

**Testimony Concerning HB 5443
Insurance Committee, March 3rd, 2016
Keith Smith**

I would like to thank the Insurance Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB5443, An Act Concerning the Use of Breed of Dog as an Underwriting Factor for Homeowners and Tenants Insurance Policies.

I care greatly about our pets, and many of them are dominant breed animals from rescues etc. Much legislation has already been changed in this state to get rid of breed specific laws, now it's time for the insurance companies to follow. Dogs, like people should be judged by their actions, not their breeding history.

I have adopted 2 pit bulls over the last decade, and along with my Labrador Retrievers, they have made such great companions to our family. I take them in public with me, hiking, mountain biking etc. Like any breed of dog, proper training and treatment is essential is having a safe, happy pet.

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

Thank you,

Keith Smith
Stafford, CT.