



PROJECT PERRY INC. — THE CENTRAL VIRGINIA PARROT SANCTUARY

Accredited by The American Sanctuary Association

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San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control and Welfare

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the ordinance that may be passed regarding the sale or transfer of companion animals including birds in the city of San Francisco. Birds represent the third largest population of companion animals and the largest population of captive wildlife in the United States today.

Birds require a high level of care that many people find difficult to achieve. These people often find themselves turning to rescue and sanctuary organizations for help. Bird welfare groups across the Country are experiencing an influx of surrender requests at an alarming rate. Most groups must turn away more birds than they are able to help. Traditional cat and dog shelters are typically not capable or willing to assist birds needing shelter and many times resort to unnecessary euthanasia for healthy but misunderstood creatures. This leaves a relatively small number of bird-specific rescue groups to handle the burgeoning bird trade and the current overpopulation crisis. Like dogs, birds sold in pet shops often come from mills or other deplorable breeding practices in which the welfare of the animal is secondary to profits. Cutting corners occurs at the expense of the birds in order to achieve those profits.

I believe that the proposed ordinance would help place more birds and other animals into homes when coupled with a pro-adoption public opinion of not only dogs and cats – but also birds and other small companion animals. Not only could the proposal help with the number of animals assisted into new adoptive homes but it could reduce or eliminate the substandard conditions often found in pet stores and breeding facilities, creating a more compassionate and animal-friendly society.

Sincerely,

Matt Smith
Founder & Executive Director