



Leavenworth County Humane Society, Inc.

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In SUPPORT of 2018 HB 2477

Distinguished Senators:

For the past several years, those of us working in the pet animal sector of Kansas agriculture have been working to improve accountability and efficiency in the Animal Facility Inspection Program, while retaining the program's focus on producing healthy, humanely treated, and behaviorally sound pet animals.

This year, the House has passed (as amended) HB 2477, which provides for several things:

- unannounced inspections for all licensees
- consequences for missed, failed, focused inspections and re-inspections

I am in strong support of HB 2477 as amended by the House Committee of the Whole.

I've included some other items of concern that remain to be addressed.

- A licensee who fails 3 inspections in a 2 year period should have their license revoked for a period of at least 2 years.
- All licensees should be required to provide inspectors access to veterinary records for the pets in their care.
- Rescue Networks (and Group Home Shelters) need representation on the Pet Animal Advisory Board. They pay their fees, yet have no representation on the advisory board.
- Anyone failing a USDA or AFIP inspection should be automatically disqualified from serving on the Pet Animal Advisory Board for a period of 3 years after they re-establish compliance with applicable laws, statutes and regulations.
- The Private Citizen on the Pet Animal Advisory Board should be someone NOT affiliated with the pet animal industry. This person represents the CONSUMER. They should have no professional relationship with a licensee and they should not be related to a licensee by blood or marriage.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.