Oregon needs to improve enforcement of.**

2. Significant Cost to the State

SB 1076 will require substantial state resources, including hiring new staff and a veterinarian to oversee breeders. Proposed licensing fees will not cover these enforcement costs, potentially contributing over **\$10 million to Oregon's budget deficit.**

3. Threat to Youth Programs such as 4-H and FFA

SB 1076 could **harm youth agricultural programs like 4-H and FFA**, which rely on responsible breeders. These programs teach students valuable life skills while providing essential service dogs to the community. SB 1076's will limit the availability of suitable animals, harming these educational projects and the young people they serve.

4. Impact on Assistance and Working Dogs

Over-regulation could limit access to purpose-bred dogs for veterans and those in need of service or working dogs, such as livestock guardian dogs. **This would undermine rural and our disabled communities that rely on these dogs for safety and support.**

5. Economic Impact on Tourism

Oregon's pet-related events contribute over **\$8.3 million annually to the state's economy.** SB 1076 will result in decreased tourism; impacting local businesses in the millions.

6. Misconception of Oregon's Pet Overpopulation

Purebred dogs and cats only make up 20% of our shelter populations, that means 80% are mixed-breeds. The real problem lies with the shelters and rescues who transport animals into Oregon, from other states. In 2023, the Oregon Humane Society took in **over 4,500 animals** from six states outside of Oregon. **If the Oregon Humane Society and other rescues are in a capacity crisis, why are they bringing in animals from other states?**

I strongly urge you to oppose Senate Bill 1076 and instead **focus on enforcing the existing regulations that are already in place**, without siphoning more from hardworking taxpayers and further burdening our state's financial resources. Thank you for your time and consideration.