



December 5, 2009

The Honorable Micah Kellner
834 Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12248

Re. Oreó's Law

Dear Assembly Member Kellner:

Thank you for introducing Oreó's Law in the New York State legislature. I am the director of an open-admission humane society and wish to express my support for Oreó's Law.

Multiple studies and surveys have shown that most Americans regard their pets as family members, and further, that the vast majority believe that it is right and appropriate to preserve the lives of homeless pets and feral cats whenever possible. This law, modeled on California's successful Hayden Law, is in sync with the values of most Americans.

Sadly, not all animal shelters have kept pace with the values and expectations of the public. Oreó's Law will help to reform antiquated policies that still linger in some animal shelters. It will ensure that rescue groups will be allowed to rescue homeless pets that may otherwise be doomed to die.

Here in Washoe County Nevada we have made great strides toward our goal of saving all of the healthy and treatable homeless animals. We are currently saving over 90% of the dogs and 89% of the cats entering all area animal shelters. These results were achieved by working with reputable animal rescue groups, specifically releasing animals to them from our shelter.

Oreó's Law will ensure that no dog or cat will die in a shelter—at taxpayer expense—when a legitimate private rescue organization could have saved them. Thank you for your leadership in ending a needless tragedy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bonney Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Bonney Brown
Executive Director, Nevada Humane Society
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