

**Testimony Concerning HB5836**  
**Lana Burchman**  
**Our Companions**

I would like to thank the Environment Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB 5836 .

I am a registered voter in Bloomfield, and I am a volunteer at Our Companions

We are the stewards of our environment and make daily choices. I am a seventy year old woman and animals have always a part of my life. I have had cats and dogs since I was a small child. Dogs, as all animals, particularly domesticated animals, need lots of love, protection and our respect. They need a safe environment, food, water and exercise. Their life is greatly improved and they make better pets when they are spayed or neutered.

I am hoping that the State of Connecticut will take action to expand the spay and neuter benefits to pets belonging to low income families.

I have knowledge of families not having their animals spayed or neutered because of the cost. Currently I know of two families in my immediate area. There is improvement to animal life and health when dogs and cats are spayed or neutered. In these difficult economic times we all need to come together to do what we can to help maintain the pet population, their well -being and their safety.

I am asking consideration to make that happen.

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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