

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

Topic: 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 ORS609.420, 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.

These programs are hugely important and already in jeopardy of disappearing. Our youth NEED 4-H and FFA!!!

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.

This bill is unnecessary, counterproductive, and unjust. If passed, this Bill would be hugely burdensome and detrimental to responsible breeders, rescues, and

sanctuaries—precisely the people we ought to be supporting and encouraging. These are the people doing the important and challenging work of ensuring animals are well cared for, and that there are healthy and well bred animals available in the future. There are many parts of Oregon in which the only good option for homeless animals is private rescues.

This bill would have very little impact on the unscrupulous high-volume breeders who are already violating existing statutes with little concern.

Simply put, we have laws that work. This bill provides no benefit for any resident of this state: its only effect if passed would be to advance the personal agenda of people who erroneously believe that NO animal can or should be bred or kept in captivity. It would harm many Oregon citizens, their animals, and several industries. SB1076 was written without consulting any of the state's reputable breeders and rescues who broadly oppose this ill-conceived and misguided bill. If you believe there is a problem with the current animal laws in this state, let me suggest that you outline the precise problem, and consult those of us who genuinely understand the issues and devote our lives to solving them: we would be happy to help draft and support a bill that would genuinely improve our state's animal laws

I urge you to vote no on SB1076

Deanna H.