

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this bill.

While I genuinely support rescue facility oversight, I believe this bill is too poorly thought-out and too broadly written with the potential to negatively impact small livestock producers and privately owned kennels. These are not the groups that import dogs from out of state or country to supply their need for adoptable dogs, for profit. These are the groups that actively participate in 4H. They breed livestock to feed their families and local communities. In essence, hardworking salt of the earth people that should not be penalized with additional fees and inspections that will make their already difficult job harder and cost prohibitive.

There are many ethical and responsible dog breeders that exist in this state. Litters are researched, health testing is required before breeding, and many have contracts requiring dogs be returned to them in lieu of surrendering to a shelter; with no penalty for the surrendering party once a puppy has been purchased. Some of these kennels breed working dogs that are not meant for, or suitable for, "pet homes" but are meant for farms and ranches. Some kennels are preservation breeders and enacting these requirements may lead to these kennels closing and contributing to even more declining numbers of rare breeds.

Please vote no on this bill.