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

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

My name is Susan Geier, Co-Director of SAVE Ohio Pets. SAVE Ohio Pets is in support of House Bill 148.
SAVE Ohio Pets is an all-volunteer 501C(3) organization with the mission of keeping pets in their existing homes and out of shelters and rescues. This is our ninth year of operation. We do this by providing free basic/preventative pet health care for those on limited incomes as well as those experiencing homelessness in Franklin County. One of the major components of our program is spay/neuter. In 2025, with the help of Ohio Pet Fund, individual donations and fundraising events, we provided 773 free spay/neuters.

House Bill 148 needs to be passed because –
-Shelters in Ohio are over capacity and lack sufficient funding to care for all of the unwanted and abandoned animals.
-Studies show that the cost of spay/neuter is less than the cost of caring for animals in a shelter.
-Cost of sterilization is the number one reason most often cited for owners not having their dogs/cats altered.
-Low-income households relinquish a disproportionate number of pets to shelters.
-Free-roaming abandoned and feral cats are non-native predators and cause considerable wildlife destruction and ecosystem disruption,
including the deaths of hundreds of millions of birds, small mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. They also pose a threat to public health.

Ohioians love their pets and want to be a part of the solution. This bill would provide a simple and effective way to combat pet overpopulation in Ohio.

Sincerely,

Susan Geier

Susan Geier

Co-Director, SAVE Ohio Pets