Carroll, Rhonda

From: Brittany Cabral <brittany.cabral28@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 6:56 AM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: Testimony for 2/24 public hearing-- SUPPORT HB 5344 (support for animals that are victims of cruelty)

Dear Co-Chair Coleman, Co-Chair Tong, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 2/24/16) in **SUPPORT of HB 5344**, An Act Concerning Support for Animals that are Neglected or Treated Cruelly.

I vote, and this issue is important to me.

I support HB 5344 because:

- Research has established strong links between violent behaviors toward humans and violent behaviors toward animals.
- Law enforcement agencies must take violence toward animals seriously, and prosecutions must be encouraged. A disturbing OLR report (2015-R-0262) found that between 2005-15, 80% of animal cruelty offenses were either not prosecuted or dismissed.
- Having court advocates for animals would be done at no cost by enlisting volunteer representation for animals from law students and law firms.
- Teaching humans to behave with kindness and respect toward animals will help to build a more humane society.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,
Brittany Cabral
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West haven, CT