



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

REPRESENTATIVE JOE POLLETTA
SIXTY-EIGHTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING ROOM 4200
300 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

CAPITOL: (860) 240-8700
TOLL FREE: 1 (800) 842-1423
Joe.Polletta@housegop.ct.gov

MEMBER
BANKING COMMITTEE
HOUSING COMMITTEE
INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Judiciary Committee
Public Testimony
March 9, 2018

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 241 AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR THE INTENTIONAL INJURY OR KILLING OF POLICE ANIMALS OR DOGS IN VOLUNTEER CANINE SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS

Good Morning Co-Chairs Senator Kissel, Senator Doyle, Representative Tong, Ranking Member Rebimbas, and esteemed members of the Committee. My name is Joe Polletta and I am proud to represent the 68th District, which encompasses the towns of Watertown and Woodbury. I am testifying in support of bill SB 241.

I think we can all agree that K-9s play an intricate and important part of our police forces across the state. These animals often take the same risks as police officers and many times are the first ones to enter a crime scene. Due to this they are subjected to the same risks human officers are but sadly, the punishment for injuring or killing a K-9 is woefully weak. With SB 241, we can take the first important steps to correcting this by strengthening the punishments for people who do K-9's harm. These animals do an outstanding job protecting the public and deserve our appreciation and protection.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Polletta".

Joe Polletta
State Representative, 68th District