

**Testimony of Kathleen Sullivan
Member CT Votes for Animals
Advisory Board Member Our Companions Domestic Animal Sanctuary**

**In Support of Senate Bill 274 – an Act Prohibiting the Unreasonable Confinement and Tethering of Dogs
Joint Environment Committee
March 8, 2010**

Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, and fellow Environment Committee members, thank you for this opportunity to express my strong support for SB 274.

Laws on the books that are not enforceable are not effective. This is the case with the existing legislation regarding animal tethering. CT Votes for Animals, Our Companions Domestic Animal Sanctuary and the statewide coalition of animal welfare organizations with the Animal Welfare Federation of CT, are trying to change this to protect the neglected dogs involved as well as the public at large.

This issue is about protecting animals that live their lives chained to a stationary object without adequate food, water, shelter, or medical care. I am sure there is not one among you who would not be in favor of more humane treatment of the victims of such unthinkable cruelty. As a resident of the City of Hartford, I don't have to stray far from my own back yard to witness such heart wrenching situations. Sadly, after such confinement, these animals often become threat to public safety as well, and SB 274 is intended to address that problem as well.

Therefore, I urge you to do the right, humane thing and please support SB 274 and the amendments proposed by the ASPCA and CT Votes for Animals. This bill would strengthen the current law and give Animal Control Officers a means to protect neglected dogs and keep our community safe.

Kathleen Sullivan
86 Bloomfield Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06105