



AN ACT CONCERNING THE VACCINATION OF ANIMALS.

February 16, 2017

Susan B. Linker, Board Member, CT Votes for Animals

CEO Our Companions Animal Rescue

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my strong support of HB 5659. I am writing on behalf of CT Votes for Animals, a grass roots organization representing people who care about the welfare of animals throughout the State of CT. CT Votes for Animals works to pass pro-animal legislation and fight laws that are harmful to animals.

Having been involved in the animal welfare field for my entire career, I've had a lot of experience with the changing research and opinions concerning the frequency of vaccinations and the use of titers.

Personally and professionally I have been in situations where I disagreed with the suggested vaccination frequency for some of my pets who were physically compromised and vulnerable. Thankfully, I have worked with professional veterinarians who recognize the potential harm of over-vaccination and have worked with me to ensure the safety and welfare of my pets and others in the community by using titers.

Titers are an important tool to prevent the over vaccination of pets. This bill will allow veterinarians to make decisions that do not risk the well being of animals by using titers to confirm that animals are properly protected from viruses that can be spread and cause harm to other animals.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify on this important bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan B. Linker".

Susan B. Linker, Bloomfield, CT 06002

CT Votes for Animals Board Member