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Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 921, An Act Concerning Liability For Damage Caused By A Dog Judiciary Committee - March 13, 2013

Good afternoon, Chairmen Coleman and Fox, Ranking Members Kissel and Rebimbas, and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 921, AAC LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY A DOG.

As many of you may remember, this bill has been before this committee in prior sessions, most recently in the 2012 session when it passed out of committee on a unanimous vote. The issue was brought to the attention of then-State Senator Roraback by a constituent from Goshen who incurred substantial costs for veterinary care when her dog was attacked by another dog. This legislation is intended to 'clarify that the owner or keeper of a dog that does damage to the companion animal of another is liable for the expense of veterinary care, the fair monetary value of the companion animal and the burial expenses for the companion animal, and (2) clarify the calculation of damages for damage done by a dog to domestic animals and poultry.'

I urge you to vote favorably on this bill and again, I appreciate your consideration.