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Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 8:41 PM
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Cc: Lee Chatfield <LeeChatfield@house.mi.gov>
Subject: OPPOSE HB 4035

Dear Michigan Local Government Committee members,

Please **OPPOSE HB 4035!**

It compromises public safety and strips local governments of their authority to protect their residents.

Both the Michigan Municipal League and Michigan Township Association OPPOSE this preemption bill.

Waterford, Ypsilanti and all of the communities in Michigan that have them, want to keep their breed specific ordinances.

Shouldn't cities that enact breed specific ordinances be notified of their preemption bill for their input?

Local governments know best if their breed specific ordinance works in preventing serious (level 4-6) dog attacks. It should be up to the individual local governments to decide if Breed-Specific Legislation is affordable and enforceable for their jurisdictions.

<https://www.dogsbite.org/legislating-dangerous-dogs-michiga...>

Here is a link to a dog bite level chart 1-6 for determining the danger level of a dog by the severity of the bite.

<http://apdt.com/.../upl.../2017/01/ian-dunbar-dog-bite-scale.pdf>

Local governments should have the legal right to make public safety laws that they think best serve their citizens. You should be erring on the side of safety for Michigan's children. When a consumer product injures and kills that many children, and generates comparable liability history, that product is taken off the market.

MI WOLF-DOG CROSS ACT:

Act 246 of

2000 [http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(ybjrotmk2pgbyw45ly3wh2zw\)\)/documents/mcl/pdf/mcl-act-246-of-2000.pdf](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(ybjrotmk2pgbyw45ly3wh2zw))/documents/mcl/pdf/mcl-act-246-of-2000.pdf).

Federal Animal Welfare Act, (7 U.S.C. 54, AWA)

Wolf-Dog hybrids are considered “dogs” or a domestic animal under the Act, the provisions of the Act pertain to them. <http://animallawsource.org/.../uploads/2016/10/Wolf-Hybrids-F...>

Michigan heavily regulates wolf-dog crosses and because of this legislation, Michigan residents have been kept safer.

In the last 13 years, **pit bulls have killed 314 people** compared to the wolf-dogs that have only killed a few.

This is why we need stronger laws to regulate pit bull type-dogs, not weaker. <http://www.dogsbite.org/dog-bite-statistics-fatalities.php>

Michigan weighed the interest of public safety against individual property rights and legislated in favor of PUBLIC SAFETY when it enacted the Wolf-Dog Cross Act. Michigan is discriminating against a type of dog breed in the interest of public safety. It makes sense that public safety should be the priority when legislating other dangerous dog breeds.

Why ban wolf-dogs, and instead protect the more dangerous pit bull? It defies logic.

"Hybrid owners could also assert that a ban violates their Due Process rights by depriving them of their property without just compensation. Determining whether a pet owner deserves compensation involves the use of a balancing test which weighs the **public's interest in safety against any harm which the owner may suffer.** Barring even the lack of an approved rabies

vaccine, a hybrid ban would withstand such challenges in the same manner as the various pit bull bans." http://animallawsource.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Wolf-Hybrids-FINAL.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1tVFBPWpD4m5SY5O7961mzCeamzRZ29sK_dofMnvwJzDO9tltSUnZv44

225 children killed by pit bull type-dogs. <http://www.fatalpitbullattacks.com/children-killed-by-pit-b...>

We have contacted most of the cities that have Breed Specific Ordinances. There have been zero level 4-6 dog attacks since they passed the ordinances. Breed Safety Legislation was only ever designed/enacted to reduce severe injury, catastrophic injury and deaths.

Anyone who fights BSL, because they are concerned about how it will affect their breed, is incredibly short-sighted. This isn't about them. It is about **preventing the mauling and deaths of hundreds of thousands of people, pets, and livestock.**

Communities have every right to feel safe. **If one type of dog is committing a disproportionate amount of violence, then it is reasonable to take preventive action. Reactive laws mean someone gets hurt before anything is done.**

"Punish the deed" is reactive and has proven to be ineffective. The owners of violent pit bulls file lawsuits to protect their maulers from euthanasia. The owners of violent pit bulls don't have insurance to pay the medical bills of victims. We know, the victim pays until bankruptcy then the taxpayer pays. The peaceful public pays the bills for pit bull advocacy and we have the right to expect better.

The purpose of a breed specific ordinance is not to prevent bites, but to prevent maulings. Bites require band-aids or a few stitches; maulings require amputation, plastic surgery, rehabilitation therapy, and possibly caskets. **Supporting breed specific legislation will increase public safety, decrease pit bull breeding and decrease the number flowing into and being euthanized at shelters.**

NEW! Delta airlines bans ALL pit bull type-dogs from their airlines for attacking passengers and employees. They can't afford the risk anymore. <https://blog.dogsbite.org/.../delta-bans-pit-bull-type-dogs-s...>

VERY TELLING: An estimated **300 U.S. military bases ban pit bulls**. There are 1,089 U.S. cities and 50 countries which enact breed specific ordinances because pit bull type-dogs present an unreasonable risk to health and public safety. <https://www.scribd.com/.../Estimated-U-S-Cities-Counties-Stat...>

Sound and movement arouse the fight in pit bulls. This is why they are not safe around children who cry, play, run and shout.

Pit Bulls are a fighting breed, not a suitable family pet.

All dogs can bite. The issue with pit bulls is the degree of damage they inflict, and their attacks being more likely to result in fatality.

THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY STATES TO KEEP CHILDREN AWAY FROM PIT BULLS:

Dr. Golinko, who did the largest dog bite study to date, states pit bulls are a danger to children. <https://www.facebook.com/thefifthestate/videos/10155854915749407/> and <http://www.nationalpitbullvictimawareness.org/expert-opini.../>

PLEASE LISTEN TO THE MEDICAL EXPERTS NOT TO NAIVE PIT BULL OWNERS WHO DON'T FOLLOW DANGEROUS DOG ATTACKS:

13 Medical peer-reviewed studies that prove pit bull type-dogs are dangerous as pets. Level 1 trauma center dog bite studies from all geographical regions in the U.S. are reporting a higher prevalence of pit bull type dogs injuries than all other breeds of dogs. In many cases, the studies (2011 to 2018) also report that pit bull injuries have a higher severity of injury and require a greater number of operative interventions. <https://www.dogsbite.org/dog-bite-statistics-studies-level-...>

Sound and movement arouses the fight in pit bulls. This is why they are not safe around kids. https://www.aikenstandard.com/.../article_8fbd2ccc-de0f-11e8-... GOFUNDME PAGE: <https://www.gofundme.com/3dk8q-eastons-recovery...>

*) Little girl mauled by babysitter's pit bull: <https://fox45now.com/.../4-year-old-recovering-in-the-hospita...>

*) Pit bull mauling victim 20 years later. If you don't want to risk having your child end up going through life looking like this — don't keep pit bulls as “pets”, and keep your kids away from pit bulls wherever they might be found. <https://www.texasmonthly.com/articles/saving-face-2/>

*) Little boy's face destroyed by landlord's pit bulls.
<http://www.nwahomepage.com/.../pit-bull-attack-lea.../1110532144>

*) Boy's face is destroyed by adopted pit-bull <http://blog.dogsbite.org/.../newly-adopted-pit-bull-mix-attac...>

*) Little girl's face destroyed by the neighbor's pit bull! Video of pit bull:
<http://www.nwfdailynews.com/.../child-mother-mauled-by-pit-bu...> and
<https://www.gofundme.com/evj94r-help-for-Zoey>

*) Maybe you have a safe pit bull but how if your neighbor does not? Little girl almost killed by the neighbor's pit bull. Besides being scalped by the neighbor's pit bull in her own yard, she has lost both ears and will never grow hair. <http://abc57.com/.../only-on-2-year-old-dog-attack-victim-bac...>

* Eighteen-year-old Joshua Dixon was attacked 10 years ago by two family pit bulls. He has had 59 surgeries to reconstruct the damage to his face.
<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/media/94376970-132.html...>

Pit bulls have been bred for centuries to kill. They are the #1 canine killer of people, pets and livestock. They have a genetically inbred trait for unpredictable explosive aggression that cannot ever be trained out of them. They were bred to be lethal and they are -- every day. We need breed safety laws to keep our communities safe.

Pit bulls are also the number one killer of our pets. Did you know that 38,000 domestic animals are killed every year by pit bulls (for comparison: 10,000 people are killed by drunk drivers every year)? Our pets are getting slaughtered in our neighborhoods. These devastated people who lose their pets are suffering from PTSD. Absolutely nothing is being done about it by our elected officials.

FOLLOW for one month: <https://www.facebook.com/pitbullskilledmypet/>

Pit bull attacks are increasing at an alarming rate!

Shouldn't our legislators be protecting the safety of Michigan residents instead of dangerous dogs?

Ask yourselves why pit bulls are the ONLY dog breed that has their own political lobby...

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter,

Ann Marie Rogers

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Republican Precinct Delegate 8th District

Animal Control Officer (Retired)

Supporter:

Dogsbite.org

DaxtonsFriends.com

National Pit Bull Victims Awareness

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<https://www.facebook.com/NationalPitBullVictimAwareness/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pitbullskilledmypet/>

<https://www.facebook.com/dogsbite.org/>

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