

April 1, 2015

*SUPPORT of HB 6187, AN ACT CONCERNING COURT PROCEEDINGS AND THE  
PROTECTION OF ANIMALS  
AND  
SUPPORT of SB 1128, AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF ACCELERATED  
REHABILITATION IN THE CASE OF ANIMAL ABUSE*

Dear Co-Chair Coleman, Co-Chair Tong, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am submitting this testimony in SUPPORT of HB 6187, to establish a process for appointing advocates for animals that are the subject of criminal court proceedings, and in SUPPORT of SB 1128, to prevent persons charged with committing animal abuse from using accelerated rehabilitation.

HB 6187 will help to facilitate animal cruelty prosecutions by ensuring appropriate representation for the victims.

SB 1128 will help to ensure that violence toward animals is taken seriously and promotes appropriately severe penalties as well as a record of these crimes in cases where people are responsible for causing animals to suffer.

Animal abuse/cruelty has been linked with crimes against people/domestic abuse. Please see [Animal Cruelty and Human Violence | Cathy Kangas](#)

Animal cruelty cases must be taken very seriously and those who have committed crimes against animals must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, specifically with the help of HB 6187 & SB 1128.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Natalie K. Jarnstedt  
250 Stanwich Road  
Greenwich, CT 06830