

**Testimony Concerning SB 1128
JUDICIAL COMMITTEE, APRIL 1, 2015
Courtney McMahon
Protectors of Animals, Volunteer**

I would like to thank the Judicial Committee for the opportunity to express my support of SB 1128, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF ACCELERATED REHABILITATION IN THE CASE OF ANIMAL ABUSE

I have been an animal lover all my life. I have four cats and one dog at home that I love. I would do anything in my power to protect them and make sure they have a good life. Unfortunately not everyone feels the same way I do. Some do not realize the work and commitment it takes in caring and raising a pet. These people let their anger get the best of them and commit heinous acts against their pets. Pets, who only want love and attention from their owners are brutally abused and sometimes killed. We cannot let these people continue Accelerated Rehab as their punishment. To deem animal cruelty as "not serious in nature" is deplorable and sickening. We would NEVER deem a human being abused or killed as "not serious in nature", why do our animals not have the same rights? It's time we get serious about fighting back for these poor creatures. The people that abuse animals need to know they will be punished for their crimes and it is no longer acceptable to hurt our animals. How wonderful a world it would be if we no longer needed groups like ASPCA or PETA!

I urge you to pass SB 1128 so that anyone that abuses animals will serve the sentence they truly deserve. We need to be the voice for the animals that cannot speak for themselves and ensure they are protected!

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

Thank you,

Courtney McMahon
Portland, CT