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On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1076

The city of Portland has long referred to dog and cat breeding as “garage sale income”, thereby not requiring any kind of licensing or reporting. It’s a significant loss of potential revenue for the state as well as the federal government. It is required by law that anyone who receives more than \$600 in annual business income file a form 1099. Requiring breeders to be licensed and regulated through Department of Agriculture doesn’t just make them accountable for their standards of care, it puts them on the radar of Oregon Department of Revenue.

Since there is currently no oversight for breeders of any kind, there is no way of knowing whether they are reporting this income for tax purposes.

More financial burden to tax payers through county government:

Examples:

**Per Washington County Animal Services, the cost for euthanasia and disposal of an average sized dog (41-60lbs) is \$110.

**Following a severe neglect case in 2013, 110 dogs were confiscated from a breeder in Columbia County. The care of the seized dogs cost tax payers \$186,000.

There are many, many more examples of the financial consequences of breeders creating a cost to the state and ultimately, tax payers.

Some examples of reported Oregon breeder seizures creating unnecessary suffering and coming out of tax payers pockets:

Marsh Kennels: Breeder charged with felony neglect- 53 dogs surrendered

Waggin’ on Wiggle Butt Aussies
Breeder arrested- 57 Aussies seized

Parvo at Puppy Mill- 12 Yorkies Surrendered 2022, 47 Yorkies surrendered

Breeder Relinquished 23 Italian greyhounds to Oregon Humane Society

Oregon Humane Society takes in Malamutes from “overwhelmed breeder”- 38

Malamutes seized

The crisis brought about by increased unregulated breeding:

The pandemic created a breeding frenzy and breeders are now selling puppies at higher prices than ever before. Average prices for puppies are between \$1000 and \$4000 or more.

Now, for a variety of reasons, including poor planning, rising veterinary costs, and loss of employment or housing, we have seen historically high numbers of surrendered and abandoned pets. Many are purebred dogs. Shelters and rescues are buried in these unwanted pets and continue to receive a constant deluge of calls from people wanting to give up their pets.

Not surprisingly, there has also been a significant decrease in adoptions compared with even the pre-covid average. Animals spending longer times in shelters causes an increase in stress related behavior issues, often resulting in euthanasia. Fewer adoptions or transfer options combined with dramatically increased numbers of unwanted animals has caused a significant increase in euthanasia in shelters. There's also a psychological toll on shelter and rescue staff that comes with increased intake, fewer adoptions, and performing euthanasia on healthy animals. Staff burnout related to mental health is a very real consequence.

I speak from my own experience when I say that the feelings of helplessness and frustration are overwhelming. This is why I support SB 1076.