

Testimony for hearing on pet shops, Dec. 4, 2013

Karen Laski  
279 Fern St.  
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Dear Task force members,

I strongly support the legislative proposal to require pet shops in Connecticut to humanely source dogs and cats from rescues or shelters. I have been involved with dog and cat rescue since 1968 and have seen countless dogs who needed to be re-homed after people purchased them from a pet shop. People seek rescues and shelters for many reasons, but primarily dogs bought from pet shops are brought to rescues and shelters because of illness, congenital problems, animal not living up to customer's expectations or because of "impulsive buying" (the hallmark of the commercial pet trade).

Connecticut government cannot regulate current sources of pet store dogs and cats. The USDA does not have humane standards to properly regulate the puppy mills that CT pet stores are using. The 15 pet stores that have not yet signed on can certainly join with over one hundred CT pet businesses that have adopted compassionate standards. Responsible local breeders will benefit as well.

Thank you,  
Laski-Moore family  
279 Fern St.  
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