



Kansas Pet Professionals

*Dedicated to Ensuring the Health of KANSAS Pets
and the Humane Care of ALL Animals.*

March 21, 2023

House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
Written Testimony for House Bill 2437

RE: Oppose House Bill 2437

Dear Representative Rahjes and Committee Members,

I am a member of the Kansas Pet Professionals and hold an animal breeder license with the Animal Facilities Inspection Program. I am writing to ask that you oppose House Bill 2437 as written regarding the Kansas Pet Animal Act. Our organization has requested you to consider many amendments that should show that there are many things to discuss and establish than the few changes the department has introduced to you.

I am a small breeder and these amendments target me. Hours for my business and my life should not have to revolve around inspections at my facility. If I am in good standing every time they inspect me, I shouldn't have to deal with laws telling me what hours I should be open so I can be inspected without a fine. I am a one woman show and I can't be there ALL DAY EVERY DAY. As the guidelines stand right now, I must let the inspector know when I go to the vet, go to the doctor, go pick up my grandkids from school, go pick up dog food and supplies, etc. because they are all more than 30 minutes away and I will get a monetary fine for "living my life". No, my neighbors and family cannot step in because they work more than 30 minutes away. The amendments will only make my situation worse. Stop allowing people to change the rules when they don't get the input of the people who must live them.

Many items introduced in House Bill 2437 can be addressed within the current regulations and would allow more latitude for the program and the industry. The program and act were developed by Kansas breeders, for breeders and this is the second year that the Kansas Pet Animal Advisory Board has not been made aware of legislation being submitted by the department until after they have requested legislative consideration for change. The Kansas Pet Animal Advisory Board should be informed prior to amendments being made to discuss those amendments. What is being presented is not what was discussed and approved by the board.

Until the department and program can be transparent and communicate with all industries this Act involves, no legislation should be passed. **I ask that you oppose House Bill 2437 as written and consider the requested amendments.**

Thank you for your consideration and I hope you vote to oppose House Bill 2437.

Regards,

Philisha Stallbaumer, Kansas Animal Breeder