

Testimony in favor of Revised Bill 6303:

Hello, I am Mark Greenberg, founder and director of The Simon Foundation

We are a 501©(3) charitable organization located at 120 Rescue Lane in Bloomfield, Ct. The Simon Foundation facility consists of 33,500 square feet consisting of 128 kennel runs, 75 cat condos, adoption simulation rooms, training and fitness circuit, and 3,000 square feet reserved for a low cost spay-neuter clinic.

I am here testifying in favor of Bill 6303. In fact, The Simon Foundation is the very model under Section 1 (a)(2) which would provide day to day kennel care under this section and under Section 1 (b) which would provide veterinary care to adoptable animals.

Moreover, this is exactly what is happening at The Simon Foundation as we speak. We are under agreement with both the Town of Bloomfield and The City of Hartford under which The Simon Foundation takes ownership of some of the dogs once their statutory hold time has lapsed and then vets and trains these dogs for eventual adoption in loving homes. In addition, the Foundation offers training sessions to adopters to make sure that any issues with the dogs can be resolved through professional training. Of course, all animals are spayed and neutered for the animals' well-being and to protect against population increase.

The following is a brief summary of benefits-

- 1) The outside facility is up and running with animal care infrastructure intact thus saving the municipality the cost of building and staffing their own facility;
- 2) A charitable organization such as The Simon Foundation is equipped to adopt these animals in a more efficient manner to homes which are pre-qualified for successful adoptions;
- 3) The animals will enjoy a better life in the facility due to the established regimens of regular walking and exercise;
- 4) The euthanasia rate of the animals will decrease due to the extra capacity of both the facilities and the charitable organizations that agree to take the animals after the statutory period

In summary, it is my opinion that this is a win-win bill for the municipalities and the animals whose voices are heard effectively with the passage of this legislation. If you would like to know more about our facility in Bloomfield please go to [www.thesimonfoundation.org](http://www.thesimonfoundation.org).

Thank you.