

Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

From: Kathleen Smith <kathleenm.smith@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2015 9:35 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: H.B. No. 6187

Good day.

I am writing you in support of H.B. 6187, also known as Desmond's law. I feel very strongly about this bill. Not only has it been proven that aggression and violence towards animals can manifest itself in violence towards humans, it is also a hallmark of the sociopathic and criminally inclined. Animals have no human voice. Which makes them a good "practice" target to abuse. They will never tell. And the abuse escalates further and once the animal is not enough of an outlet the offender looks for something more engaging like a hunter. It's sad and unfortunately true. The animals need someone who can speak for them. Be the voice that they do not have. The voice that says, "If he can do this to me, what can he do to your child? You? Your mother? Your father?" It is time that people stop belittling animal abuse/torture/murder by saying "It was just a dog...." Nobody would say that if it was "just" their daughter/son. Those who can do harm to a complacent, calm and loving animal feel nothing for others. If any of you are pet parents "owners" dogs/cats/birds, etc.. You know the excitement they greet you with when you come home from work or a quick trip to the store even. It is unconditional love! To harm one that sees you as the sun and moon and stars in their world is something I can not fathom. I urge you to please pass this bill. If not only for the love of your pets, your love of nature's animals in general, but for the love of all those you hold dear to your hearts. Your children, your spouse, your parents, your best friends since you were 12. Please know that "inhumane" does not simply mean "not suitable for humans". There are studies far and wide about this connection. If people stopped looking at animal abuse as "animal" abuse they would be able to circumvent so many future "human" tragedies. Abusing and killing an animal is a stepping stone to so many tragedies that was overlooked because it was "just a dog". Passing this bill will not only give the animals a voice, it will be the voice of future victims that will never have to tell their story because the cycle was stopped before they could become the victim. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Kathleen Smith
50 Tremont Street
Braintree, MA 02184 781-929-6669