

**Carroll, Rhonda**

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**From:** Mandy Wieting <resque217@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 21, 2016 10:59 AM  
**To:** JudTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of HB 5344

Testimony Concerning HB 5344  
Judiciary Committee, Feb. 24, 2016  
Mandy Wieting  
*Feline Caregiver, Our Companions Animal Rescue*

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,**  
**Desmond's Law.**

I work with animals on a daily basis and see the unconditional love that they give to us humans no matter what. They would do anything for us and yet we let these evil people abuse, maim and kill them and get away with it. These people need to be punished for their crimes. Since the animals cannot speak for themselves, what better way to help them than give them an advocate?

We have all heard horror stories in the media about people abusing and torturing other humans. And so often, when they delve into their past, the perpetrator usually started by abusing animals. Eighty percent of these cases in Connecticut are dismissed. The animals receives no justice, and the violent criminal goes free to commit more crimes. This needs to stop. By giving a volunteer advocatc to an abused animal, we give them a voice and hopefully prosecute the person responsible.

I urge you to support this bill. Please give animals the voice they so strongly deserve.

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

Thank you,

Mandy Wieting  
Vernon, CT