

www.NMHPKC.org (816) 333-PETS

The Honorable Micah Kellner 315 East 65 Street New York, NY 10065

Dear Assembly Member Kellner:

I am writing to thank you for introducing Oreo's Law in the New York State legislature. We are very hopeful that New York State will adopt this law and through this, we can expand the efforts to bring more shelters in line with the humane values of the American public.

It saddens me that common sense and compassion are not enough to protect the lives of animals like Oreo and I fail to understand why any shelter would choose to destroy an animal when an alternative is readily available. This is symptomatic of a broken sheltering system and it is time for all of us to lift our voices for those that cannot speak for themselves. Your introduction of Oreo's Law helps do that.

For those of us working in the Animal Welfare field, it is especially distressing when other organizations that profess to work for animals, not only let down the animals they directly serve, but also hurt the efforts of like organizations that are working diligently to change the face of animal sheltering. The ASPCA did just that by making the decision to kill Oreo when an alternative was available. Since organizations such as the ASPCA and the HSUS are the supposed leaders in animal welfare in America, their actions do so much to influence the actions of local shelters across the country. When they make bad decisions like this, it provides that much more legitimacy to the untenable actions taken by many local shelters. Oreo's Law will help all of us hold organizations like this more accountable for their actions.

Thank you again for your support of Oreo's Law and we remain hopeful that once adopted, it can be a piece of model legislation to be used in other states across the country to prevent similar tragedies like Oreo's.

Sincerely,

Gail Longstaff President

About No More Homeless Pets KC

No More Homeless Pets KC is a non-profit animal welfare organization. Our vision is a lifelong, caring home for every pet in KC. Sadly, each year approximately 13,000 animals are killed in our area shelters.

We believe the solution is:

- Creating awareness of the issue
- High volume, low/no cost spay/neuter
- TNR (Trap/Neuter/Return) for Feral and Free Roaming cats
- Promoting adoption from local shelters and rescue groups

To achieve our goal of a No Kill KC by 2012, we are working to build a cooperative effort across the KC animal welfare community. We need everyone that cares about saving the lives of homeless pets to get involved and become part of the solution. Together, we CAN make a difference!