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Chairman Hoffman and members of the House Agriculture Committee

The flu season is upon us in Menlo, thus it is all Hands on Deck, since our pet delivery is also on Tuesdays.

We are the USDA licensed facility that employs the entire family and have been here for 40 years now. We were in the thick of it when this Pet Animal Act became Law in 1988. That one didn't work. With the help of Dr Moiser from K-State, a shelter representative from Wichita, and breeder/distributor input this law was rewritten in 1990, passed in 1991, and has worked ever since. Since the law works as written, we will leave it alone except increase the fees.

Everything goes up in price: wages, benefits, gasoline, etc., thus we need an increase in fees. The last increase was 12 years ago. These fees have been discussed and approved by the Advisory Board. USDA licensed facilities and shelters are being raised by \$250. That is the maximum. The commissioner has the ability to charge fees according to size which in past years has always been done with the shelter category.

The other change is the license year going from June 30th to September 30th. This should not be a problem.

We request that you pass this House Bill 2477 as written to speed the process up due to the last five years of disagreements over terminology, etc., that can't seem to be settled. Let's fund a program that works.

Thank you very much,

The Munks from Menlo