

**From:** [Elizabeth Jones](#)  
**To:** [Trisha Linebarger](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Texas Licensed Breeder Program  
**Date:** Friday, July 17, 2020 8:12:20 AM

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**From:** Karen Patterson  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 16, 2020 5:52:59 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Sunset Advisory Commission  
**Subject:** Texas Licensed Breeder Program

I hope you do not abolish the Texas Licensed Breeders Program.

We feel that Texas law, under this program, has higher welfare standards than that of the USDA. We also feel that it deters many from breeding unless they have the proper knowledge and training to do so humanely. Just because the program isn't perfect doesn't mean we don't need it. Instead, we hope you will vote to strengthen the existing law.

In addition, our local government, rescues, and law enforcement are already overburdened. We hope you do not leave us to shoulder the entire burden of dealing with cruelty in puppy mills when we have state-licensed inspectors available through this program to make sure that conditions don't get bad enough to become cruelty cases. Prevention is key.

We at Fix West Texas try and help lower our local pet overpopulation problem by providing low cost spay and neuter events regularly throughout the West Texas Area. Year to date we have sterilized about 1600 animals. We do this because there are over 4000 animals euthanized at our animal shelter each year and 6000 transported from our community to new homes up north, not to mention the hundreds who roam the streets. Needless to say, we feel that unlicensed breeding will increase the number of animals left suffering in our community with no homes and no hope.

Karen Patterson  
President, Fix West Texas