

Good morning,

My name is Dana Dean, I reside in Randolph and I am the Vice President of the Vermont Federation of Dog Clubs as well as Secretary of the Woodstock Dog Club and I am writing in opposition to the adoption of H.567. This bill will do nothing to curtail the out of state "puppy mills" supplying their dogs to Vermont. Parking lot sales of puppies will continue and this bill does nothing to stop that.

Vermont pet purchasers should continue to be allowed to choose from which responsible source they obtain a pet, which may include breeders, shelters, rescues, and pet stores. Vermont pet purchasers should remain protected by the state's consumer protection laws. Current consumer laws provide protection against high usury fees that have been previously stated at hearing as a tool of pet shops when a consumer obtains financing through the shop.

Why would lawmakers substitute a Vermont regulated source of pets for an unregulated one? By only advocating for dogs from rescues for Vermont consumers, H.567 promotes getting a dog with unknown background, temperament, and health history. There have been numerous reports of consumers who have been bilked by the rescues with dogs who have had to be destroyed due to temperament or illness. Frankly, spend your energy supporting tighter legislation and registration of rescues and shelters.

I urge you to oppose the adoption of this piece of legislation.

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Dana A Dean, Secretary
Woodstock Dog Club, Inc