

Dear Senator Kerschen and Members of the Committee:

I am asking you to support Kansas animals by voting in favor of HB 2477, as amended by the full House.

As a Kansas resident, I would like breeders and puppy mills to be held to the same standards as rescues by having their buildings inspected without notice. Kansas is number 2 in the nation for puppy mills and I would like to see this change.

We personally have a pug, named Winston, who was rescued from a puppy mill. He lived his life in a kennel on the concrete ground. They used him for 6-7 years to make money, breeding him, and then took him to be put to sleep when they could no longer breed him. Luckily the Wichita Pug Rescue saved him and we later adopted him. His nutrition was so poor that all of his teeth were rotten and had to be pulled. He had bilateral ear infections, a bladder infection and pressure sores to all the joints on his legs due to living on the concrete. He had no idea how to be a dog and is still learning after 8 months. He was unable to go up and downstairs, held his urine for 24 hours at a time, didn't know what treats were and had no idea how to walk on a leash. He has severe anxiety when we go to another level of the house without him.

The amendments assure the integrity of the animal facility inspection program and keep the health, safety and welfare of Kansas companion animals.

Please support the animals of Kansas, including Winston, by voting in favor of HB 2477, as amended by the full House.

Respectfully,

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