

Kansas Federation of Animal Owners

Testimony (Neutral) on SB117

Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

February 12, 2019

Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Federation of Animal Owners is following SB117 closely out of concern that it may be used to add provisions that were not adopted last year in the modification of the Pet Animal statute. In a first reading of the bill, several concerns emerged which we are hopeful that today's proponents and committee discussion may address.

- 1) Are these modifications informed by and aligned with the findings of the Legislative Post Audit conducted this past year on the AFI program?
- 2) What are the problems/needs addressed in this bill that are not already covered in the Pet Animal Act?
- 3) Do the violations and civil penalties spelled out in this bill potentially overlap with current regulations, violations, and penalties in such a way to create a dual burden on licensees?
- 4) As one of the major justifications of last year's Pet Animal bill was to align AFI fees and SGF allocations with the other programs in the division – why are we separating dogs and cats from the other animals in the division under this provision?
- 5) Are the civil penalties provided for in New Sec. 7 consistent with such penalties imposed in other jurisdictions of the Animal Health Division?

After the changes made last year to the fee structure and the inspection protocols in the Animal Facilities Inspection program last session, KFAO is reluctant to support further modifications in statute without hearing very compelling justification for the change and solid evidence of a problem needing a solution. Thank you.

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