

To: House Agriculture Committee, Chair Rep. Kyle Hoffman

From: Kelly Kultala, Executive Director, Humane Society Legislative Fund of Kansas

Date: Monday, January 30, 2017

RE: HB 2097

Dear Members of the House Agriculture Committee:

The HSLF of Kansas was created last year as a political advocacy organization to support animal welfare legislation in Kansas, to educate the public about animal protection issues and to support candidates for office based on their records or positions on animal issues rather than on political party or affiliation.

I am here today in support of HB 2097 with amendments.

Our goal is to get rid of puppy mills in our state. Looking at Animal Health Department data, it is clear that the department is not underfunded, it is inefficient and thus ineffective and that unlicensed breeders are sucking up a majority of the state resources. We look forward to working with all stakeholders regarding this issue including the Department of Agriculture, animal welfare groups and breeders to promote legislation that updates and strengthens the pet animal industry in Kansas.

Questions?

Kelly Kultala kelly@hslfkansas.org 816-803-7027 cell