



NYSAPF is the voice of New York's Humane Societies, SPCAs, Non-Profit and Municipal Animal Shelters

TO: MEMBERS OF THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

FROM: LIBBY POST, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NYSAPF
THE UNDERSIGNED MEMBERS OF THE NYSAPF

RE: NEW APPROPRIATION FOR THE COMPANION ANIMAL CAPITAL FUND

DATE: MARCH 6, 2018

Thank you for the support you provided for the Companion Animal Capital Fund in last year's budget negotiations. On Tuesday, February 27th, the awards were made. 14 shelters across the state received just under \$5 million. There were 29 applications for \$13 million—clearly not every shelter was able to receive the funding they needed.

The \$5 million reappropriation that is in the FY2019 budget proposal has now been awarded. We need your leadership once again to support a new \$5 million funding stream for this coming fiscal year.

There is an overwhelming need to assist the state's humane societies, SPCAs and nonprofit and municipal animal shelters to maintain and improve their infrastructure through capital projects.

As private, not for profits, the state's humane societies and Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCAs) do not receive any direct state funding. Yet, they provide an essential service to their local communities. Article 7, Section 114 of Agriculture and Markets Law requires every municipality to operate an animal shelter. For those municipalities that do not have their own shelters, they contract directly with their local humane society, SPCA or nonprofit animal shelter. This saves taxpayers dollars—the contracts cost much less than the municipality staffing and managing an animal shelter of their own.

When we proposed the creation of the Companion Animal Capital Fund in FY 2018, our hope would be that it was a recurring source of capital funds for humane societies, SPCAs and nonprofit and municipal shelters. **We turn to you to speak with the leadership in your house to include a new \$5 million funding stream in the the FY2019 state budget.**

With better facilities more people will come to the states' animal shelters to adopt companion animals. We will also be able to construct more efficient facilities that streamline the cost of operation.

Thank you.



President, New York State Animal Protection Federation
Chief Operating Officer, SPCA Serving Erie County



Libby Post, Executive Director, New York State Animal Protection Federation



Deb Balliet, Executive Director, Animal Protection Foundation (Scotia, NY)



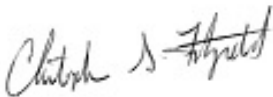
Suzyn Barron, Executive Director, Warwick Valley Humane Society



Alice Calabrese, President and CEO, Lollypop Farm, the Humane Society of Greater Rochester



Donna Chambers, Vice President, Animal Alliance of Greater Syracuse



Christopher Fitzgerald, Director, Rochester Animal Services



Tom Geroy, Executive Director, Chemung County SPCA



William Ketzer, Senior Director of State Legislation, Northeast Region of the ASPCA



Karen Matson, Executive Director, Broome County Humane Society



Laurie Parsons, President, Elmore SPCA (Peru, NY)



Mark Plyter, Executive Director, Humane Society of Wayne County



Lynda Pruski, President, SPCA Serving Allegany County



Gillian Pultz, Executive Director, North Folks Animal Welfare League (Suffolk County)



Gary Rogers, First Vice-Chairman, Nassau County SPCA

S/S Tracey Carvell, Executive Director, Humane Society of Walden
S/S Dallyn Jenkins, Executive Director, Beverly Animal Shelter (Waterloo, NY)