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Judiciary Committee  
Connecticut General Assembly  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

31 March 2015

Re: **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 ask that you accept this letter in SUPPORT of HB 6187, (which would establish a process for appointing an advocate for an animal that is the subject of a criminal court proceeding). Also, I ask that you accept this letter SUPPORT of SB 1128, (which would prevent persons charged with committing animal abuse from using accelerated rehabilitation).

The efforts of law enforcement officials to prosecute violations of the state's animal neglect and cruelty statutes needs to be buttressed. I believe the majority of the state's citizens place high value on the state's animal welfare laws, and believe that HB 6187 will help to facilitate animal cruelty prosecutions by ensuring appropriate representation for the victims of abuse.

I further believe that SB 1128 will help to ensure that violence toward animals is regarded 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. SB 1128 would support the public interest in its "right" to be aware about perpetrators of such crimes.

(Co-sponsors of HB-6187  
Rep. Diana S. Urban, 43rd Dist.  
Rep. John "Jack" F. Hennessy, 127th Dist.  
Rep. Robert W. Megna, 97th Dist.).

Thanks and regards,

*Peter C. Hood* (signature)

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