

Testimony Concerning HB 5344
Judiciary Committee, Wednesday, February 24, 2016
Lynn Taylor

I would like to thank the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB5344, AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPORT FOR ANIMALS THAT ARE NEGLECTED OR TREATED CRUELLY.

I care very much about the welfare of animals, not only because it is the right thing to do, but also because it is a reflection of the society we live in. When neglect or abuse is addressed as a serious societal issue, it benefits people and families as much as the animals. We know from much research, that those who would abuse animals are often on their first step to abusing or harming people.

I read that **80% of the animal cruelty charges brought against individuals in Connecticut are dismissed. For these cases, there is no justice for the abused animal, and potentially violent criminals are permitted to walk free. This is unacceptable!**

A society that wants to progress must prosecute animal abuse as part of the tools we have to make this a better life for all its citizens. This is not just an issue for animal lovers, it is an issue for all who care about quality of life in our state.

This bill is reasonable and deserves your support.

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

Thank you,

Lynn Taylor
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