

**DEFENDERS OF ANIMALS, INC.**

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**In favor of House Bill No. 7075**

April 27, 2024

House Judiciary Committee Members

RI State House

82 Smith Street

Providence, RI 02903

Dear House Judiciary Committee Members:

On behalf of the members and board members of Defenders of Animals, Inc., I am respectfully requesting that you vote in favor of House Bill No. 7075 By Edwards, Diaz, Bennett, Serpa, Potter, and Chippendale that would provide that the trapping and subsequent release of any unowned feral or free roaming cat for the purpose of spaying or neutering of the cat would not be considered abandonment.

Organizations and individuals are spending enormous amounts of time and money keeping the feral cat population down, making sure that feral cats have been inoculated to prevent rabies, and neutered to keep the population in check.

As long as individuals and organizations can prove that they are spaying and neutering, inoculating, and the cats are being given veterinarian care, they should not be subjected to being charged with abandonment.

Very truly yours,  
*Dennis Tabella*

Dennis Tabella

Director