



*The National Animal Care & Control Association
is committed to setting the standard of professionalism in animal welfare
and public safety through training, networking, and advocacy.*

NATIONAL ANIMAL
CARE & CONTROL ASSOCIATION

March 27, 2019

The Honorable Christine Cohen, Chair
The Honorable Mike Demicco, Chair
Joint Environment Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3200
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: SB 999

Dear Co-Chairs Cohen and Demicco, and Members of the Committee:

It has been brought to our attention that testimony in support of SB 999, an act concerning mandatory licensing of cats, was submitted on the National Animal Care and Control Association's (NACA's) letterhead during this committee's public hearing on March 11, 2019. Please be advised that this testimony was not submitted on behalf of NACA and is contrary to our organization's policy on cat licensing.

Furthermore, it is my understanding that the signature on the support letter was that of my predecessor, who has not been the Executive Director of this organization for over a year and assures me he did not submit this correspondence.

NACA opposes SB 999, and any legislation that requires the licensing of cats, for many of the reasons outlined in the public testimony submitted in opposition on March 11th. NACA recognizes that methods such as "trap and remove" have proven to be ineffective at reducing outdoor ("community cat") populations and nuisance complaints and recommends humane management programs, including Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR). Requiring the licensing of cats has a chilling effect on these community cat diversion programs, and therefore creates an undue burden on shelters and taxpayers.

We respectfully ask that this committee to amend the record from its March 11th public hearing so as to remove the fraudulent letter submitted on NACA's letterhead, and replace it with this letter.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John W. Thompson
Executive Director and CEO