



**Environment Committee Public hearing March 6, 2014  
Testimony Concerning S.B. 309, and H.B. 5422  
Submitted by Amy Harrell, President, CT Votes for Animals**

**S.B. 309:** AAC MUNICIPAL COSTS FOR THE CARE OF CONFISCATED ANIMALS.

**Position: Support**

It is not uncommon for municipal shelters to suddenly find themselves charged with the care of a large number of animals, often seized during cruelty or hoarding cases. Hard-working Animal Control Officers are then faced with very challenging circumstances in trying to fund the care for these animals. Depending on the circumstances, the animals may also require long-term care.

It seems very reasonable for the state to assist municipalities with this responsibility. Such assistance would relieve the burden on the town and the Animal Control Officer, but would also help ensure that the seized animals receive proper care while in custody of the town.

**H.B. 5422:** AAC AWARENESS OF HEARTWORM DISEASE AND THE STANDARD DOG LICENSING FORM

**Position: Support**

Heartworm disease a serious illness that claims the lives of so many beloved pets. The more publicity and reminders we can generate to the public about the dangers of the disease, the better. A checkbox on the standard dog licensing form would certainly serve as a timely reminder to pet owners that heartworm preventative should be administered regularly.