

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

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the subject of a state licensing requirement for breeders.

First, it should be noted that the numbers of dogs in shelters are not resulting from responsible dog breeders. As a breeder in good standing with my club, my dogs are microchipped to me first and then the owner. If a dog I bred winds up in a shelter system, I expect to be contacted so I can make arrangements to care for a dog I am responsible for. This is the standard operating practice in our community.

I also have a contract with every puppy buyer that the dog is to be returned to me, at any age, for any reason, if the owner is no longer able to care for the dog. This is also the norm.

2nd , the numbers of dogs I have seen quoted in testimony includes dogs imported from overseas & other states, introducing previously unknown or controlled diseases to our pets in

Oregon. Dogs are routinely imported from other parts of the country because \*there are not enough shelter or rescue animals available to meet demand.\*

I oppose SB 1076 strongly from both a personal and professional angle.

I am not a stranger to the need for more intensive rescue facility oversight. I fostered and assisted in rescue operations since 2014 when I became a professional dog trainer. I have seen and made protocol suggestions within rescues I participated in where good intentions overran capabilities to provide a standard of acceptable care, becoming overwhelmed to the point of neglect or misrepresenting their dangerous dogs as adoptable animals

However, I have also partnered with rescue entities that use financially responsible planning and protocols, holding themselves accountable to the public through good fiscal stewardship and animal care.

This Law will have unintentional & detrimental consequences to animal training too. Many responsible programs for assistance animals source their stock from low volume breeders focused on improving the Temperament and health of their breed. A

well-bred and health-tested dog currently starting at \$3,000 for purchase in Oregon, reducing breeders whose focus is one of the aforementioned areas will only harm Oregonians seeking to adopt or shop for their lifetime companions or essential coworker.

This will encourage backyard breeding for profit, but the 'source' will come from out-of-state puppy mills. The demand for dogs won't go away, but it will be filled in different ways with less documentation and transparency.

In closing, it is incumbent upon the state to NOT place an undue tax/licensing burden on its residents who already pay licensing fees and are not responsible for excessive burdens on the shelter system

Matt Vieira

Professional Dog Trainer

International Association of Canine Professionals Member