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Sent: September 17, 2018 1:44 PM
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Cc: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Bill 27- animal rights act

I have concerns with Bill 27.

It gives the SPCA more power than our police, to enter private property and seize an animal without proof.

This entity lacks trust and respect by many of us.

We all don't base our decisions and choices from the same level of ethics.

To give power to an authority to enter private property and seize animals that have had tails docked and/or dew claws removed should not be allowed.

I have owned 5 dogs over the past 35 years. Currently and for the past 10 years, I have planned each day around one dog because of her separation anxiety. If someone came along and disagreed with my decision of taking her with me or leaving her home on any given day, I could have the spca seize my dog with this act. (protecting the welfare of animals section 26 (1) no person shall cause an animal to be in distress).

Last time I visited a shelter operated by the spca, there were many distressed animals. Are they going to sedate the animals so they are not breaking the law?

I am passionate and try my hardest to provide the best life possible for my pets. I volunteered and participated in dog sports, training and clubs for decades, beginning with the 4-H program.

Two of my dogs were registered St. John Ambulance therapy dogs. I am a kind, honest person and highly sensitive. This bill is very upsetting and will cause me elevated anxiety, creating more burdens on our health care system. Having animals in my life is comforting for me and many others who live with anxiety. This bill feels like an attack on our choice of having animals because it creates worry about how we care for our animals is perceived by others.

Those with the loudest voices get heard and too often in our society, people such as neighbours or visitors can make judgments before they know all the facts. Social media is quick to turn what might be a positive into a negative!

I have had only one dog that didn't have its dewclaws removed. I am quite relieved to own dogs with that came from an animal husbandry practice that has the dew claws removed when they are young.

As a society, we would like to control all pain and suffering in our world but it is something that is out of our control. We must educate people to be respectful and show kindness. Set an example by being truthful and honest. Educate people that dog fights are wrong. It seems the more we tell people they can't do

something....the more they want to do it.

If people used their conscience so many issues could be avoided.

This authority will be entering private property based on complaints? How many complaints? And from who? From the neighborhood?

This bill may be an attempt to help by well meaning people, but it takes away freedom of choice and privacy.

No to bill 27.

Sincerely,
Shellie McLearn

Resident and tax payer of east hants