



Councilman Worth Morgan
Memphis City Council
125 N. Main, Room 514
Memphis, TN 38103

January 29, 2021

Dear Councilman Morgan,

On behalf of the Humane Society of Memphis and Shelby County and its board of directors, staff, and volunteers, I am writing to support the proposed city ordinance to create Article V to restrict the "retail sale of dogs and cats at pet stores." We are grateful for your work to bring forth such an essential ordinance.

This ordinance will serve to protect not only helpless animals and all Memphis citizens, but it will also underscore humane values and standards that reflect the whole city. It is vital that there are ways of holding businesses accountable to those values and standards.

Thousands of animals are abandoned, neglected, or abused in Memphis each year. Hungry, scared, and injured, these animals face a bleak future. Since 1933, the Humane Society of Memphis and Shelby County (HSMSC) has provided shelter, food, and medical care for thousands of injured, neglected, and abused animals. Our work is firmly grounded in the belief that the ethical treatment of animals strengthens our community.

Again, thank you for sponsoring this proposed ordinance to restrict dogs and cats' retail sales at pet stores. If I may be of help to you, please do not hesitate to contact me (ellen@memphishumane.org, 901.937.3901).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ellen Zahariadis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ellen Zahariadis
Executive Director