



MINNESOTA PUREBRED DOG BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
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December 26, 2021

Greetings,

We, Minnesota Purebred Dog Breeders Assn. (MPDBA) are writing to express our opposition to the Companion Animal Board Bill, HF 208 and SF 73 currently in the Minnesota legislature. The bill does not appear to add anything necessary to the current statutes regarding ownership and breeding of companion animals in our state of Minnesota. The board would take over some functions from the current Board of Animal Health (BAH), functions that properly should remain with that group.

As a 50-year-old organization we are very familiar with the current processes our state has to keep animals healthy. The BAH currently deals quite well with matters of companion animal health. It is not just concerned with livestock health. Rabies control is certainly well done, as is movement of companion animals into and out of the state. Reportable diseases are handled well, plus the BAH has formed great relationships with the University of Minnesota Veterinary College and Veterinary Diagnostic laboratory. Another Board would just add a layer of complexity that would slow down efforts to enhance companion animal health.

The make-up of the proposed Board does not appear balanced in a way to support animal health. Veterinarians would be the appropriate persons to have several seats on any such board, not just 2 out of a dozen or so. This bill will not help and may actually hinder the health of our beloved companion animals.

This letter is written on behalf of the Minnesota Purebred Dog Breeders Association by Chris Gabel, DVM, PhD. Chris is on MPDBA's Legislative Committee, and she is a forty year member of the MPDBA.

Thank you for attention to this matter,

Minnesota Purebred Dog Breeders Association Board of Directors,

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