

House Bill 2030 is the result of 2-1/2 years of discussion by the Kansas Pet Animal Advisory Board. This Advisory Board has one member each from the different entities licensed under this law, along with a private citizen and licensed veterinarian. I'm the current Distributor Representative on the Board and Chairperson of this Board.

Every line of the current law was reviewed and discussed in detail by this Board. That is why you will notice minimal changes such as: deleting the dated word of 'pound' that is a 1950's terminology. Also deleting the words compartment and hutch. Compartment means a glove box and hutch is for rabbits, not dogs or cats.

From the very minimal issues to the major issue of why we have chosen to present a bill to update this Kansas Pet Animal Act: **Funding**, we need funding. The increase in fees was thoroughly discussed and voted on by the Advisory Board. Since the issue of additional General Fund money is off the table, this is a must for the program to survive. This is a must for the reputation that Kansas has gained concerning pet animals.

Rescue Networks and Group Homes are already a part of our law. We are taking this opportunity to combine and define them properly and give them their deserved position on the Advisory Board. We will be allowing Rescues and Shelters to host adoption events at a location other than the licensed premises.

This bill will now give the state authority to check the health and records of the USDA licensed kennels. We usually hear testimony from the opposition that we don't want to follow two sets of rules; it is hard to please two masters. If that issue happens to come up again this year, I have an easy fix. The current law limits the Kansas inspectors to only inspect USDA kennels, by following USDA rules 3.1 to 3.12. That left out the health and record keeping. Just add the numbers 2.4, 2.5, 2.75-2.80, 2.126, and 2.130, that will allow them to check health, records, animal's identification, age of pets in commerce and you can extend that from 3.13 to 3.19 if you wish them to also inspect transportation of animals of USDA licensed kennels. They already have the authority to check these items on every other licensee, just not USDA facilities. By adding these numbers it is a win-win situation. The skeptical USDA breeder is assured they only have to follow one set of rules/regulations and the state is able to inspect these crucial elements of Health and Records.

We have changed the wording of MAY inspect to SHALL inspect again, but have also changed the frequency of inspections, so the program can be maintained within the budget.

Since the terms wholesale and retail have been so confusing over the years, used in this law. We have chosen to delete them and instead use the terms USDA Animal Breeder and Non-USDA Animal Breeder. We both do the same thing; just have different beliefs in marketing pets. Whatever you do, **DO NOT** combine us or decrease the number of positions on the Advisory Board. I'm a USDA Animal Breeder/Distributor. I market my animals through Pet Stores.

An Australian Shepherd breeder has to guarantee the Australian Shepherd Club of America that they will not place their animals in Pet Stores, or they will lose the privilege of registering their animals with that club, therefore I do not want a Non-USDA breeder who despises my means of marketing to be representing me on the Board.

This law and the reputations of Kansas raised pets and the welfare of Kansas pet animals is vital. Please pass HB2030 this year.

Sincerely,
Sharon Munk
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