

Lou Mansolillo

From: Kara McKamey <karapottery@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:39 PM
To: House Corporations Committee
Subject: vote yes to Bill H7334

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February 23, 2026

Dear Honorable Members of the Rhode Island Legislature,

I am writing to express my support for Bill H7334 and to urge you to vote in favor of its passage.

I am a board member at Foster Parrots and I myself have been part of the parrot breeding trade in childhood breeding cockatiels for our family business. I have seen firsthand how improper care and poor placement affect birds' physical and psychological well-being. Unlike reputable rescues and responsible breeders, pet stores typically do not vet purchasers to ensure they are prepared to meet the complex, long-term needs of companion birds. This lack of screening contributes to impulsive purchases and, ultimately, higher surrender rates.

Many birds who come to Foster Parrots have already been rehomed multiple times and their purchase history is often lost before they are ultimately surrendered. Stressed parrots tend to exhibit self destructive behaviors such as plucking their feathers out or harming themselves. Most pet stores do not have screening tools in place to vet owners to make sure they are prepared to care for these complex pets. This bill does not affect responsible breeders. Instead, it addresses a retail pipeline that contributes significantly to the overpopulation problem.

Rescue organizations are already overwhelmed—in 2025 Foster Parrots had 771 surrender requests and could only take 101 birds. Many of those birds surrendered were not suitable to be adopted due to health issues or mental health problems so they became permanent residents of Foster Parrots, others are adopted out to new owners after a screening process and education. Parrot Sanctuaries in New England and beyond are operating beyond capacity and this bill would be a step towards promoting the responsible care of parrots in the pet trade.

I hope you will vote yes on H7334 because it would be a meaningful step toward reducing unnecessary displacement, supporting rescue organizations, and promoting more responsible acquisition of companion birds. Please consider the welfare of the pet parrots who spend their lives in cages because the true sufferers in the end are the birds.

Thank you for your time, service, and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,
Kara McKamey