

December 4, 2013

Task Force Hearing
Wednesday December 4, 2013

Topic: Should puppies and cats be banned for sale in pet stores?

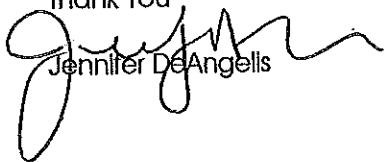
Dear Members of the Task Force,

My name is Jennifer DeAngellis and I am here today to advise you that banning the sale of puppies and cats from pet stores will not correct the problem with inadequate breeders. I have been employed with All Pets Club for 7 years and I am proud to say that I do all the purchasing of puppies for our stores. I deal strictly with USDA Professional Breeders who have been doing business with us for the past 5-10 years. I call them Professionals because I know what they do to run their kennel. I know how much time, dedication, expenses, maintenance, care, love, respect and hard work that goes into taking care of their dogs and their puppies. I know this by working with them and our customers who have purchased puppies from us and personally contacted the breeder to thank them on what a great puppy they have and how much they love them. Did you know we have a handful of our breeders who are involved in Kansas Pets Professionals (Keep) Kansas Excellence through Education Program? They do this because their standards are higher than the inadequate breeder who unfortunately you are allowing to ruin the professional breeders instead of eliminating the "bad apples".

I can advise that through my own personal experience Pet Stores are not the problem. I hold in my hand the file of my late German Shepherd Spike whom I purchased from a local breeder in CT. Within a year he was diagnosed with hip dysplasia and continued to develop numerous amount of health issues. Over the course of his life of 11 years it cost me roughly \$13,000+ but he was my dog and I loved him. After Spike passed I bought another German shepherd from a private breeder in CT, at only 5 years old I have already replaced both his back knees costing me \$6,000. Both of the above are unregulated and have no State Warranty to follow so explain to me what makes them so different from Pet Stores who sell puppies from USDA Licensed professional breeders who are regulated, inspected and have to follow the CT State Warranty.

Think about this, if everyone who sold/adopted dogs or cats were regulated, licensed and followed the State Warranty-not only would the consumer be protected, but most importantly the animals would be protected and isn't this why we are all here to begin with for the wellbeing of the animals.

Thank You


Jennifer DeAngellis