

## TESTIMONY OF ANDREA G. SHEPTOFF

March 8, 2010

### **SB 274 Legislation Concerning the Unreasonable Tethering and Confinement Of Dogs**

Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, and fellow Environment Committee members, thank you the Environment Committee for allowing me to express my strong support of SB 274, legislation concerning the unreasonable tethering and confinement of dogs.

I do not want to quote the statistics, horror stories and frustrations that you have heard and will hear from Animal Control Officers and from the many animal welfare volunteers who want to end the suffering of dogs who spend their entire life often cold, hungry, thirsty, injured, frustrated and aggressive—their constant barking, calls for help, regarded by many as a mere nuisance.

I just want to state my belief that it is our duty and moral obligation to help those who are unable to help themselves. I know the enforcement of this law, if passed, will still, in many instances, be difficult to enforce....but so are many other laws such as those regarding drug sales and immigration. But that doesn't mean we should just throw in the towel. I hope you will regard this legislation in a favorable way. And even if just one dog's suffering is lessened or one dog owner educated, then it will be worth the trouble it took for me to be here today. As Mahatma Gandhi said, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be measured by the way in which its animals are treated".

Andrea G. Sheptoff  
3 Hoccanum Road, Marlborough, CT 06447  
860.228.9761