



# Anti-Fur Society



May 16, 2006

Governor Thomas J. Vilsack  
State Capitol  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0001  
Faxes: (515) 281-6611  
(202) 624-8189

Dear Governor Vilsack:

We are a dedicated anti-fur organization, with supporters worldwide, and also a member of the International Anti-Fur coalition with offices in 40 different countries. We work to educate the public concerning the inhumane treatment of fur animals used by the fur industry. Our greatest challenge has been with the barbaric treatment of fur animals in China, where they are systematically skinned alive for fur, and also used as part of their menu. This includes cats and dogs.

The last thing we want to see in the United States is a law that will allow dogs to be treated as livestock as this will set a dangerous precedent, and potentially allow dog meat to be served in Chinese/Korean restaurants, and of course, since the dog is already dead, then its fur will be sold openly in this country.

As a group we ask you, please, do not sign this bill -- if you want to give puppy mills a tax break, make a separate law for it. Signing this bill will place a horrible stain on the State of Iowa. The American people, and indeed, the world will not forget it. Please check our petition which is only 3 days old, and see just how many signatures we have collected so far.

<http://www.petitiononline.com/Kooney/petition.html>

Your purported intention to sign into law Bill 2797 - which would classify dogs as "farm animals" or "livestock" - is beyond comprehension. Dogs are not livestock, but are companion animals.

Gov. Valsick

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To categorize canines as farm products would place them beyond the reach of anti-cruelty and abuse legislation - and open the door to their treatment as a commodity --- as sources of food and fur.

We urge you to veto bill 2797.

Sincerely,

Anti-Fur Society

[www.antifursociety.org](http://www.antifursociety.org)