

**Testimony Concerning Connecticut HB 6690**  
**Sarah Englehardt**

I would like to thank the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to express my support of Connecticut HB 6690.

I am a registered voter in Waterbury, and I want you to know that I support this bill.

My husband and I are big advocates for animal rights. We donate to our local shelter, and volunteer our time when we can. We have two dogs that we have adopted, and they make our lives fuller every day.

Having an animal advocate within the court system is a vital role that must be filled. There are too many cases of these poor animals getting tortured, abused and left to die. The consequences for the people or parties responsible should be just as harsh. A slap on the wrist will just not do. It has been proven, time and time again, that the people that commit these crimes against animals move on to human victims. This is your chance to give these animals a "voice", so that they will not have suffered in vain.

The Justice for Desmond case is one that I am deeply invested in, and the fact that this "murderer" may walk free is disgusting. Having an advocate in the court for Desmond may have been able to make a much bigger difference, and I hope that in the future this will be the case.

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

Thank you,

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