

Representative Hoffman and members of the House Agriculture Committee:

The changes from current law to House Bill 2097 were addressed by the current Pet Animal Advisory Board.

The main issue is a means to fund this program. We desperately need your cooperation to keep this program in place. No one wants to revisit the earlier years of the 1990's with the bad press for our state. We are better than that. Being concerned with animal **Welfare** is a given in an Agriculture State. We don't agree with the Animal Rights Agenda. Keep those two separate.

We have combined the USDA breeder, the wholesale breeder, the hobby breeder, the Non-USDA breeder, and the retail breeder all into one category with HB 2097. This will be less confusing. Fees will be set in rules and regulations.

We have added one new entity, rescue network on paper. As it stands now, they have fallen under the Shelter category, but all agree it is best to separate and define them in print, thus we felt they deserve a spot on the Advisory Board. We've had pet animal foster homes for decades; we are now getting them defined in law.

The shelter representative and members of the public explained to the Advisory Board the adoption event programs. We have added this as New Section 2, to ease the paperwork process for shelters and rescues hosting adoption events.

The current law prevents the commissioner from inspecting a USDA breeder's records, identification of animals, and the health of their animals. This was a glitch in the 1991 law. HB 2097 will finally set that matter straight.

The fiscal year has been scooted by three months, and a lot of out-dated language has been changed, i.e. scratch the words compartment and hutch, and rid the law of the 1950's term of pound, and use the word 'shelter' instead.

House Bill 2097 is the product of the Kansas Pet Animal Advisory Board. Please pass it along. We need the funding to remain viable.

Sincerely,

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