

McCall, Brandon

From: Maureen Griffin <nytwind@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2013 12:06 PM
To: Jud Testimony
Subject: Raised Bill HB #6690

Categories: Red Category

As a retired Chief Animal Control Officer for the State of Connecticut as well as a purebred dog exhibitor, I oppose Raised Bill HB #6690 "An Act Concerning Court Proceedings and the Protection of Animals." While this bill states that said advocate "shall be knowledgeable about the needs and protection of animals", I have seen enough overly zealous animal rights people who rely far more on emotions than actual facts when determining animal needs. This bill indicates nothing at all about the advocate's training nor does it state any limits as to how their investigation would or could be conducted.

In an animal cruelty case, the investigation is conducted by law enforcement personnel such as Animal Control Officers who operate under the legal restraints of the Constitution. Why would we need anyone else conducting "investigations" unless there is a desire to circumvent such restraints?

This bill is yet another attempt of the animal rights community to establish animal "guardianship" rather than "animal ownership." The AVMA is against this movement as is the AKC, the National Animal Interest Alliance and many, many other animal organizations. As a dog owner, I have Constitutional rights to prevent removal of my property by the government without due process. The animal "guardianship" issue is designed to do away with those rights. The Animal Rights community would like people to believe that because I own my animals, I can do whatever I like to them and that is patently false. Sec. 53-247 Cruelty to Animals among other Statutes offers protection for animals. If the Animal Rights groups are so set on making this a better world for animals, perhaps they should address the cruelty statutes rather than try yet another politically motivated grab for control?

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be heard and I urge you to strongly OPPOSE this troubling piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

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