



Vermont Humane Federation

PO Box 311, Waterbury, VT 05676
www.vermonthumane.org

May 7, 2026

Dear Members of the Vermont Senate Government Operations Committee,

The Vermont Humane Federation (VHF), a strong collaborative network of 19 local organizations that tackles critical issues such as animal cruelty, pet homelessness, and legislative advocacy, benefiting both the animals and people of Vermont, extends its thanks and gratitude for your attention to and support of H.841.

While the VHF supports regulating the number of animals kept by anyone involved in the animal industry (shelters, rescues, breeders, kennels, sanctuaries, etc.) as well as individuals with numerous domestic pets, we recognize the need for further study, input, and data. Our utmost concern: Prevent the devastating consequences for animals, animal-protection organizations, and entire communities when unchecked intentional or accidental breeding occurs or when a formerly stable situation falls apart because of an unexpected economic change or medical issue.

The VHF has also long supported licensing and better regulations to prevent this as we continue to see well-meaning but ill-equipped rescue organizations transporting dogs and cats into Vermont from the south. To remediate this and other issues, it is the intent of the VHF to work with the Director of Animal Welfare and other interested parties before the start of the next biennium.

On behalf of the VHF, I thank you again for all your work on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Jackie Stanley
President, Vermont Humane Federation

VHF members are: Addison County Humane Society – Homeward Bound • Central Vermont Humane Society • Felines and Friends • Franklin County Animal Rescue • Francis of Assisi Society for Animals • HEART Wildlife Removal • Humane Society of Chittenden County • Kingdom Animal Shelter • Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society • North Country Animal League • PAWSitive Pantry • Protect Our Wildlife • Riverside Rescue • Rutland County Humane Society • Spay ASAP, Inc. • Springfield Humane Society • VT Disaster Animal Response Team • VT-CAN! • Windham County Humane Society