

## Attachment A

### Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources

#### HB21-1102 Consumer Protection For Dog & Cat Purchasers

#### Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Jack Major Against Self	<p>Putting this into law is will prevent any one from opening a pet store and will not eliminate pet mills they are still there all over the world i can see having to be a reg store and have records from where the pets came from to help prevent mills but to eliminate some one from wanting to open a pet store and sell cats and dogs is wrong you do not have the right to stop someone from trying to run a pet store it is a very hard business to make profitable.</p> <p>thanks you for your time and please if you do pass it on at least strike that no new pet stores can open</p> <p>Jack Major</p>
Valerie Hunter-Goss For Self	<p>I'm a resident of Fort Collins and I'm asking you to support HB21-1102.</p> <p>Fact: a reputable breeder doesn't sell their puppies to a pet store. At Pet City in Fort Collins they only list the breed, sex and DOB of their puppies on their website. There's no info on where the puppy was born such as the state, the breeder's USDA license # and no purchase price. Pet City is DBA 'A Best Friend, LLC' and is owned by a large-scale commercial breeder (Rebecca Mosshart) in Protection, KS. I obtained this info from the 'Articles of Organization' filed with the Colorado Secretary of State.</p> <p>The opposition wants you to think this bill will take away jobs, attack small businesses and licensed breeders across the country. They have no proof that anyone is going to lose their job. The pet stores simply have to provide more info to the consumer before the consumer makes their decision to spend a lot of money on a pet. The opposition has said that this bill is an attempt to control the supply of available pets so our shelters and rescues will have exclusive control of the pet market. They have no proof of that either.</p>

Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources

	<p>I can find info on other products before I purchase but a naive consumer has no idea that the parents of the puppies are living a life confined to a small, dirty cage where a USDA licensed breeder is ONLY required to provide 'minimum standards of care' under the Animal Welfare Act of 1966.</p> <p>Please vote yes to pass this bill out of committee!</p>
<p>Heather Kimberling For Self</p>	<p>I support passing House Bill 21-1102</p> <p>Thank you</p>
<p>Cordelia Stone For Self</p>	<p>Dear Senate Committee Members,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to the citizens of Colorado!</p> <p>I am writing to ask you to please support HB 21-1102, Consumer Protection for Dog and Cat Purchases.</p> <p>I know that if I were to buy a dog or cat from a pet store, I would certainly want to be able to easily see information about the breeder before my purchase. That the pet store owners object to this requirement, I find worrisome.</p> <p>The requirement to disclose to consumers in writing, before purchase, both the purchase price and interest rate/range associated with financing, is a common sense protection of the consumer.</p> <p>The heart-ache and financial burden to a family that has fallen in love with their pet can and should be avoided. Consumers with big hearts are easy to take advantage of, when their hearts melt at the sight of a new puppy or kitten.</p> <p>I also fully support the provision that prohibits new pet-stores from selling puppies.</p>

	<p>Please support Colorado consumers and future pet-owners. Please support HB 21-1102.</p> <p>Thank you for your time,</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Cordelia Stone, registered voter and pet-owner 4512 Moccasin Circle, PO Box 1330 Laporte, CO 80535 cordstone@gmail.com 970-689-4233</p>
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My name is Jacob Ahrenholtz, I am a current employee of Pet City Fort Collins. I am writing this letter in regard to the Colorado Consumer Protection For Dog And Cat Purchasers. I am in firm opposition to this bill on the grounds of posting prices and breeder information.

Posting more information on animals for sale whether in the form of price or origin may seem like a good piece of protection for transparency purposes. However, this impairs my ability as an employee to engage a customer in conversation prior to the purchasing phase. Having customers come to ask about an animal allows me as an employee to ask about their living situation and what they are looking for in a pet, which can allow me to make a judgement call on whether or not this purchase would end in a negative experience both for the animal and/or the customer. To take it further, it allows me to dissuade a purchaser from a certain animal and maybe redirect their focus to something that fits their living situation a little better before we are in the process of purchasing this animal. Not only does this protect the animal from a less than ideal home, it also protects the consumer from frustration from being denied an animal that they would like to purchase, rather than being dissuaded before they are buying it.

Posting information also objectifies the whole process, which is something I am very uncomfortable with. In our current policy, the customer is forced to form some sort of relationship with me, which ensures that both the consumer is satisfied to the fullest of my abilities and the animal is in the right hands. While yes, the animals must have some sort of price tag for the business to be a pet store, posting the prices objectifies the animals in my mind into mere inventory, which is the farthest from our beliefs. The customer loses very little in having to inquire into the price or even origins of the animal, while our business loses a lot of character when posting the prices of animals just the same as our bags of kibble. While I see the point of transparency, any consumer who has even the slightest of minds for the welfare of the animals wants to know where they come from. If a store refuses to disclose that, then obviously that reflects poorly on the character of the store. Of course a store, including us, will disclose this information to potential buyers, but only through conversation rather than the click of a button on our website or a slip of paper above their kennel. Keeping the humanity in our business is extremely important to me, and I don't believe we sacrifice transparency in order to achieve this.

I thank any reading this letter for their time and consideration.

Jacob Ahrenholtz, Employee, Pet City Fort Collins



## Colorado Voters for Animals

A Voice for the Voiceless and a vote for the Vote-less®

March 29, 2021

Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources

### Support of HB21-1102

My name is Roland Halpern, and I am the executive director of Colorado Voters for Animals, a nonpartisan, nonprofit animal welfare organization representing over 41,000 Coloradans who support sensible animal welfare laws.

Colorado Voters for Animals supports HB21-1102, the “Pet Store Consumer Protection Act.”

The proposed law protects both consumers and the puppies or kittens consumers may wish to buy. Puppies and kittens sold in pet stores are often sourced from “puppy mills” or “kitten factories” where the primary objective is producing animals without regard to the health or wellbeing of the breeding parents or their offspring.

Prospective buyers often fall in love with an animal prior to being provided with any information about its history, including breeding and medical care. As happens all too often, the consumer purchases the animal and only later learns about its history when the animal becomes sick, resulting in costly veterinarian bills or even the death of the animal from an illness or condition not apparent or disclosed at the time of purchase.

Colorado Voters for Animals believes consumers have a right to know where pet stores obtain the dogs and cats they offer for sale, full disclosure about rates and terms of any purchase/finance agreements, the right to all information including the name of the breeding facility, whether there are any USDA or state violations against the breeder, any medical history including the animal’s age, vaccinations (if applicable), treatment for injuries or disease, and all other information a prospective buyer may need in reaching an informed purchase decision.

This comes down to a simple issue of supply and demand. If an educated customer decides not to purchase an animal because of its questionable medical history or breeder violations, pet stores will no longer offer those animals and in turn, commercial breeders will be forced to provide better care of their animals or go out of business.

Thank you.

Roland Halpern  
Executive Director -Colorado Voters for Animals

Colorado Voters for Animals - 191 University Blvd., #345, Denver, CO 80206



EFFECTIVE ANIMAL  
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[www.covotersforanimals.org](http://www.covotersforanimals.org)

**TESTIMONY OF  
PET INDUSTRY JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL  
ON HB21-1102  
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & NATURAL  
RESOURCES**

March 25, 2021

The Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) appreciates the opportunity to offer our views and expertise on HB21-1102, which would ban the sale of dogs and cats in future retail pet stores and “grandfather” existing retail pet stores in Colorado.

As the advocacy voice of the responsible pet care community, PIJAC represents the interests and expertise of retailers, companion animal suppliers, manufacturers, distributors, pet owners and others involved in the many aspects of pet care throughout the state of Colorado and across the United States. Our association works to promote animal well-being and responsible pet ownership, foster environmental stewardship, and ensure the availability of healthy pets through our work at the state and federal levels—including the United States Department of Agriculture, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. PIJAC routinely advocates on legislative and regulatory proposals to advance the public interest of protecting public health and the safety, health and availability of companion animals.

All of us in the responsible pet care community don’t just care about animals, we provide care for them on a daily basis—and are dedicated to ensuring that appropriate care of animals is the primary focus of any law or regulation. As such, we offer an unmatched depth and breadth of experience on legislative efforts to verify and certify the health and well-being of pets from the time they are born all the way until they are taken home and made a part of families.

**Respectfully, PIJAC requests that you reject HB21-1102.** Everyone agrees that bad breeders who mistreat or neglect animals need to be put out of business. However, those who seek to stop bad breeders by targeting responsible pet stores with retail pet sale bans are misinformed.

While well-intentioned, retail pet sale bans will not stop bad breeders who are unregulated, unlicensed, and are not held accountable to any animal care standards. What bans will do is harm highly-regulated pet stores, eliminating a transparent and trusted source of pets that provides purchasers with legal protections, and driving prospective pet owners to unregulated, unlicensed and potentially unscrupulous pet-sellers.

The fact is that pet stores and the licensed breeders they work with are a highly-regulated, best-in-class source of pets that are inspected regularly, provide veterinary exams, and keep detailed records of the condition and care of their animals:

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) established and enforces humane care standards under the federal government’s

Animal Welfare Act that regulate the transportation, purchase, sale, housing, care, handling and treatment of animals for use as pets.

- Breeders with five or more breeding females that are not USDA-licensed are prohibited from selling to pet stores.
- USDA-licensed breeders are routinely inspected to ensure they are complying with humane standards for veterinary care, shelter, food, and clean water.
- Pet stores are also regulated by state laws, such as the Colorado Pet Animal Care Facilities Act (PACFA), regarding animal care and are required to keep records related to the health, veterinary care and source of the animals they sell.

Beyond the legal requirements, our members feel a responsibility to the animals themselves. They work with families to find the ideal pets for their individual situations because that is the single best way to ensure successful lifelong pet relationships, and keep pets from being surrendered to shelters and rescues. Pet stores also have a significant incentive to adhere to the highest standards of care and sourcing because they depend on their reputation, and positive word of mouth to stay in business.

Pet stores are a valuable and transparent option for prospective pet owners. They provide the peace-of-mind and the opportunity for families to personally interact with and choose a pet that will be the best fit for their circumstances that was raised under federal and state care standards, has a detailed medical history, and in many cases, is protected by a consumer warranty<sup>1</sup>.

The best option for pet ownership for some families are the pure- or purpose-bred puppies offered by pet stores. They may need a specific breed due to health considerations – 30 percent of Americans suffer from pet allergies<sup>2</sup>. Or, with young children, they may not be able to take on the behavior risks of bringing a dog with an unknown history into their home – 47 percent of rehomed dogs are relinquished because of pet problems, including aggressive behaviors<sup>3</sup>. If a future pet owner needs or wants a specific breed due to such common circumstances, their options will be severely limited without pet stores.

A pet sale ban will also increase the unregulated black market for pets. Without pet stores to personally interact with and select their new pet, families may turn to online sources, where they could fall victim to the “puppy scams” that have surged in recent years—tricked into sending unrecoverable money for a nonexistent dog. While there are reputable and responsible online sellers, the Better Business Bureau has stated that fake online puppy sellers and puppy scams have dramatically increased by 39 percent since 2017<sup>4</sup>, and up to 80 percent of sponsored online ads for puppies may be fake<sup>5</sup>. Victims of these puppy scams often have no legal recourse because they purchased from a source without regulatory oversight and without a purchase warranty to protect them.

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<sup>1</sup> American Veterinary Medical Association. <https://www.avma.org/advocacy/state-local-issues/pet-purchase-protection-laws>

<sup>2</sup> Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. <https://www.aafa.org/pet-dog-cat-allergies/>

<sup>3</sup> ASPCA, National Rehoming Survey (2015). <https://www.asPCA.org/animal-homelessness/shelter-intake-and-surrender/pet-statistic>

<sup>4</sup> BBB Alert: Beware of Puppy Scams This Holiday Season – Findings by BBB Reveal a Surge in Complaints and Scam Reports. (n.d.). <https://www.bbb.org/article/scams/18964-scam-alert-beware-of-puppy-scams-this-holiday-season>

<sup>5</sup> Puppy Scams: How to Protect Yourself from Fake Online Pet Sellers. (2017, November). <https://www.bbb.org/article/scams/14213-puppy-scams-how-to-protect-yourself-from-fake-online-pet-sellers#:~:text=Experts>

With a pet sale ban, future pet owners could also fall victim to bad breeders who don't adhere to care standards and sell puppies with diseases or genetic defects. Without the legal recourse of a warranty, such as those offered by many pet stores and required in many states, families are left with huge veterinary bills. In California, for example, veterinarians saw an increase in consumers purchasing sick dogs from unregulated sources shortly after the state implemented a ban on the sale of dogs, cats and rabbits at pet stores in 2019<sup>6</sup>.

**We respectfully urge the committee to reject HB21-1102.** The past year has been incredibly challenging, particularly for small business owners. These days, our government should be doing everything in its power to support responsible small businesses, especially those that are regulated. This legislation would not impact bad actors, but it will punish law-abiding pet stores, often small, local businesses that depend on establishing life-long relationships with pet owners to sustain their businesses because they can't compete with the volume pricing that online or big-box retailers are able to offer. These local businesses are committed to the health, safety, and wellbeing of the animals they provide to Colorado families.

PIJAC opposes "grandfathering" because it limits future business growth in the state of Colorado. Rather than penalizing law-abiding and responsible pet store owners, the way to put bad breeders out of business is to evaluate, improve, and increase enforcement of federal and state animal care laws, including setting and enforcing strong and uniform standards of care and applying them to pet sources including stores, licensed breeders, shelters and rescues.

PIJAC also recommends that before enacting such restrictive legislation, Colorado enact consumer protections in the form of pet warranty laws. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association, 22 states in the country provide legal recourse to people who purchase animals from pet stores which are later found to have an illness or medical condition. These protections often include replacement of the animal, a refund of the purchase price, and/or reimbursement of veterinary expenses, generally up to the purchase price of the animal. In this way, pet stores are further incentivized to work with quality breeders to ensure that the dogs they offer are healthy and well-bred.

We appreciate your consideration and would welcome the opportunity to work with the state of Colorado to find ways to meaningfully address bad breeders. By working together, we can make sure that Coloradans continue to have access to healthy animals to love as pets now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Savonne Caughey  
Director of Government Affairs  
Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council

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<sup>6</sup> ABC 10 San Diego <https://www.10news.com/news/team-10/puppy-dies-four-hours-after-sd-family-buys-it-vets-say-new-law-may-be-part-of-the-problem>

**TESTIMONY OF  
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BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & NATURAL  
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April 1, 2021

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The best option for pet ownership for some families are the pure- or purpose-bred puppies offered by pet stores. They may need a specific breed due to health considerations – 30 percent of Americans suffer from pet allergies<sup>2</sup>. Or, with young children, they may not be able to take on the behavior risks of bringing a dog with an unknown history into their home – 47 percent of rehomed dogs are relinquished because of pet problems, including aggressive behaviors<sup>3</sup>. If a future pet owner needs or wants a specific breed due to such common circumstances, their options will be severely limited without pet stores.

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PIJAC opposes "grandfathering" because it limits future business growth in the state of Colorado. Rather than penalizing law-abiding and responsible pet store owners, the way to put bad breeders out of business is to evaluate, improve, and increase enforcement of federal and state animal care laws, including setting and enforcing strong and uniform standards of care and applying them to pet sources including stores, licensed breeders, shelters and rescues.

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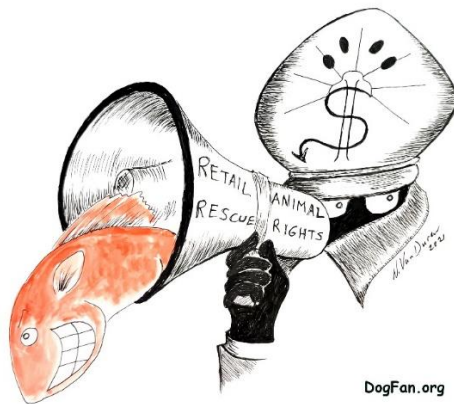


**HB21-1102**  
**"Consumer Protection for Dog and Cat Purchasers"**  
***is a Red Herring***

By Nick Van Duren  
DogFan.org

Consumer Protection is MEANINGLESS unless it addresses the real problem-makers. Pet Stores and Breeders are NOT the issue. They are NOT the problem. The culprits are the Animal Shelters and Animal Rights Activists and their Law Enforcers playing both teams, i.e. "Retail Rescue".

HB21-1102 is a ruse designed to distract, project, and deflect from what the Animal Shelters have really been up to. Their goal is also to codify their corruption and illicit practices into Colorado Law, thus manipulating the Legislature into giving its stamp of approval. They should have put themselves out of business years ago! They have other plans.



## WHAT IS "RETAIL RESCUE"?



## Follow the Money!

“Retail Rescue” actively markets “overpopulation” crisis of dogs, despite running out of dogs to “rescue”. Rather than put themselves out of business as they claimed was the goal, they now fundraise millions of dollars off of dogs that their collaborators have trafficked by smuggling them into the U.S. From there, a network of various organizations and volunteers launders these animals into the State of Colorado. (See “USDA Report on Live Importation of Dogs into the U.S. -2019”)

They project and deflect, branding anyone involved in legitimate commerce and animal husbandry as “puppy mills” and “animal abusers”. In order to gain market share, they lobby for laws upon laws upon laws to make life for retailers and breeders impossible.

They have also stacked the deck when it comes to law and enforcement. (See Colorado Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Enforcement---commissioned peace officers working both government law enforcement AND directly involved in the operations side of “Retail Rescue”).

## Where is the REAL Consumer Protection?



**Will It Ever End?**  
**After All...WHO Is Really Going to STOP Them?**



DogFan.org

**This is a Racket! This is a Syndicate!**

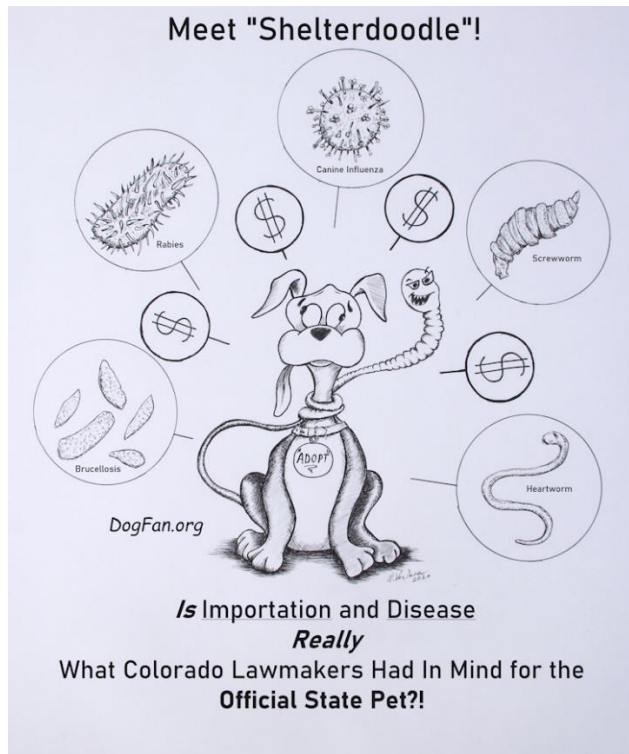


**Animal Rights + Animal Shelters = Retail Rescue**

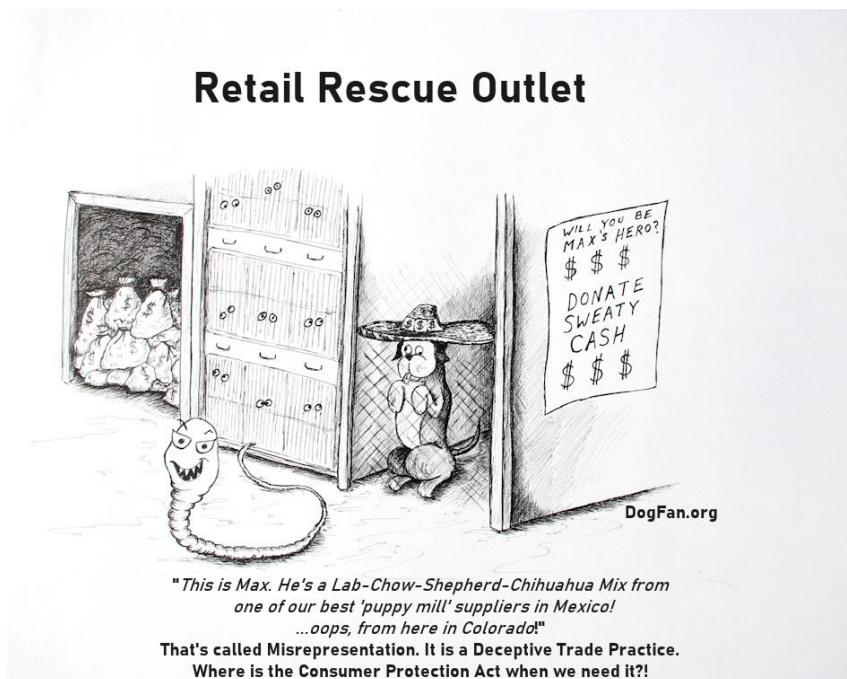
DogFan.org

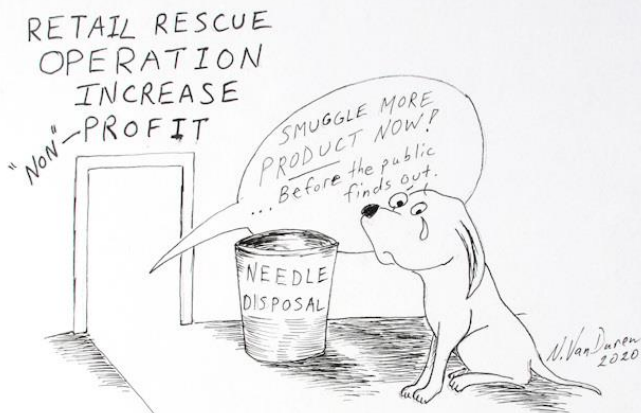
## Public Endangerment...

Yet Animal Shelters *STILL* Have a Blank Check



## Where is the REAL Consumer Protection?





**How many local dogs are killed just so our local "Retail Rescue" shelters can keep importing dogs to sell/adopt to unsuspecting families?**

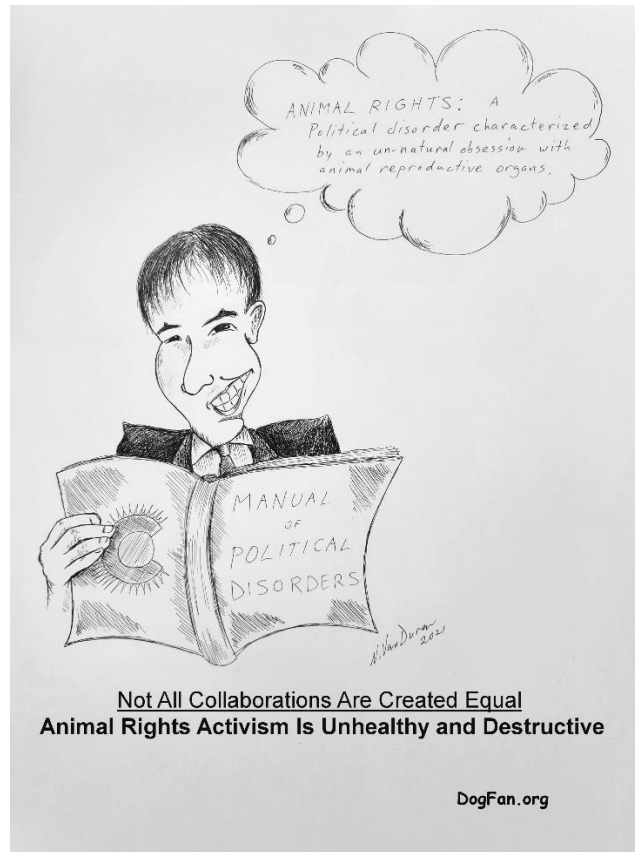
**DogFan.org**

## **All the Political Pressure Doesn't help...**

**Codifying Special Interest *Neurosis* Into Law is Never a Good Plan**



## Why IS Colorado Government Attacking Animal Husbandry and Supplanting it with Animal Trafficking and Donor Fraud?



## Agriculture is Now Being Attacked from All Sides

**The State of Colorado Department of Agriculture  
has *become* part of the problem.**

**A best... PACFA is a SHILL for the Animal Shelters (i.e. the "Retail Rescue Syndicate")**

For example, PACFA has been complicit in the "laundering" of trafficked animals into the State of Colorado. For years, the agency conveniently looked the other way as animal rights activists and their animal shelter partners built an empire almost entirely upon the use of slander and libel against ALL animal Agriculture. They had no real product to sell, so they crafted a false and malicious narrative; which created a platform for procuring millions of dollars in donations. They also created a new and illicit pipeline of supply; which completely up ends the concept of "rescue". Despite the obvious corruption, PACFA has quite literally done NOTHING to stop years of illicit business practices except stay quiet, occasionally give lip-service, sit idly by while collecting reporting statistics, and stall. And Stall. And Stall. What's more, the proposed program to deal with diseases and parasites AFTER they have already arrived (and traveled all over the country) is further proof that PACFA is covering for itself and complicit in the problems.

*Note that current statute already addresses these issues appropriately. For example:*

**Title 35. Agriculture Pet Animal Care. Article 80. Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act.**

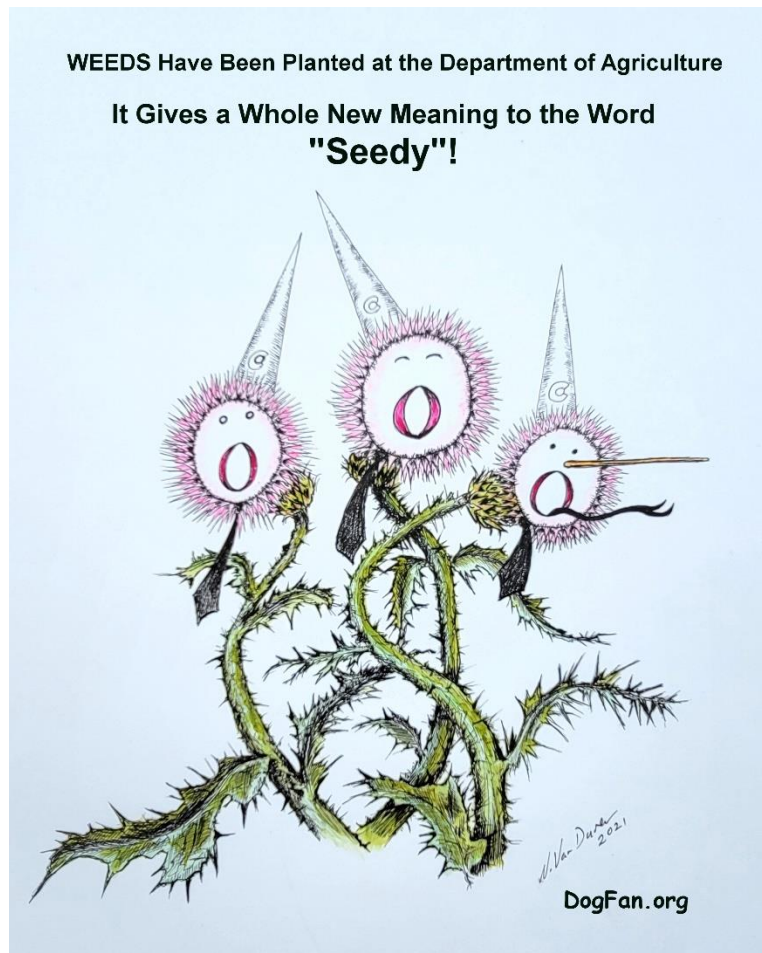
**(See § 35-80-108. Unlawful Acts)**

“(4) The failure by any person to comply with the provisions of paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection (1) of this section or paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of this section is a deceptive trade practice and is subject to the provisions of the “Colorado Consumer Protection Act”, article 1 of title 6, C.R.S.”

“(f) To make any misrepresentation or false promise through advertisements, employees, agents, or otherwise in connection with the business operations licensed pursuant to this article or for which an application for a license is pending; and”

“(g) To fail to take reasonable care to release for sale, trade, or adoption only those pet animals that are free of undisclosed disease, injury, or abnormality.”

*As it stands, PACFA appears to have no interest in addressing the vast amount of corruption within the animal shelters.*



How do you get smuggled merchandise into the state?



**Legislation!  
Legislation!  
Legislation!**

**...and use your "plants" in the  
Department of Agriculture  
to help you launder it.**

*N. Van Duren  
2021*  
**DogFan.org**

**Definitely "SEEDY"!**

Yet it Wasn't Enough Just to Plant Weeds at the Department of Agriculture...

The Bureau of Animal Protection IS Another Story Altogether!



At a **minimum**, commissioned officers at the Bureau of Animal Protection are guilty of:

1. Animal Rights Activism and Lobbying...working the angles *inside* the Colorado Department of Agriculture infrastructure and throughout local governments.
2. Working as Directors and Executives for animal shelter organizations. It goes far beyond a **conflict of interest**. They are actually part and parcel to all the illicit schemes being committed by the Retail Rescue Syndicate. They have been in on this racket the entire time!
3. Corrupting law enforcement to assist their illicit schemes and ulterior agendas. **Animal Control Activism is HOSTILE to Agriculture. Period!**

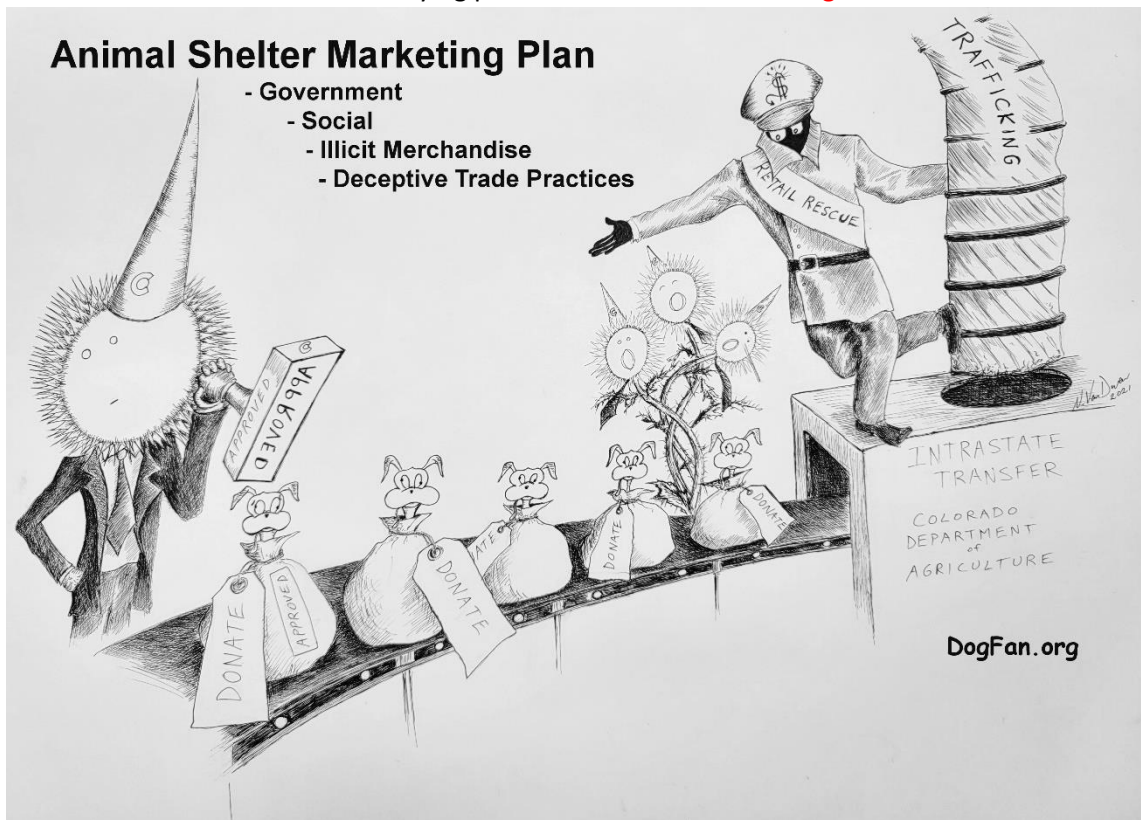
# ANIMAL CONTROL IS WATCHING



## Connecting the Dots

The Department of Agriculture's "collaborators" sure seems to be helping the Animal Shelters. A lot! Just look at that endless illicit pipeline of smuggled dogs. It is worth millions of dollars in donor fraud.

And lobbying power too! **How embarrassing!**



**Has Anyone in The State of Colorado Considered What Happens  
When State Agencies Assist in Illicit Smuggling?**

**For example...**

United States Code Annotated. Title 18. Crimes and Criminal Procedure. Part I. Crimes. Chapter 27.  
Customs. § 545. Smuggling goods into the United States

“Whoever knowingly and willfully, with intent to defraud the United States, smuggles, or clandestinely introduces or attempts to smuggle or clandestinely introduce into the United States any merchandise which should have been invoiced, or makes out or passes, or attempts to pass, through the customhouse any false, forged, or fraudulent invoice, or other document or paper; or

Whoever fraudulently or knowingly imports or brings into the United States, any merchandise contrary to law, or receives, conceals, buys, sells, or in any manner facilitates the transportation, concealment, or sale of such merchandise after importation, knowing the same to have been imported or brought into the United States contrary to law--

Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

Proof of defendant's possession of such goods, unless explained to the satisfaction of the jury, shall be deemed evidence sufficient to authorize conviction for violation of this section. Merchandise introduced into the United States in violation of this section, or the value thereof, to be recovered from any person described in the first or second paragraph of this section, shall be forfeited to the United States...”

**ARE WE READY TO DISCUSS REAL CONSUMER PROTECTION YET?**

**Or Are We ONLY Content with Entertaining Legislation  
that Targets the Wrong People?**

# An Empire Built Upon Mountains of Fraud, Trafficking,

## AND Legislation!

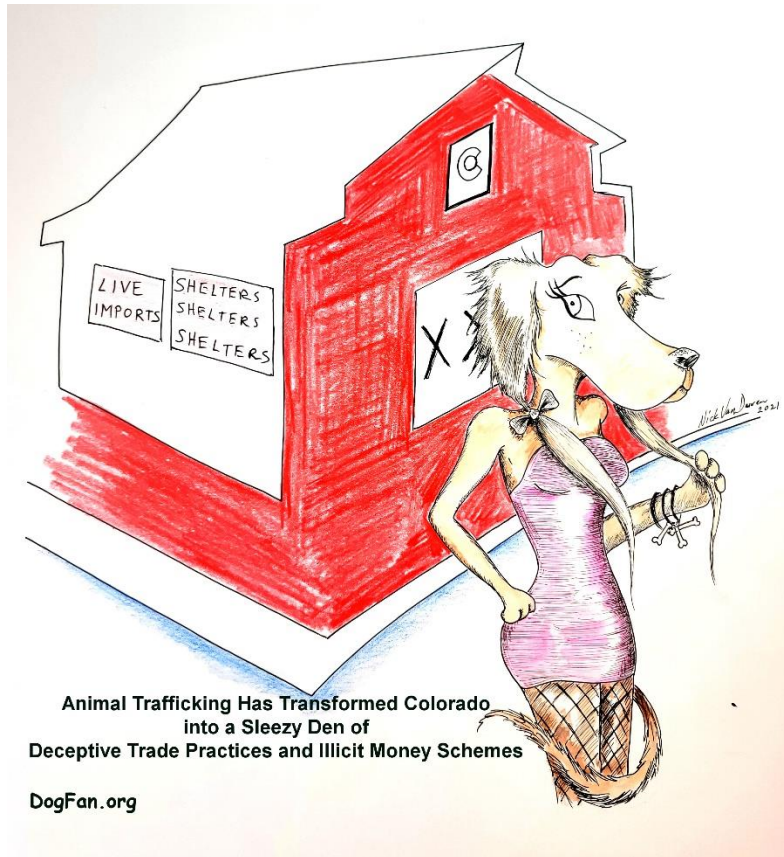
### How To Steal Animal Agriculture Markets:

Create a "Non-Profit" Business  
that is modeled like an  
Organized Crime Syndicate!



**And Yet everyone still seems to think that the animal shelters are wonderful and that those running them are such caring and compassionate saints!**

It makes one wonder what they are actually selling when they proffer all those heart-warming testimonials about that “one dog that came into the shelter and...”



Does the State of Colorado REALLY approve of the following?

- Smuggling?
- Trafficking?
- Deceptive Trade Practices?
- Laundering of Illegal Merchandise?
- “Plants” and “weeds” working within the Department of Agriculture and Law Enforcement?
- Slander and Libel of Legitimate Agriculture?
- **Outlawing** of Legitimate Agriculture Commerce and Animal Husbandry, thus officially transferring the market to “non-profit” con artists and swindlers?
- Disease and Parasite threats?

**Nothing to See Here?!**

**IS this REALLY How The State of Colorado Enforces Consumer Protection?**

**...Target the Legitimate but Anoint the Illicit with a Blank Check?!**

# Serious Question:

WILL JUSTICE EVER PREVAIL IN COLORADO? ...or SHOULD WE JUST CONTINUE TO BE DUPED?



## HB21-1102 Wrap Up

Animal Rights Activists, Animal Shelters, and Animal Control “activists” want to legitimize the illegitimate and illicit so they may operate carte blanche as a monopoly power in the Agriculture Markets. HB21-1102 “Consumer Protection for Dogs and Cat Purchasers is yet another attempt to manipulate the Legislature to obtain a stamp of approval at the expense of all that is good and legitimate. Simply put, these **CON ARTISTS** are seeking a “get out of jail free card”.

**The culprits should be shut down and prosecuted. They need to be brought to Justice.**

**They have no business trying to manipulate the Legislature into codifying their false image and malicious narratives.**



**IF LEGIMATE CONSUMER PROCTION IS RELEVANT  
IN THE STATE OF COLORADO**

**Please Vote NO on HB21-1102**

**The Time to Deal with the Real Problem is Now!**



***Is your local Retail Rescue Outlet  
Violating the Consumer Protection Act?***

*DogFan.org*

Good afternoon, my name is Anthony Jensen.

I am part owner, operator, and manager Glaser Welding/Glaser Steel along with my wife, in Colorado Springs, CO. We currently employ 4 people not including myself and my wife.

We sell and provide steel to the public we also provide mobile welding services, fabrication, etc. Our business was started in 1945 by my wife's grandfather and has been in the family since then, we are the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation owning/operating it. This is our investment for the future and a very important asset for our retirement and the future of our children. We hope to continue to pass it down to our kids to keep it going in the family generations to come, if the business environment in Colorado will be friendly to small businesses like ours.

I am speaking today in opposition to House Bill 21-1102.

House bill 1102, by definition, affects the livelihood and future of independently owned pet shops.

However, what House bill 1102 does, it will jeopardize the future of the free enterprise system as all small businesses have built for success.

Owning and operating a legal business is the right of every individual and succeed with larger corporations.

The attempt by the Colorado Legislature to limit, place conditions on, or revoke legally obtained business licenses, permits and guidelines upon the sale of the business because the purchaser is not a relative would be legally questionable at the least. It is unconstitutional and subject to adjudication by the court system.

Small businesses have been struggling to make their demands to maintain their employees needs as well as our family success we are trying to recover from a rough year while adapting to a growing number of complex new laws and rulemaking and speculation on how small businesses should be organized or operated. The focus of our legislators on these overreaching social justice laws is out of sync with an economy that needs, instead to restore jobs and consumer faith in commerce as the dangers of COVID subside.

House bill 1102 sends a strong message that the costs of doing business in Colorado are rising and that the state laws are growing more hostile to business success leaving a question that one must ask; What type of business is next to fall victim to radical interest groups.

I respectfully request a NO vote on House bill 1102.

Thank you for your time,

Anthony Jensen

Good afternoon. I testify against this proposed misguided and deceptively titled bill. This bill does not "protect consumers." It limits their choice.

We already have PACFA in Colorado so that "puppy mills" are illegal and pet breeders are subject to state inspection. Ask pet store owners where they get their animals. They will not tell you they are from puppy mills. This bill would allow pet stores to sell animals imported from actual puppy mills overseas that are worse than anything ever seen in our country. Some have been known to bring new illnesses and viruses into the US that have killed local dog populations.

See <https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2019/03/27/want-rescue-dog-overseas-it-might-carry-new-strain-disease-researchers-say/> We are still in a pandemic. Why support the import of possibly diseased animals when we have ethical breeders in Colorado licensed by the state?

This bill stems from the animal rights movement and their lobbyists. Similar bills are being proposed all over the country by the rescue industry lobbyists and their legislative sponsors. The animal rights movement has an end goal of eliminating domesticated animals entirely and considers that people who have any relationship with animals are engaging in animal cruelty. Bills like this have no place in Colorado and the elected representatives of the people in Colorado should not be proposing such bills or voting to help make domesticated animals extinct in Colorado.

Please support the humane care of animals and humane breeding of animals in Colorado - as you have done with laws like PACFA. Pet breeders in Colorado must be licensed by the state. Proposals like this are why you hear so many people say they don't recognize our country anymore. Please stop this animal rights movement in Colorado. This is not a partisan issue. People having relationships and being responsible stewards of domestic animals is a large part of what makes many of us feel human. There are many ethical breeders in Colorado. I am a dog breeder and caretaker. I am licensed by PACFA. I follow the rules. We require our puppy buyers to go through a screening to make sure they provide a good home for our puppies and we also have the puppies microchipped before they leave us. We require by contract that animals we breed can never end up in a shelter. They must be returned to us if circumstances change such that the dog cannot be kept by the owner. Ethical breeding, caring for and loving animals has never been defined as cruel in any legal system in human history. Animal rights groups are trying to change that. Please don't help them reach their goal. Colorado's animal owners and breeders are watching and waiting for their representatives to start standing up for the right to humanely care for and breed animals. Coloradans should not have laws requiring them to get their pets from rescues or shelters only. Please vote no on HB21-1102.