

MT. TABOR ANIMAL HOSPITAL

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March 18, 2005

North Carolina Animal Advocates
100 Happy Trails Drive
Angier, NC 27501

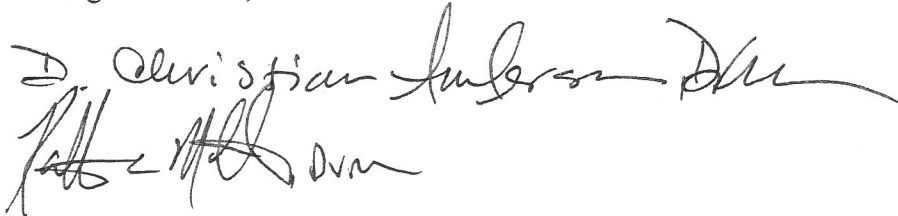
I recently received your letter asking for opinions on the use of gas chambers to euthanise animals in tax-funded animal shelters in North Carolina.

I have only had the misfortune of viewing one such euthanasia in my career. It was an extremely unpleasant experience and one that I will never forget. Animals were crowded into the chamber with no regard to the potential for injury that they might do to one another. As the gas was pumped in, this very excited and anxious group started to vocalize what I can only call their distress. When bodies were removed the chamber was soiled with saliva, blood, and excrement.

In my opinion, animals under state care deserve to be treated ethically and humanely during their lives and at their deaths. I believe that euthanasia is best accomplished by lethal injection with an overdose of anesthetic. In the hands of a trained and caring person, animals do not experience anxiety or pain during the procedure. It is cleaner, takes less time and is less expensive than mass euthanasia by chamber.

We heartily support your efforts in this regard and thank you for making this effort on behalf of North Carolina's companion animals.

All good wishes,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is for D. Christian Anderson, and the bottom signature is for Katherine Miller. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

D. Christian Anderson, DVM
Katherine Miller, DVM