

**From:** Kristen Bates <kbates619@yahoo.com>  
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**To:** INSTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony Concerning HB 5334 AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF BREED OF DOG AS AN UNDERWRITING FACTOR FOR HOMEOWNERS AND TENANTS INSURANCE POLICIES

**Testimony Concerning HB 5334**  
AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF BREED OF DOG AS AN UNDERWRITING FACTOR FOR HOMEOWNERS AND TENANTS INSURANCE POLICIES, **Date of public hearing 3/3/2016**

**Kristen Walsh**

**I am affiliated with Furry Friends Foster and Rescue and Connecticut Pit Bull Resources, Organization as a Volunteer and Foster.**

I would like to thank the Joint Committee on Insurance and Real Estate for the opportunity to express my support of HB 5334 AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF BREED OF DOG AS AN UNDERWRITING FACTOR FOR HOMEOWNERS AND TENANTS INSURANCE POLICIES.

I deeply care for animals as a whole especially the ones that have been forgotten or neglected. This is one of the main reasons why I started to foster dogs. As my youngest son once asked for, for Christmas that every dog and cat would have a home and someone to love them it truly broke my heart and we started to care for animals that didn't have any where to go.

I am truly lucky that my insurance company does not discriminate against the breed of dog or I would not be able to help the less fortunate of dogs, since it is not the animals fault as it is of the owner that abandons them or does not take the time to train them properly.

As with anyone who has car insurance there are cases in which someone is likely to be uninsured do to their own violations, and I'm certain this would be the case provided the insured person was in violation after having the pet insured. With that said why should insurance companies give discriminate based upon breed? Isn't just the same as discriminating against a person race?

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

Thank you,

Kristen Walsh, New Hartford CT