Written Testimony on S.B. 205 Ohio Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA) David Frash, OVMA Government Relations Director February 5, 2020

Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee

Chairman Eklund, Vice-Chair Manning, Ranking Member Thomas and members of the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee, the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association, respectfully encourages your favorable consideration of Senate Bill 205. We applaud Senators Jay Hottinger and Sean O'Brien for introducing S.B. 205 in an effort to address obstacles found in the current statute.

Animal cruelty and abuse are serious crimes that sometimes are a precursor to crimes against humans. OVMA is supportive of efforts in S.B. 205 to modify language and penalties to ensure those who prosecute these heinous crimes have the appropriate legal tools to enforce the law.

OVMA, as always, is pleased to be of assistance with any medical questions or perspectives as this legislation moves forward in the legislative process.