

Testimony Concerning HB 5344 AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPORT FOR ANIMALS THAT ARE NEGLECTED OR TREATED CRUELLY
Judiciary Committee, February 24, 2016

I would like to thank the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB 5344 AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPORT FOR ANIMALS THAT ARE NEGLECTED OR TREATED CRUELLY.

Yesterday it was brought to my attention that there will be testimony for HB 5344 AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPORT FOR ANIMALS THAT ARE NEGLECTED OR TREATED CRUELLY.

The notification of it came from a friend who is a volunteer for the New Haven Animal Shelter. I have had personal experience with this shelter, as it was here that I adopted my dog, Mango, 14 years ago. I'm happy to say that she is still with us today. I recall the story of her life before ending up in the New Haven Shelter, that on Christmas Eve she and her two brothers were left outside Humphrey's in New Haven, tied up in the cold. That, in my opinion, is a cruel act.

Reading up on the facts of the Desmond the dog case, I not only was terribly saddened by what happened to this dog, but I felt horrified for the woman who had given up Desmond, hoping that the proper care for Desmond would be given. I think people need to be more aware of this situation, where there is domestic violence going on, the victims involved often don't leave a dangerous and potentially life-threatening situation because they don't want to leave their beloved pets behind, and homeless shelters don't take pets.

Obviously Desmond cannot speak up for himself, not then and not now. It is imperative that, as a society, we remain united in protecting our weakest souls, be it people or animals.

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

Thank you,

Krista Bush
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