

**Testimony Concerning HB536112**  
**Insurance and Real Estate Committee, 2/10/15**  
**Anonymous**

I would like to thank the Insurance and Real Estate Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB5361, An Act Concerning the Use of the Breed of Dog as an Underwriting Factor for Homeowners and Tenants Insurance Policies.

I have been working in rescue for over 20 years. During that time, I've rescued hundreds of animals, dogs and cats. When I moved across the country to Connecticut in 2005, I brought all of my personal and rescued animals with me—a total of nine dogs and four cats--two of whom were Pit Bulls. I did research and found two towns that had a ban on Bull breed type dogs so I moved to Manchester which didn't have an ordinance against any dog breed.

Both these dogs were and are adult and child friendly. I lied to my insurance company because I was afraid that they wouldn't insure me or the insurance would be so high, I wouldn't be able to afford it. It was wrong, I know, but this is what some Bull breed guardians experience when they are required to buy home owner's insurance. Some people give up their dogs, but I wasn't willing to do this. Both the dogs had been abandoned--one on the street and one in a vet clinic.

Please support this bill so people don't have to choose between their beloved companion and required homeowner's insurance. As a rescuer, I can't tell you how many phone calls I've received from people who have to give up their Pit Bull or Rottweiler, or even their Chow Chow because their insurance company won't insure their property because of their dog's breed.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify and I do hope you will strongly support this important piece of legislation.

Thank you,  
A Manchester resident