

Testimony in support of H7194: Domestic Violence prevention Act

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Date of Hearing: February 5, 2026

To: Chair McEntee and the Honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee

Please support H7194. We have long known that there is an integral connection between domestic violence, child abuse and animal cruelty. Offenders use the threat of hurting or killing beloved pets as a means of coercion to control victims and force their compliance with the offender in the hopes of protecting their pets from cruelty or death. It is time to link these three dynamics in the law. Protection of pets is the weak link in the state's efforts to impact domestic violence. Offenders should be held accountable in the most serious ways possible and this bill would help in that effort.