

Testimony Concerning SB No. 445

of

CT Federation of Dog Clubs & Responsible Dog Owners, Inc.

The CT Federation of Dog Clubs & Responsible Dog Owners, Inc. (the "CT Federation") would like to thank the Environment Committee for the opportunity to express our support of raised SB No. 445, An Act Concerning Certain Recommendations of the Task Force on the Sale of Cats and Dogs from Inhumane Origins at Connecticut Pet Shops.

CT Federation is an organization representing 37 dog clubs and individual dog owners with a combined membership in excess of 2,000 CT residents and voters. CT Federation is in full support of SB No. 445 as written because the health and welfare of all dogs, regardless of the dog's origin, is of paramount importance to our member dog clubs and individual responsible dog owners.

Our members are committed to the highest of standards of housing and care of puppies and dogs, and demand the same standard be applied to all breeders whether small or large, whether inside or outside the State of Connecticut. Local small breeders are involved in the breeding of a specific breed of dog because it is their passion and always have as their number one priority the puppy/dog's best interest at heart. These breeders always want to maintain the best conditions for their puppies/dogs including making sure that they go to responsible, loving forever homes.

SB No. 445 is a reasonable and thoughtful approach to all breeders, large or small, and affords the general public the necessary and expected consumer protection policies. This bill ensures the consumer that certain standards of health and welfare have been met, and if not, then the proper penalties are in place to protect the consumer as well as the pet shops.

The CT Federation member clubs fully support this raised bill as written because it meets and maintains the balance between the quality standards they now practice and the consumer protection policies that the public expects.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to present our views on SB No. 445 and we thank the Environment Committee for proposing good and reasonable legislation that ultimately will benefit the welfare of animals and the consumer public at large.

Thank you.

Stephen Sackter
President

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