

ATT: Environment Committee

I am writing to ask you to support S.B. 445 which will prohibit the sale of commercially bred dogs in new Ct. pet stores and phase out the sale of these animals in the 16 Ct stores that presently sell them.

Many pet shops have built successful businesses based on ethical principals of adoption and rescue.

In 2012 2,700 dogs and cats were euthanized in Ct. municipal shelters. There are too many animals needing homes for law makers not to recognize this need.

2012 saw the state spending \$733,199.00 on the APCP program, (Animal Population Control Program), to reduce the dog/cat population. By having pet stores work with shelters and rescue groups, overpopulation would be greatly reduced and the money allocated for this program could be put to better use.

Pet shops should be focusing on the sale/adoption of dogs from public shelters. For individuals looking for breed specific animals, there are rescue groups whose focus is rescuing specific breeds.

Please, make the right decision and vote for S.B.445.

Thank you.

Cheryl Lipson

Woodbridge, Ct.