
From: Vaughan Black <Vaughan.Black@Dal.Ca>
Sent: September 24, 2018 12:17 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Bill 27

Members of the Law Amendments Committee of the House of Assembly,

I taught the course in Animals and the Law at the Schulich School of Law from 2004 until my retirement from Dalhousie University in 2016, and before that I taught the subject at the University of British Columbia. Although I am retired I continue to follow legal developments concerning animals with great interest.

In that connection I was pleased to see the changes embodied in Bill 27. In particular, the banning of non-therapeutic tail docking of dogs and the related items listed in s. 27(2). This is an area in which Canada has long fallen behind. These items were all outlawed in the Council of Europe's European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals, in force since June of 1992 and now in force in 25 countries. Other nations have been coming on board; New Zealand banned tail docking of dogs last October.

Although this change would be a first in Canada it is long overdue. There was a time (the statute of 1824) when Nova Scotia was a leader in animal welfare. Adding s. 27(2) to the province's animal welfare legislation would be a step in reclaiming that status.

Yours truly,
Vaughan Black