## Forever Home Pet Rescue 402 Orange St.

Americus, KS 66835

February 12, 2019

Senate Agriculture Committee

Senator Kerschen & Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony for Senate Bill 117. I am the owner of a small animal shelter in Americus, KS. I am very passionate about passing this bill and am in favor of SB 117.

Senate Bill 117 accomplishs a good objective by treating cats and dogs as companion animals and not livestock. I thank the Mid-America Alliance for Animals and the Kansas Department of Agriculture for taking steps to promote companion animal health and remove the burden on shelters and rescues in Kansas to euthanize animals that could otherwise be adopted without consequence to other animals.

Kansas currently is the ONLY state that doesn't allow the adoption or transfer of FIV positive non-symptomatic cats. Shelters and rescues in Kansas must currently keep them on premises or euthanize them. This is a difficult decision for the shelter to make and a sad situation which is totally un-necessary.

On behalf of Forever Home Pet Rescue and myself, I ask that you support Senate Bill 117.

Sincerely,

Deb Ghere 620-481-0889