

McCall, Brandon

From: Kristine Bechard <kristinebechard@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2013 11:02 PM
To: Jud Testimony
Subject: Testimony Concerning HB6690

Testimony Concerning HB6690
Kristine Bechard

I would like to thank the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to express my support of Connecticut HB 6690 "An Act Concerning Court Proceedings and the Protection of Animals".

I am a registered voter in Hamden and a citizen with a deep concern for the staggering number of animal abuse cases that abound not only nationwide but also right here in our Connecticut backyards.

“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated”

This quote (attributed to the esteemed Mahatma Gandhi) has always resonated with me. The idea that we should help the smaller, the weaker, the hopeless, the voiceless, and the less fortunate with kindness, fairness, love, strength, and support seems fundamental. To some it may seem a tad idealistic. But what is our alternative?

A quick search for Connecticut animal cruelty cases reveals many. And it includes Desmond. Desmond the sweet former shelter dog abused, strangled, unceremoniously placed in a garbage bag , then thrown into a frozen lake by someone, who at one time, supposedly loved and cared for this animal. As the ‘Mom’ to two rescue dogs and a frequent visitor to local shelters what happened to Desmond eats at my core. It is his story, and that of hundreds of others, that has led me to actively support this bill. We need advocates who can step up, speak up, and do something, for those who cannot.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify. Rhode Island has set the precedent. I hope my home state can follow suit. Please support this important piece of legislation.

Thank you,

Kristine Bechard
205 Thornton Street
Hamden, CT 06517
203-287-8923
kristinebechard@gmail.com