



June 26, 2014

Position Statement on AB 2431 Beagle Freedom Bill

Adopted by the Sonoma Humane Society Executive Director & Board of Directors

California state-funded institutions, including universities, utilize dogs and cats (most of them being Beagles) for laboratory research and testing. When the animals are no longer needed, they are euthanized. AB 2431 would mandate that these institutions offer these animals up for public adoption to rescue organizations and humane societies.

The Sonoma Humane Society (SHS) supports, promotes and strives to be the foremost advocate for the best policies, procedures, and practices as they apply to the animals of Sonoma County and beyond. Towards the accomplishment of these goals, the Executive Director and SHS Board of Directors adopts the following:

SHS supports AB 2431 allowing healthy and adoptable animals that have been used for laboratory research to be released to nonprofit animal rescue organizations where they may be placed up for public adoption. SHS believes that no effort is too great when saving a life and euthanasia should not be the immediate outcome for these animals after they are no longer needed for research.

We adopt this position today, June 26, 2014 and declare it to be in accordance with the Sonoma Humane Society mission statement: *Ensuring every animal receives protection, compassion, love and care.*

**Kiska Icard, Executive Director
Sonoma Humane Society**

**Evelyn Mitchell, President
Sonoma Humane Society Board of Directors**