

Thursday, March 2, 2023

On my goodness...

Forwarded message
From: Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association
Date: Thu, Mar 2, 2023 at 6:02 PM
Subject: Call to Action - HB 1533: Ask Your Illinois Representative to Oppose Declaw Proposal

ADVANCING WELL-BEING
ISVMA
ANIMAL VETERINARY PROFESSIONALS
THE PUBLIC ENVIRONMENT
CALL TO ACTION:
HB 1533: Ask Your Illinois Representative to Oppose Declaw Proposal
Dear Members,
We need your voice - please speak up and oppose House Bill 1533 - the proposed amendment to the Humane Care for Animals Act to outlaw declaw procedures for all reasons other than a few specific exceptions.
ISVMA requested modification to the bill's language to allow veterinarians to use sound medical judgment when a cat's well-being, including the ability to remain in its family home, or when the cat's life is at stake. Those requests were denied by the bill's sponsor, state Rep. Barbara Hernandez, (D-Aurora).
To be clear, this bill threatens the veterinary profession. It belittles your education and credentials, undermines your credibility and restricts your ability to use sound medical judgment, it restricts your access to safe surgical solutions when a cat's life is at risk. It compromises your medical oath and ignores the fundamental need to maintain the cat and human bond.
We know that feelings about this procedure are mixed. The fact is few of these surgeries are even currently performed and the number of them has been diminishing for decades. Banning the procedure is unwarranted. We oppose HB1533 not to protect the procedure, but to protect our profession from unnecessary and inappropriate legislative interference in exercising our medical judgment. We oppose HB1533 because we firmly believe that veterinary decisions should be made by those who are appropriately educated and trained to make such decisions.
Nobody else is going to speak up for our profession. It's up to us to fight this.
Please voice your opposition to HB 1533 by calling and writing the bill's sponsors and your own district state representatives. We know your time is precious, so we've made it easy for you. Linked below is a template letter to help you craft your message of opposition.
ISVMA HB1533 Letter to Representative
Complete an HB 1533 Opposition Witness Slip
All representatives' contact information can be found here:
House Agriculture & Conservation Committee
Rep. Sonya M. Harper (6th District)
Springfield Office:
274-S Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-5971
Rep. Lance Yednock (76th District)
Springfield Office:
252-S Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-0140
Rep. Charles Meier (109th District)
Springfield Office:
230-7N Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-5401
Rep. Sharon Chung (91st District)
Springfield Office:
260-W Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-5199
Rep. Norma Hernandez (77th District)
Springfield Office:
247-E Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-3374
Representative Cyril Nichols (32nd District)
Springfield Office:
200-SS Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-1702
Rep. Lamont Robinson, Jr. (6th District)
Springfield Office:
266-S Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-4535
Rep. Wayne Rosenthal (108th District)
Springfield Office:
E-1 Stratton Office Building
401 S. Spring Street
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-8071
Rep. Dan Swanson (71st District)
Springfield Office:
259-3N Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-8032
HB1533 Sponsors:
Rep. Barbara Hernandez (50th District)
Springfield Office:
266-S Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 558-1002
Co-sponsors
Rep. Jonathan Carroll (87th District)
Springfield Office:
241-E Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 558-1004
Rep. Dagmara Avelar (85th District)
Springfield Office:
265-S Stratton Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-4179
Rep. Kelly M. Cassidy (14th District)
Springfield Office:
263-S Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-5988
Rep. Aaron M. Ortiz (1st District)
Springfield Office:
258-W Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-1117
Rep. Lillian Jimenez (4th District)
Springfield Office:
284-S Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-0150
Please call or email your representative today:
Home Office
Springfield Office