

February 11, 2024

House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources Written Testimony for House Bill 2542

RE: Oppose House Bill 2542

Dear Representative Rahjes and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide opposing testimony for House Bill 2542. My name is Tyler Kauer, and I am a private consultant to Kansas pet industry licensees. I have developed that title after being with the Animal Facilities Inspection program for 5 years holding all positions within the program at the time from secretary, inspector then to the program manager. I now work closely with the Kansas Pet Professionals regarding legislation, and I consult with licensees who wish to perform above standards.

After last year's legislative session concluded, Kansas Pet Professionals took lead in organizing meetings with many industry leaders to come together and collaborate on a bill that all sides of the industry could agree upon. The group was made up of shelter representatives, the department of agriculture, KPP leadership, and outside experts.

I want to express a thank you and recognize the Department of Agriculture and the Animal Facilities Program for their work on this bill and their willingness to collaborate with all sides of the industry. I also want to thank our shelter and rescue leaders in Kansas who were willing to come together to collaborate. I truly believe that a working relationship is forming between the industries in which the care of animals in Kansas is the collective goal. But House Bill 2542 as its written is not representative of the language this group discussed.

Due to the group not having a collective endorsement, Kansas Pet Professionals is opposed to House Bill 2542. This bill is a draft to a great future for the program. We intend to continue to work together to provide a bill to the legislature in the future that all industries are in agreement upon. Kansas Pet Professionals are willing and ready to continue those discussions and hope to present to you a drafted bill and a united front at the next legislative session.

Thank you for your time. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have via email at <u>tylerkauerkpics@gmail.com</u> and by phone at 913-256-9924.

Respectfully,

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Tyler Kauer Kansas Pet Industry Consulting Services