Northwest Ohio
Dog Wardens Association

Mike Schroth, President Randy Vogel, Vice President Barb Knapp/Scott Mills, Secretary Jodi Harding, Treasurer

February 19, 2026

Dear Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Roegner, Ranking Member DeMora and members of the committee.

Thank you for your service to the people of Ohio.

We are writing in favor of House Bill 148, allowing Ohioans to donate part of their income tax refund toward spay and neuter if they wish.

Ohio is in crisis and desperately needs more funding for spay and neuter. House Bill 148 is an easy, no cost way to support the boots on the ground that are trying to manage overpopulation.

As the President of the Northwest District of the Ohio County Dog Warden Association, we meet monthly and one of the topics that's always discussed is the number of stray and unwanted dogs and puppies that we all see in our counties.

Many of our organizations receive Ohio Pet Fund spay-neuter grants, which has been very helpful in trying to get homeless pets adopted. People are more likely to adopt spayed or neutered animals, and accomplishing this ensures that there won't be unwanted litters that overwhelm us in this community.

Dogs that have been spayed/neutered are less likely to run at large looking for that female dog in heat, helps to decrease the number of litters being born and most of all, the number of dog bites are less when those male dogs hormones become active. Most dog bites occur with intact male dogs at approximately 2 years of age.

Please join us in support House Bill 148.

Mike Schroth
Putnam County Dog Warden

Northwest District President,
Ohio County Dog Warden Association