

Sale of Animals in Pet Stores

Position:

The Edmonton Humane Society supports the adoption of animals through shelters, rescue groups, and humane societies and opposes the sale of companion animals in markets or pet stores that are not satellite adoption centres, and that engage in the unethical or disreputable sourcing of companion animals.

Rationale

- As long as there are companion animals available for adoption from shelters or rescue groups, the Society advocates adoption of homeless animals through one of these agencies.
- The Society supports pet stores that source animals from shelters, rescue groups, and humane societies in an effort to discourage large-scale commercial breeding, backyard breeding, and puppy mill operations.
- The Society does not support pet stores that are financially motivated to sell animals without a vested interest in the animals' well-being and future home. Pet stores that sell animals from a breeder commonly encourage irresponsible breeding.

References

1. American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. "Sources of Companion Animals." ASPCA policy statement, New York, n.d.
2. Canadian Federation of Humane Societies. "Sources for Acquiring a Pet." CFHS position statement, Ottawa, n.d.
3. Humane Society of the United States. "Pet Stores." HSUS policy statement, Washington, 2005.