

From: [Sherwood, Nina](#)
To: [BOR_OfficeStaff](#)
Cc: [BOR_LegRules](#)
Subject: Fwd: LR31.072, legal defense assistance
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2025 11:58:55 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-via0pvt.png](#)

Dear board office,

Please add the below email to the item history for LR31.072.

Thank you,

Nina

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Annie Hornish <ahornish@humaneworld.org>
Date: July 16, 2025 at 8:59:05 AM EDT
Subject: LR31.072, legal defense assistance

Dear Chair Berns, Vice Chair Boeger, and Honorable Members Blank, Cottrell, Fedeli, Matheny, Pierre-Louis, Sherwood, and Vanderwoort,

On behalf of Humane World for Animals (formally called The Humane Society of the United States), I am writing to reiterate our strong support for Stamford's Humane Pet Store Ordinance, LR31.072. We thank the Board of Representatives for the continued dedication to this issue over the years and the determination to stop the puppy mill-to-pet shop pipeline once and for all.

For years, our legal team, campaign staff, and state director have argued that Stamford (and other cities in Connecticut) have the authority to ban the sale of dogs and cats in pet stores. Our recent review of Connecticut statute and case law solidifies our belief that The Humane Pet Store Ordinance under consideration is legally sound because it is properly derived from municipal police powers expressly granted under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 7-148. Specifically, the Legislative Intent section of the ordinance clearly states: "The City of Stamford believes it is in the best interest of the City to adopt reasonable regulations to reduce costs to Stamford and its residents, protect local residents who may purchase dogs or cats from a pet store, help prevent inhumane breeding conditions, promote community awareness of animal welfare, and foster a more humane environment in Stamford." To be clear, we do not believe this ordinance is preempted by state law. We encourage the Board to pass this ordinance, and should it be challenged in court, Humane

World attorneys stand ready to assist the city in its legal defense.

We had hoped that the state would clarify localities' authority to enact Humane Pet Store Ordinances this legislative session, but state legislators ultimately sided with the puppy mill lobby. The state did not do the right thing, but Stamford can. It's always the right time to stand up for animals and consumers, and enact a law that reflects the values of the community.

Sincerely,
Annie

Annie Hornish

Connecticut State Director, State Affairs

Pronouns: she/her

C 860-966-1819
humaneworld.org



Formerly called the Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International. Together, we tackle the root causes of animal cruelty and suffering to create permanent change. Stay up to date with our work to help animals and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), [YouTube](#) and subscribe to our [blog](#).

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