

16 Oct. 2020

**To: PA Senate Judiciary Committee**  
**From: Animal Legal Defense Fund, Widener Law Commonwealth Student Chapter**  
**Re: SB 44**

Dear Judiciary Committee Chair Lisa Baker, Chair Larry Farnese, and Committee Members:

Animal Legal Defense Fund, Widener Commonwealth Law Student Chapter, is writing to urge you to support SB 44, also known as “Victoria’s Law.” We strongly encourage you, Judiciary Committee Members, to vote this bill out of committee.

Documentation shows that thousands of puppies are being imported from out-of-state commercial breeders and sold in Pennsylvania pet stores. Those breeders do not adhere to Pennsylvania law. In-state breeders selling to pet stores might adhere to the law but they might be flying under the radar. Either way, those breeders are selling their puppies through pet stores rather than directly to the public because they do not want the public to see the deplorable conditions they keep their dogs in.

This bill will drive the pet market in Pennsylvania towards more humane sources like shelters, rescues, and responsible breeders who sell directly to the public while limiting opportunities for puppy mills. For the foregoing reasons, we support moving this bill out of committee.

Sincerely,

Animal Legal Defense Fund, Widener Law Commonwealth Student Chapter

Richard Marcil, President

Leah Bobula, Vice President

Yael Dadoun, Treasurer

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