

Testimony Concerning HB #3611

To prohibit towns from addressing the issue of dangerous dogs in a breed specific manner.

Elizabeth B. Gardner
Registered voter in Fairfield, CT
Professor Emerita, Fairfield University (Psychology)

I would like to thank the Joint Committee on Planning and Development for the opportunity to express my support of **HB #3611**: To prohibit towns from addressing the issue of dangerous dogs in a breed specific manner.

I am a registered voter in Fairfield, CT, and I am Professor Emerita, Fairfield University (Psychology) and a member of the Town of Fairfield's Committee to develop a Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan.

My husband and I have adopted two pit bulls from the Fairfield Animal Shelter, Baba ("Mom Dog") and Lola. Each was wonderful, loving and gentle; each thought she was entitled to sit in our laps (see photo of me and Lola).

There has been a great deal of misinformation and scare journalism about pit bulls (American Staffordshire Terriers; "shelter dogs"). An internet meme pictures a "pit bull attack" as pit bull dogs licking the faces of happy kids.

This bill needs to be passed to prevent tragic waste and greatly unfair sadnesses. Pit bulls are wonderful dogs! We plan to adopt another one soon (we lost Lola to leptospirosis [from the flood?] less than a month ago). Please remember Lola (in the photo) and please pass this bill!

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify and I hope you will pass this important piece of legislation!

Thank you,

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