

Bill No. 6725, An Act Concerning Animal-Assisted Services

To whom it may concern,

My name is RozeLyn Beck. I have been a registered pet therapist with Pet Partners (formerly known as Delta Society) since 2006. Since that time I have made numerous visits to Mt. Sinai Rehab and Bloomfield Health Care, as well as other periodic visits to the University of Connecticut during Finals week and other local facilities. I was among the first 6 teams who successfully trained for, and passed, the Tails of Joy Crisis Response Team protocols and evaluations in early 2014.

Tails of Joy, a volunteer pet therapy organization, has collaborated with State Representative Diana Urban and other pet therapy organizations throughout the state to draft proposed language changes to the original bill to ensure that the legislation be clear and that it be consistent with the animal assisted activities and therapeutic work currently occurring in the state. Those actively involved in pet therapy have a unique perspective, and I encourage you to value highly the input of these individuals and organizations. I encourage you to adopt the proposed language in Raised Bill No. 6725. These changes are positive and will only strengthen the powerful and positive effect of animals during difficult times for the citizens of the State of Connecticut.

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