

Roberta DiMezza

From: Jordan B. <jordan.bouclin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 8:43 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Please Support HB 5669 and 5125 Protecting Pets in Domestic Violence Situations

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Dear Representative,

I hope this message finds you well. I'm writing to respectfully urge your support for two important upcoming pieces of legislation (Bill 5669 and 5125) that improve protections for pets in domestic violence situations—a critical issue that affects countless families across our state.

Studies show that as many as 71% of pet-owning domestic violence survivors report that their abuser threatened, harmed, or killed a pet as a means of control. For many survivors, the fear of leaving a beloved pet behind is a powerful barrier to seeking safety. No one should have to choose between personal safety and protecting a cherished companion.

Legislation that allows pets to be included in protective orders and recognizes animal cruelty as an act of domestic violence can make a life-saving difference. By enacting and supporting bills like these, we send a powerful message: survivors and their pets deserve safety, dignity, and a path forward—together.

As a community advocate and animal welfare supporter, I urge you to be a champion for this cause. Please support policies that recognize the integral role pets play in family systems and prioritize their protection in domestic violence cases.

Thank you for your time and your continued commitment to the well-being of all constituents—two- and four-legged alike.

Best,
Jordan Bouclin
Warwick, RI