



September 1, 20115

Community Leaders,

StopOnlinePuppyMills of Michigan supports the following proposed legislation and pet store program. We would like Michigan community leaders to encourage humane pet acquisitions through shelters and foster-based animal rescue organizations.

1. The Large Scale Commercial Dog Breeder Act SB 339 and HB 4898 will help to curb puppy mills in the state.
2. The Humane Pet Acquisition Ordinance to prohibit the retail sale of dogs, cats, rabbits, ferrets, long-lived birds and large reptiles in local communities, and to protect families from irresponsible pet retailers.
3. The Puppy Friendly Pet Store program encourages pet supply stores to make an official policy not to sell puppies or kittens.

Over two million puppies are born in mills each year and our goal is to stop the supply of puppies being sold from puppy farm breeders. The breeding parents in mills receive little if any vet care and are subjected to untold cruelties every day of their lives. The state of Michigan has significantly more dogs than it has homes therefore shelters throughout the state are forced to endure the emotional pain of euthanizing healthy adoptable dogs due to lack of space. The cost to taxpayers is also significant with the mills that flood the market getting off without any penalty.

Dogs sold in pet stores come from puppy mills. As in mass produced product, it is not about quality, but quantity. The dogs suffer daily. The puppies are many times sick and unhealthy. The uninformed consumers who buy them pay emotionally and with their wallets as they attempt to save their sick puppy. And those who were impulse buys many times end up in shelters at taxpayer expense. There are enough reputable breeders and shelters to supply Michigan consumers with the dogs they desire. Please support this legislation.

Diane Hansell  
Director  
StopOnlinePuppyMills.org