



Dear Chairman Creech, Vice Chair Newman, Ranking Member Miller, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of HB 148.

My name is Robin Craft and I am one of the founders of Black and Orange Cat Foundation. Our organization is located in Plain City, Ohio and works to spay and neuter stray and feral cats within Union and Madison counties, as well as other very rural counties such as Champaign, in central Ohio. We also work with low income pet owners to help them get their cats fixed.

Since the Ohio Pet Fund was started and began giving grants for sterilization in 2006-2007, we have always generously received a grant to help us with our efforts. As we are in a rural part of the state and there are many farms and low-income areas, there is a huge need for spay and neuter services, especially for feral cats. The Ohio Pet Fund grant has helped us fix hundreds of cats over the past ten plus years.

With the passage of House Bill 148, allowing people to donate part or all of their Ohio income tax refund to a Companion Animal Fund, those funds could be distributed by the Ohio Pet Fund to help shelters and rescue groups, such as ours, do even more to reduce the cat overpopulation problem. There really are not as many resources available for feral cats and the Ohio Pet Fund does a great job of partnering with us to help us do even more for Ohio's feral cats.

I support House Bill 148. I hope that you will pass this bill so that we can move toward a future where there are no more unwanted kittens being born.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Robin Craft, Founder
Black and Orange Cat Foundation
PO Box 126
Plain City, OH 43064
bandocats@gmail.com
(614) 573-1557