

January 28, 2018

Re: HB 2477
House Agriculture Committee

Dear Chair Hoffman and Members of the Committee:

I am writing you today to ask that you **OPPOSE** HB 2477.

My name is Amy Heggstad and I am the Founder and a Board Member for Beauties and Beasts, Inc., Wichita, Kansas.

Beauties and Beasts' purpose is to network and rescue Death Row animals at shelters in danger of euthanasia and place them in adopter or foster homes that will provide them the love and care they need to become happy, healthy animals. We do not discriminate against breed, age, medical or behavior ... we love them all the same.

I respectfully ask all of you, have you walked the halls of your local shelter? The halls that animals are kept in cells for no fault of their own? The halls that animals are waiting for a miracle to be saved from euthanasia? Well, I do. I walk those halls every week and have done so since I founded Beauties and Beasts, Inc. back in September 2014. I've been there to witness cats & kittens and dogs & puppies being pulled to the back to be euthanized. Have you? I have also been there to pull and save the lives of almost 1300 animals from our local shelter and helped network thousands to save their lives.

I do all of this while working a full-time job, recruiting volunteers who also all have full time jobs, and we constantly are always asking people in the community for donations to help save these animals. We are tired. We are overwhelmed. WE are your constituents.

We can do better ... we have to do better - this program is simply not working here in Kansas and the answer is not to raise the fees for shelters and rescues.

I ask you to **OPPOSE** HB 2477 and postpone any legislative action until you have studied the Legislative Post Audit report.

Sincerely,

/s/ Amy Heggstad

Amy Heggstad
Founder and Board Member, Beauties and Beasts, Inc.
Wichita, Kansas