

**In Support Of New York State Legislation A4516-A/S2305A, Which Would Require Violators of “Buster’s Law” To Register His or Her Name And Address With The Division Of Criminal Justice Services**

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairman Richard A. Parete and Legislators Kenneth J. Ronk, Carl Belfiglio, Thomas J. Briggs, and Mary Beth Maio)

Legislators Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr., Carl Belfiglio, Donald Gregorius and Mary Wawro offer the following:

WHEREAS, New York State was once the model state for animal protection, as it was the first state to enact animal protection laws in 1828; and

WHEREAS, general animal cruelty laws can offer no meaningful protection for animals without aggressive and informed enforcement and prosecution; and

WHEREAS, people who have abused animals are statistically more likely to commit violent acts against humans and in particular, a strong correlation has been established linking individuals who abuse animals with incidents of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a database to analyze the incident of animal cruelty will provide a valuable resource for law enforcement officials who seek to establish a link between animal cruelty and related crimes; and

WHEREAS, New York State Bills A.4516A/S2305A would require each violator of “Buster’s Law” to register his or her name and address with the division of criminal justice services; and

WHEREAS, the database would be available to all law enforcement officers, district attorneys, duly incorporated humane societies, societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals, dog or cat protective associations, animal control officers, breeders or animals and pet stores doing business in this state; and

WHEREAS, a state-wide database will prevent individuals convicted of animal cruelty charges from adopting, purchasing, or otherwise obtaining animals from a shelter, pet seller, or other person or entity involved in the exchange of animals by adoption, sale or other means; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature, at this time, support the creation of an animal cruelty and animal fighting database; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature urges the New York State Governor and Legislature to ensure the passage of A.4516A/S2305A within this legislative session; and, be it further

