

1615 Duke Street, Suite 100 Alexandria, VA 22314 Tel: 202-452-1525

## TESTIMONY OF PET INDUSTRY JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL BEFORE THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPERVILLE, IL CITY COUNCIL ON THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 OF TITLE 10 OF NAPERVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE

## November 20, 2017

As an organization that routinely supports legislative efforts to advance the welfare of animals the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony today on the proposed ordinance amending Chapter 4 of Title 10 of the Naperville Municipal Code.

Nobody cares more about safe and healthy pet animals than does PIJAC. We have, for many years, provided a highly-respected animal care certification program intended to ensure that employees are well trained in the care of the animals they sell; a program that is widely utilized not only by persons in the commercial pet trade but also shelters and humane societies throughout the country and one that has even been adopted as a statutory standard in some states. PIJAC has worked closely with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) on effective implementation of the Animal Welfare Act for pets since its inception almost fifty years ago, and has joined hands with state agencies to ensure adoption and enforcement of appropriate regulatory standards. Our association has long been recognized as the voice for a responsible and humane pet trade.

PIJAC supports the language of the proposed ordinance—specifically 10-4-17: Sourcing of Animals Sold by Pet Shop Operators—which adheres to Illinois state law on the source of animals to be sold by pet shops.

We would welcome the opportunity to work with the committee to arrive at a meaningful solution to the public policy concerns related to the care of animals. By working together, we can make sure that Naperville's citizens continue to have access to healthy animals to love as pets now and in the future.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Joshua Jones

Director, Legislative and Regulatory Engagement Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC)