

Dear Environment Committee,

I am writing to express my support of SB 445, regarding pet shops selling dogs from puppy mills. However, I would like to see the following 2 provisions added to the bill:

- 1) New pet shops cannot sell commercially-bred dogs
- 2) Current pet shops must phase-out of the sale of commercially-bred dogs

There are only 16 pet stores in the state that currently sell commercially-bred dogs, and it is incontrovertible that the vast majority of these dogs come from puppy mills. Meanwhile, our state spends money to house and kill thousands of dogs in shelters. This is costing our state money, and costing dogs their lives. Furthermore, every breed of dog has a rescue. This bill would not prevent people from getting the type of dog they want. Therefore, this legislation makes sense, and I hope you will see to it that it moves forward.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,  
Julia Caruk  
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