

To: Members of the House Commerce Finance and Policy Committee

From: Maple Grove Council Member, Dr. Kristy Janigo

Re: Support for HF2627 – Humane Pet Store Policy

Date: Monday, March 9th

Co-Chair Koegel and Co-Chair O'Driscoll and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of my role as a council member in the city of Maple Grove, I write in strong support of HF2627. The city of Maple Grove took up this issue on the local level in October 2024. After a concerned resident approached me about this issue, I asked my colleagues to discuss it in a city work session. As a result of the work session, we directed our city staff to draft a humane pet store ordinance, and we voted unanimously to pass it.

This issue matters to me personally. Growing up, dogs were always a part of our family. It was heart breaking to every member of my family when one of our dogs passed. As a dog lover myself, I hate knowing that dogs sold at pet stores are coming from puppy mills. I have learned how sick dogs sold at pet store impact consumers, emotionally and financially.

I had also learned that a member of a neighboring community had purchased a dog from a pet store. As her claim states in her filing (MN Case 02-CO-26-739), she spent over \$9,000 in vet bills, and ultimately her dog was recommended to be put down after six days from the time of her purchase because of a critical illness.

This year alone, Florida released a report stating that puppy mill dogs being sold in pet stores, and deceitful sales practices that goes along with this, negatively impacts consumers to the tune of \$25 million.

I am proud of the work my community did to protect dogs from puppy mills and protect consumers from purchasing sick dogs. Local authority matters on this issue; this bill keeps it in place.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristy A. Janigo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maple Grove Council Member Dr. Kristy Janig