

Testimony Concerning HB 6187 and SB1128
Judiciary Committee, April 1, 2015
Kathleen C. Wirtz
Concerned Citizen

I would like to thank the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to express my support of AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS THAT ARE THE SUBJECT OF CRIMINAL COURT PROCEEDINGS. ("Desmond's Law") HB6187 and AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF ACCELERATED REHABILITATION IN THE CASE OF ANIMAL ABUSE SB1128 .

Animals, like humans, deserve the right to live. Having recently lost my beloved dog of 14 years it was soul-destroying having to put him to sleep even knowing he was treated with love all those years. I cannot fathom the thought of an animal being tortured and killed by some horrible person. The sad truth is that this is also how humans treat other humans. But the laws make sure when people are abused and killed the person responsible is prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Unfortunately, this is not the case for an animal. To me there is no difference. A slap on the wrist for abusing, torturing and/or murdering an animal is not acceptable. These terrible people deserve far more punishment.

Years ago I watched our beloved dog writhing in pain from the ingestion of poison given to him by a disgusting neighbor because the dog had wandered into his yard. Midnight's death was horrible, and I hope that I never have to see anything like that again. A slap on the wrist and accelerated rehabilitation, to me, are totally ineffective in stopping someone from committing such atrocities again.

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

Thank you,

Kathleen C. Wirtz
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