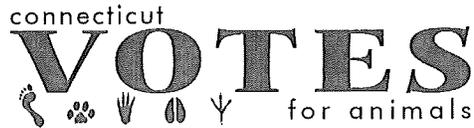


Animals Don't Vote.
People Do.



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April 5, 2013

Judiciary Committee Public Hearing Testimony

HB 6690 AN ACT CONCERNING COURT PROCEEDINGS AND THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS.

Testimony from Henry Petrofsky

131 Four Rod Road

Berlin, Ct 06037

Director, CT Votes for Animals

Dear members of the Judiciary Committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify **in support of H.B. 6690.**

I strongly support the proposed H.B 6690 as animals in Connecticut desperately need the protection that will be provided to them under this legislation. Currently animal have no legal advocate on their behalf, and this bill will allow for court-appointed advocates for animals during legal proceedings that concern the animals' welfare or custody.

There have been far too many cases in Connecticut in which the animal has severely been abused, and yet the outcome of the case rarely results in strong enough penalties to act as a future deterrent.

This bill would provide an advocate in court for an injured animal, plus but it would also document the animal's injuries and suffering, and help the court make informed decisions regarding the animal's welfare.

In my opinion it is critical that our society speak for our voiceless creatures, and it is imperative that we take any violent acts of animal cruelty seriously, as it has been proven time and time again that cruelty to animals is a precursor to future and escalating violent behavior toward people.

Thank you for acknowledging my testimony and once again I ask that you strong consider voting in favor of passing this important piece of legislation.