

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony in Support of HB 1076

March 18, 2025

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash, and Members of the Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire,

Thank you for reading my testimony in support of SB 1076. This bill establishes a fair and necessary **licensing framework for animal breeders**, ensuring they adhere to humane care standards while contributing to **financial stability of Oregon's Animal Rescue Entity** program.

The bill requires breeders of dogs, cats, small mammals, and birds to obtain licenses, comply with care regulations, and pay **fees proportional to their operations**, similar to existing requirements for rescues. It also grants the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) authority to **investigate unlicensed breeders**, **inspect licensed facilities**, and enforce compliance.

Violations will be classified as a Class B misdemeanor, with penalties including fines and potential forfeiture of animals. The implementation timeline provides a **phased approach**, with rules adopted by mid-2026 and enforcement beginning in 2028, allowing time for education and compliance.

Animals have always been a part of my life and my heart. From working in a pet shop to volunteering at the Blue Mountain Humane Society and now fostering dogs through Oregon Dog Rescue, I know the joy that comes from nurturing and caring for animals— but also the heartbreak when they are neglected or abandoned. These experiences have only strengthened my belief that **Oregon must do more to ensure that every animal is treated with kindness, respect, and the care they deserve** at every stage of their lives.

By holding breeders accountable alongside rescues, SB 1076 creates a more balanced, ethical, and sustainable approach to animal welfare in Oregon. Through breeder licensing and care standards, the bill ensures that everyone in the breeding and rescue ecosystem are held to appropriate levels of accountability. Licensing will help prevent irresponsible breeding practices that contribute to shelter overcrowding and animal suffering while also creating a fair funding structure that does not disproportionately impact rescues.

SB 1076 reflects Oregon's values of compassion and responsibility, and I urge the committee to advance this bill to protect both animals and the organizations that care for them. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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Representative Courtney Neron | House District 26: King City, Sherwood, Tigard, Wilsonville 900 Court St, H-281, Salem OR 97301 | <u>Rep.CourtneyNeron@oregonlegislature.gov</u> | 503-986-1426