



HB 1451 by Thompson



This bill is fundamentally flawed and can't be fixed with amendments!

**This is a “Pet Elimination Bill” to regulate dog and cat breeders;
being promoted by animal “rights” groups nationwide:
HSUS, ASPCA, PETA and locally by Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN).**

Would you ask a “vegan” to regulate the meat industry?
A pedophile to write regulations for daycare centers?
Then why would Texas legislators pass this bill which is from HSUS?

“You have to pass it to find out what's in it!”
as Speaker Nancy Pelosi said about ObamaCare.

This is a “blank check” to stop all breeding of dogs and cats in Texas. It's not their “goal;” it's their starting point. No Breeding = No Pets = No Vets = No Pet Supplies!

“A Puppymill is a facility where dogs are bred and sold that is in violation of the state Animal Cruelty Statute which sets the basic standards of care for all animals.”

It is not true that there are no regulations in Texas!

**The Animal Rights Industry creates a “crisis” where none exists.
Texas is not a “puppymill” state.**

HSUS and THLN both say “Get anything passed and come back later.” (See our flyer.)

- **From the HSUS Website “Lobby 101, # 12** is “Be flexible ... Support legislative strategies that may save an otherwise doomed bill: ... placing provisions in regulations [rules] instead of statute.”
- **“By rule” is repeated throughout this bill.** The Commission by rule shall establish all fees, requirements for license issuance, renewal, and revocation of license for any violations, even if minor.
- **Legislative Budget Board predicts fiscal impact to be \$0 through 2013** with 14.5 new employees hired and 1,000 Breeder Licenses sold. With only 35 USDA licensed dog breeders in Texas plus new applicants, there will be less than 100 state licensed facilities With major budget cuts for our schools, social and medical programs, is passing this unnecessary and needless bill a wise decision?
- **The standards adopted under this section must meet a minimum of federal USDA regulations which can NOT be met in a home environment.**
- **HSUS is pouring millions into our state to get this passed.** The bill allows gifts, grants, and donations from any source for deposit into the account. But will HSUS pay for this forever? “Snitches” will be paid for information on breeders.
- **If this bill is truly concerned with standards for animal “welfare” of dogs and cats in Texas,** why does it only address dog and cat breeders? It should require the same “standards” from rescuers, animal shelters, animal control facilities, veterinarians, PetSmart, PetCo, pet stores, boarding and grooming kennels.

- **This is a direct attack on American Kennel Club, United Kennel Club, Cat Fanciers' Association, The International Cat Association, and other registries** that register show cats and conformation or performance dogs for many competitive events. It is a subterfuge to say it is only directed at “pupymills and kittymills!”
- **FACT IS: The animal “rights” extremists have a deep hatred for all breeders** and demonstrated at the **Westminster Dog Show** last year during the Best In Show Award - claiming every AKC dog bred “kills a shelter dog.” From 5% to 7% of dogs in animal controls and shelters are purebred; cats less than 1%.
- **How will it be enforced?** Who determines reproduction status of “Intact Females,” or number of litters bred? Number of dogs or cats owned doesn't equate to quality of care animals receive.
- **Ownership of “Intact” Female Dogs or Cats doesn't mean “breeding” animals.** Many Dog and Cat Fanciers and owners of titled dogs in conformation, hunting, herding, tracking, agility, obedience, earthdog, and lure coursing keep beloved intact retired champions for the dog's lifetime. They don't dispose of them. Bill mandates that owner must provide proof of “not breeding” female dogs and cats.
- **Third Party Inspector** may be “a state agency, local policeman, fireman or an employee of any of the entities.” These people have no animal expertise.
- **Criminal Background Checks** for applicant and possibly all employees. By rule, the Commission may establish registration procedures for any person employed in a commercial breeder's facility. (No details)
- **Inspections: The Third Party Inspector is not required to provide advance notice to the commercial breeder. Inspector can access anywhere animals or records are kept.** What about our Fourth Amendment Rights as animal owners?
- **This bill is unwarranted intrusion on personal property rights.** Local animal control staff are constantly seeking permits and regulations to allow them access to private property without a search warrant. Due Process is sadly lacking in all animal legislation since these radical groups have taken over local animal advisory boards, the Animal Law Section of the State Bar, local humane societies and are employed in influential positions within all levels of government.
- **Consumer Interest Information leaves the door open for rules for a “Puppy and Kitten Lemon Law” to guarantee perfect health for the animal's lifetime.**
- **Extremists ignore facts and play on emotionalism.** Raids and seizures are made every week in Texas under our Animal Cruelty Statute – sometimes as fundraisers. Responsible Pet Owners Alliance has presented members of the House Committee on Licensing and Administrative Procedures a list of many seizures and raids made during the years 2009-2010.
- **It is shocking that Texas Veterinary Medical Association is supporting this bill and was instrumental in writing it. With HSUS forming their own Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association recently, it should be obvious to veterinarians that their livelihood is threatened.**