

**Ellington Animal Control  
55 Main St.  
P.O. Box 187  
Ellington, CT 06029**

March 13, 2013

Senator Hartley  
Legislative Office Building  
Room 1800  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Honorable Senator Hartley,

Our Animal Control Office regularly follows proposed and upcoming bills, regarding our profession. HB5027 has been brought to our attention. We have a suggestion for the portion regarding "Land Transport", part "k". It would be beneficial to the State of CT, all Animal Control Officers, the adoptees, and most importantly the pets being transported, to add language requiring all transported dogs to be micro-chipped and registered to the rescue they are being shipped to, prior to shipment into the State of CT. Under "k", the bill currently reads, "Appropriate identification". Often times, collars break or slip off which leaves the dog with no identification on them. The microchip is permanent identification, which will always remain with the animal. It has become a very common practice among pet owners to have their pets micro-chipped in recent years. This would help get displaced dogs back to the rescue responsible for them. We have received many calls for lost dogs that have escaped shortly after being transported into CT. It may also help to eliminate rescue dogs ending up in CT shelters as "strays". Many micro-chipping companies have reduced cost programs for shelters, making this a feasible option.

It would be greatly appreciated if you take this into consideration, and add this into the proposed legislation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (860) 870-3155.

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Ellington, CT