

Submitter:	Lisa Hayes
On Behalf Of:	Blue Mountain Humane Association
Committee:	Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB1076

My name is Lisa Hayes and I am the President of Blue Mountain Humane Association, which is the animal shelter that serves Union County. While I agree that there is an overpopulation of animals and that oversight for the care and well being of the animals is paramount, passage of HB1076 as it stands does not insure the care and well being of the animals. We understand and respect the importance of accountability and regulatory compliance, this Bill only inflicts punitive damages on Animal Rescues and Breeders for paperwork violations. ODA performs virtual audits only of your paperwork and fine you for things like not having a phone number for the person who surrendered an animal. Not having a phone number listed for a houseless individual who doesn't even have one and surrendered their dog, does not have any bearing on the care that animal is receiving at BMHA. As a nonprofit organization, Blue Mountain Humane Association operates on limited funding, relying heavily on donations and volunteers. Every dollar spent on paperwork penalties that have no bearing on the care of the animal is a dollar that cannot be used to provide medical care, food, shelter, or other critical needs for the animals it serves. The loss of these funds could also impact the shelter's ability to partner with local governments on initiatives such as spay/neuter programs, community education, and disaster response. While our shelter remains committed to compliance and improvement, the financial burden of these penalties is jeopardizing our mission and the welfare of the animals in its care. I would ask that you consider an amendment for HB 1076 that amends the ORS' and OARs that inflict punitive paperwork violations on Animal Rescue Entities that have no bearing on the actual care of the animal and also don't allow for any corrective action or guidance in lieu of paying punitive penalties. Thank you for considering this request. Your advocacy for the welfare of animals and the sustainability of organizations that care for them is deeply appreciated.