



OFFICE OF THE RAMSEY COUNTY ATTORNEY

John J. Choi

SENT VIA EMAIL

February 21, 2025

The Honorable Ron Latz
Chair, Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
3105 Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Clare Oumou Verbeten
Vice Chair, Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
2101 Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for SF 1163: Office of Animal Protection Establishment and Appropriation

Dear Esteemed Legislative Leaders:

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh-in on our support for SF 1163. This proposed legislation would create an Office of Animal Protection within the Department of Public Safety. This office would add expertise, training, and support for counties across the State of Minnesota to prosecute offenders of our current animal cruelty laws. We would welcome this new resource and option to refer cases to this office for investigation and potential prosecution.

This bill was brought to our attention through Animal Folks—they have been a supportive partner in Ramsey County as we enforce animal cruelty laws. We appreciate the work of this organization and our valued partnership.

We ask for your consideration and support of this legislation. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me through my Executive Officer Chris Tolbert, Chris.Tolbert@co.ramsey.mn.us, or 651.266.2741.

Thank you!

John Choi
Ramsey County Attorney

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