

Dear Committee Members,

As a long-time resident of Bloomfield and a firm supporter of our two K9 officers, Ofc. Brendan Danaher with K9 Jäger and Ofc. John Barrett with K9 Zeke, I believe so much in the safety of these dogs that I donated a bulletproof, stab-proof vest for K9 Zeke. West Hartford has a very active K9 force too which benefits from the donations of local citizens.

I sincerely hope that increasing the penalty for injuring or killing a police K-9 under the supervision of an officer or a dog that is a member of a volunteer canine search and rescue team, from a class D felony to a class C felony will help keep these hard-working, valuable animals safer.

I thank the Committee for their hard work keeping all of us safe in Connecticut. Thank you so much!

Jeffrey T. Atwood
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