

TAKE ONE



Dog & Cat owners Oppose PAWS!

Rescues, Local, Statewide, Nationwide
DOZENS more oppose PAWS

SB1139 and HB2669, the Pet Animal Welfare Statute of 2005 (PAWS)



About PAWS Did you have 1 litter of kittens or puppies? Want another litter? Then please research PAWS!

It will not improve the welfare of dogs or cats. Instead, it will take oversight resources away from where they are most needed, the large scale breeding operations that sell through middlemen. PAWS will unnecessarily infringe on the privacy of thousands of Americans who breed, raise and place a few dogs or cats each year, from their homes. Federal oversight of such operations is unwarranted and wasteful of limited USDA resources.

PAWS is in direct conflict with the present position of the USDA in regards to regulating small-scale breeders. Please note that in the Doris Day Animal League lawsuit against the USDA, the US Court of Appeals decision of January, 2003, clearly recognizes and upholds the intent of Congress in the AWA to regulate commercial breeding operations that use middlemen to distribute their puppies and kittens in interstate commerce, and not to regulate the private residences of small-scale or hobby breeders. PAWS changes the basic AWA position of regulating wholesale operations to including the regulation of home-based

retail operations, which will be an intrusion into private residences.

PAWS would dramatically alter the concept of the AWA as established by Congress many years ago. PAWS expands the AWA beyond its intended purpose of regulating wholesale breeders who use middlemen, to regulating retail sellers, including hobby dog and cat fanciers who sell more than 25 dogs or cats a year, or more than 6 litters a year. Please use the USDA's resources to focus on the large scale, high risk breeding operations that Congress intended the AWA to regulate. If there is a need to scrutinize the hobby and small scale breeders, please leave this to the local and state agencies, not the federal government.

PAWS would greatly expand the USDA regulation of small-scale dog and cat breeders by requiring that thousands of these breeders meet commercial standards of care, inspections and record keeping, although these breeders sell retail, directly to buyers of pet animals. This would greatly overextend the

capacity of the USDA. PAWS would double the existing 3000 Class A Dealers. In addition to the standard registries, there are breeders registering cats and dogs with other associations and an uncertain number of rescuers and others who may not register with any association but do sell cats and dogs and would be regulated under PAWS.

PAWS will not improve the welfare of dogs, cats and other pet animals. Congressmen who believe that their state has serious pet welfare problems should work with their state lawmakers to toughen state laws and to improve enforcement of existing laws to deal with those welfare problems.

The U.S. pet industry is already so heavily regulated that the supply of high quality American bred dogs is declining and American consumers are turning to poorly-bred unhealthy foreign imports. Improving the laws that govern the importation of dogs for resale or adoption is needed to protect the American buyers and to prevent the transmission of disease to our domestic animals and wildlife.

SOME Organizations opposing PAWS:

Cat Fanciers' Association

United Kennel Club

American Dog Owners' Association

Sportsmen's and Animal Owners' Voting Alliance

The International Cat Association

American Pomeranian Club

American Dog Breeders Association

Ask yourself:

- Are you opposed to legislation that may lead to USDA inspections of your home?
- Are you opposed to legislation that may force you to rebuild your kennel/home to meet USDA requirements?
- Do you have the same goals and traditions as HSUS and PETA?
- Would you be comfortable with dog registries reporting your activities to the federal government?

PAWS goal is to stamp out all breedable cats and dogs



YOU might need a USDA license if this passes!

Mailing address:
Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition & Forestry
Room SR-328A
Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC. 20510-6000

<http://smythwicks.org/paws/1.html>
<http://pet-law.com/paws/ppa3.html>
<http://smythwicks.org/myth.pdf>
<http://smythwicks.org/files/dealer.pdf>
<http://www.dfow.org/paws.htm>

Committee phone number:
(202) 224-2035

THIS CAN AFFECT YOU! SPREAD THE WORD! Tell friends and Family!

IF you own ANY horses, rabbits, gerbils (mammal) and sell 1 litter of dogs or cats this may affect YOU!