24 August 2009

Dear Eileen: I thought you would be interested in the letter below and the resolution passed by the Richl. County Board. The letter goes to each committee member of Consumer Protection and Small Business plus the Governor and other legislators. We are doing our best!

Enclosed please find a copy of the resolution regarding AB 250 and SB 208 passed unanimously by the Richland County Board of Supervisors at their July 2009 meeting. The passage of the resolution illustrates the support of the Board members and their constituents regarding AB 250 and SB 208. The Ocooch Mountain Humane Society, Richland Center, strongly supports the County Board resolution and the passage of AB 250 and SB 208.

Richland County has been greatly impacted by the situation at the Petkus property with statewide and nationwide coverage with many questions and misconceptions about animal treatment in our state. We signers below are members and officers of the Ocooch Mountain Humane Society in Richland County. OMHS is a non-profit completely volunteer organization of 350 members working hard to provide foster care for dogs as they are readied for adoption into new homes. OMHS operates a small adoption facility for cats waiting for adoptive homes.

OMHS is grateful to the supporters of the pet facilities legislation for taking the matter forward for a self-funded pet breeding/selling and standards law in Wisconsin. The Ocooch Mountain Humane Society will be proud to be licensed by the state to adopt out dogs that we rescue. It only stands to reason that dog breeder businesses making money selling dogs would also be proud to display a license from the State of Wisconsin. Clients would know that the facility meets the standards of care for the animals. OMHS believes that everyone dealing in pets, either selling them for profit or adopting them out at the cost of medical care, should pay a fair share to assure a standard of care and thus provide protection for the consumers, the clients, who are purchasing these companion animals. As a non-profit organization OMHS is willing and ready to pay a licensing fee

Please support this bill with your vote. Please put Wisconsin in the forefront of a standard of care for animals. Richland County and the Ocooch Mountain Humane Society look forward to a much needed licensing of dog breeders and standard of care. There must be a positive result from the tragedy that occurred in our state this past spring.

If you have any questions please contact us.

Sincerely,

Becky Schwab, OMHS President

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