

Cindy Lou, a Havanese puppy who was left to suffer alone in Puppy Heaven's back room and later died of liver failure. *Humane World, 2024.*



Dogs in USDA puppy mills are “vulnerable to neglect, mistreatment, and suffering”

according to a newly released [USDA internal audit](#).

8 states

and nearly 500 localities prohibit the sale of dogs and cats in pet shops.

SUPPORT AB487: CINDY LOU'S LAW

AB487 would phase out the sale of puppies and kittens in pet shops—protecting animals and consumers from the **nightmares of the puppy mill-to-pet shop pipeline** and giving impacted stores ample time to change their business model.

Clark County, Reno, North Las Vegas and Mesquite have banned the sale of puppy mill puppies in pet shops, and Henderson barred any new puppy stores from opening. Statewide action is needed to prevent bad actors from simply moving across city/county lines.

THE PROBLEM WITH PUPPY MILL STORES



Puppy mills: Public records paint a [horrifying picture](#) of the mass breeding facilities Nevada pet shops source puppies from. No Nevadan would *knowingly* support this cruelty.



The Pipeline: Pet shop puppies are born into cruel and unsanitary conditions, and at just 8 weeks old, crammed into cages and trucked across the country with other stressed and sick puppies.



Misleading sales tactics: Pet shops often sell puppies for thousands of dollars by lying about their breeders and making false health guarantees.



Sick puppies: Pet shop puppies often suffer from a range of sicknesses and genetic disorders, costing families thousands of dollars in veterinary care and heartbreak. A [2024 investigation](#) of six Nevada puppy stores uncovered widespread issues and severely sick puppies, like Cindy Lou.



Predatory lending: Few can afford a pet shop puppy outright, so sales staff push financing through third party lenders. Nevada puppy store customers have reported interest rates up to 188%.



Zoonotic disease: [The American Medical Association](#) has sounded the alarm about the public health risks of pet shop puppies, noting that antibiotic-resistant infections continue to sicken and hospitalize people.

THE LUCRATIVE HUMANE PET STORE MARKET



No pet shop needs to sell puppies. The massive retail pet industry (\$147 billion and counting) is dominated by the sale of pet products and services.



Stores that formally sold puppies have moved to a products and services model. [Spoiled Pup LV](#) had to stop selling puppies to comply with Clark County's ordinance. It's thriving as “an Asian inspired grooming spa.”

ETHICAL PET SOURCES



Most residents will be able to obtain the pet of their choice by adopting from a local shelter or rescue, including breed specific rescues.



AB487 will lessen the burden on taxpayer-funded shelters that regularly take in pet shop puppies that families relinquish.



Residents can also seek out a [responsible breeder](#) who treats their dogs like pets and only sell directly to the public.