

Testimony Concerning HB5844

Caroline K. Gaetano

Program Manager Our Companions Animal Rescue and Member of CT Votes for Animals

I would like to thank the Environment Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB5844 AN ACT CONCERNING THE OVERNIGHT TETHERING OF DOGS OUTDOORS AND THE TETHERING OF DOGS OUTDOORS UNDER CERTAIN WEATHER CONDITIONS.

I am a registered voter in West Hartford, and I am Program Manager for Our Companions Animal Rescue and a member of CT Votes for Animals.

Tethering as an antiquated and inhumane form of confining dogs and results in frustrated, bored and socially isolated animals that end up neurotic and aggressive. This is not only a cruel fate for the animals involved; it also creates dangerous situations in our communities. This practice must be stopped immediately.

As an avid runner and dog walker, there is nothing more terrifying than not knowing how long the tether is as a chained dog comes charging at you. My dogs and I have walked away physically unscathed, but the memories last forever. It is time to put an end to the helplessness of these animals and provide a more humane environment for them to live in.

Thank you for giving this important subject the attention it deserves.

Warm regards,

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