

Andrea Shorey  
Augusta  
LD 1771

Senator Talbot Ross, Representative Pluecker, and Members of the ACF Committee,  
My name is Anāndi Andrea Shorey, and I am writing in strong support of L.D.  
1771—because loopholes shouldn't be where animals fall through.

As someone who works in wellness, community care, and service, I believe deeply in stewardship—not just of people, but of the beings who share our world. While Maine has made progress in setting standards for animal care, the current system still leaves too many dogs in municipal kennels without proper oversight or accountability.

Let's be real: if a kennel isn't being inspected, and if the only authority is someone who might be overworked, undertrained, or even personally connected to the kennel operator—that's not a safeguard. That's a conflict of interest waiting to happen.

L.D. 1771 is a simple, powerful shift: bring all kennel licensing under the state. This isn't about bureaucracy for the sake of it—it's about clarity, consistency, and giving the Animal Welfare Program the power it needs to act when animals are in distress.

This bill closes a dangerous gap and ensures that whether a dog lives in a fancy show kennel or a rural hobby kennel, they're still protected by the same laws—and the same level of care.

Please move this bill forward. The animals can't speak for themselves, but we sure can.

With gratitude for your time and consideration,  
Anāndi Andrea Shorey  
Augusta, ME