



**Written Proponent Testimony on House Bill 67**

**Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee**

Ledy VanKavage, Sr. Legislative Attorney

August 31, 2020

Chairman Hoagland, Vice Chair Schaffer, Ranking member O'Brien and members of the Committee:

My name is Ledy VanKavage and I represent Best Friends Animal Society. There is a national shortage of veterinarians, and this legislation would help more veterinarians remain in Ohio.

HB 67 is important legislation that would encourage veterinarians to provide much needed community services for tuition reimbursement. This would strengthen partnerships with animal services and deliver needed health services to underserved communities. Increased spaying and neutering services would help reduce the cost of animal shelters by reducing the population of dogs and cats coming into shelters, thus saving taxpayers' dollars.

Thank you for your consideration of this important bill. I ask for your favorable vote.