



# KANSAS PET ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD

The Kansas Pet Animal Advisory Board is comprised of one person from each of the entities that fall under this facilities inspection program, plus one person from the public.

I'm the current chairperson of this Board. I'm here on behalf of the Kansas Pet Animal Advisory Board to answer your questions and to inform you that in addition to our regularly scheduled quarterly meetings, we held extra meetings to address this law, and also rules and regulations.

Our last meeting was a telephone conference on March 8<sup>th</sup>, and these amendments to our original version of Senate Bill 47 were addressed. The polled board vote was to support Senate Bill 47 as it was introduced without these amendments. One member voiced in addition; "We need the fee increase, that is our number one goal, if we have to accept the amendments to get the fee increase.....I'm just saying."

If Senate Bill 47 were to pass as it was initially presented the program will have the funding needed to operate.

The amendments were FULLY and LENGTHLY discussed. No-Contact Fee of \$80. Pet stores and shelters have hours posted as to when they are open to the public. Large breeders usually have someone on the place. This amendment is targeted towards the small breeders and the rescues. I don't believe we need the reputation of targeting any group for extra money. This amendment will force the licensees to limit the days and hours that they will designate on their renewal forms, thus making it hard for an inspector with a large territory to plan their days. Utilizing the no-contact fee to generate funds for the program was unanimously voted down.

As for the amendment that taxes...fines....the \$100 for the first re-inspection and \$150 for the second re-inspection: The Advisory Board discussed this issue on more than one occasion. If you leave this amendment in Senate Bill 47, you will more than likely place our state inspectors in some very volatile situations. If placing inspectors in a possible hostile setting doesn't give you pause, try this one: most licensees will protest a fine, and apply for an appeals process, this will cost the program endless amount of money in defense of their position. Whoever came up with this idea did not think it through as thoroughly as the Advisory Board did. The Advisory Board voted to not use re-inspections fees as a means to generate funds. Again, we have raised fees; we don't need this to generate funds.

Onto another amendment: Section 8 47-1709. The law currently reads: Notice need no be given to any person prior to inspections. The HUMAN SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES now wants it to read: Notice will not be given to any person prior to inspection. The Advisory Board addressed this issue. Our vote was to allow the inspectors to use discretion, call 20 or 30 minutes prior to see if they are home, call the evening before to see who will be available, before you plan a full day when a good distance is to be traveled. It has never been reported that this wording of 1988: “Notice need not be given” has ever been misused.

So tell me why the **AGRICULTURE VOICES** in this **AGRICULTURE STATE** would listen to the HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES proposals. We have a very dedicated Advisory Board that has spent five years discussing this law. How can the Advisory Board’s work be disregarded so quickly and why do we let the HSUS pull the strings? It is a shame after all the hard dedicated work and time with majority votes, that the Advisory Board’s voice is so quickly swept aside by a national group. Kansas can take care of Kansas. Why let the Humane Society of the United States pull the strings? HSUS has hired leaders in each state, and hired lobbyist to do their will. HSUS’s agenda is to rid the world of domesticated animals. Regulate, fine, fee, tax them into submission. Maybe this happens in the urban states, but I truly expect better of rural KANSAS.

Please pass SB 47 as it was introduced without the amendments.