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From: emily <emilyviandier@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:16 PM
To: Jud Testimony
Subject: HB 6690

**Testimony Concerning HB 6690 An Act Concerning Court Proceedings and the Protection
of Animals
Jamila HadjSalem**

I would like to thank the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB 6690, an act concerning court proceedings and the protection of animals .

I am a registered voter in Stafford Springs, CT.

I am an avid animal lover, and hate to see animals with no advocate in the judicial system. Animals have no voice of their own, and need representation when they are abused and hurt. It is vital to the well-being of animals to have someone fighting for them and ensuring that their best interests are served.

I know of a dog, a pitbull/lab mix, who was being abused by three people. She was left for weeks on end in a crate with inadequate water, little to no food, and no hygiene what-so-ever (she was literally lying in her own wastes and was languishing, half way to death, when a visiting guest saw her one day. The guest tried to call law enforcement, animal control, and other municipal organizations, all to no avail. They told her they couldn't do anything for the dog. This went on for weeks. Finally, the three people decided to give the woman the dog, after a lot of bartering and bargaining for money. Thankfully, this story has a happy ending, but it's due to the perseverance of the woman and anyone advocating on behalf of the dog. The three people were never prosecuted or brought up on charges for abuse of the dog. This is why we *need* HB 6690 to pass--so animals can have a legal standing in courts.

Please, pass HB 6690.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify and I do hope you will strongly support this important piece of legislation.

Thank you,

Jamila HadjSalem
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