Breed Specific Laws DON'T Work
EDUCATE
DON'T
DESCRIMINATE
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Support Hershey's Bill
Team Members

June 28th, 2019

 Administrations of Hershey's group are writing to support the removal of the breed specific language (BSL) in the Ontario Dog Owners Liability Act (DOLA). There is much evidence, backed by scientific research, statistics and expert testimony BSL has not been effective, nor increased public safety as over the past decade overall dog bites with BSL in Ontario have increased.

Fran Coughlin

 Millions of taxpayers' dollars has been spent on unscientific, ineffective and unjust legislation which has done nothing to increase public safety and instead targeted and devastated innocent and responsible dog owning families.

Ontario is the only province in Canada with this draconian legislation. The province of Quebec recently conducted an extensive study and concluded the people of Quebec would indeed NOT be safer in legislating a provincial breed ban.

Liz Sullivan

BSL has proven to be a waste of animal control resources and rather than effectively enforce effective laws; valuable resources are wasted looking for dogs of type.

Cheryl Benson

Not one credible animal organization or expert in Ontario, or elsewhere for that matter, believes going after dogs based on type is the answer to increased public safety. Education and enforcement of current laws is key. Calgary decreased dog bite statistics by 80% after putting in an early school program teaching young children how to properly interact with dogs, educating the public on responsible dog ownership and enforcing leash laws.

 Currently 23 US states have instituted some kind of legislation against BSL. Since 2009 there have been 357 repeals of BSL throughout North America. Over the past decade the national trend throughout North America is towards breed neutral laws.

We support an amended DOLA being fair, just, effective and non-discriminatory. Removing the breed ban will ensure all of Ontario's responsible dog owning citizens and their companion animals are treated equally under law.

Sincerely,

Fran Coughlin

(on behalf of Hershey Anti-BSL Group Members)

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