

I support HB 6690 Animal Advocate.

I, Samantha Shegogue would like to speak out on behalf of abused animals everywhere. Twice a month I go to the Our Companions Sanctuary to volunteer with the cats and dogs that reside there and are up for adoption. The first time I went there I saw what a beautiful, tranquil place Our Companions has provided for these scared little animals and then I went inside. What I saw was again, a wonderful and comfortable environment but then I saw cats that were scared and frightened with their new surroundings... most of them with horrible life stories. Abandoned, left alone for months, dumped off and left to fend for themselves, a tail cut off, fleas, ticks and ear mites left untreated, burns, scars. The list is endless. Thank god for the tireless staff and volunteers who work everyday to heal the wounds inside and out. As I write this I think of one of the many abuse cases that has brought me tears and it involves a beautiful dog I recently encountered who hid in a corner with his tail between his legs as I approached to pet him. He also urinated in fear. I have not slept well since. I was raised that every animal was one of God's creatures and that is why I am asking for your help to make all accountable for their actions.

Thank you,  
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