

Dear Frances,

Thanks for your email regarding the Ontario Dog Owners' Liability Act. I appreciate hearing my constituents' concerns.

It's unfortunate such actions sometimes need to be taken to prevent animal abuse and the resulting harm to people when animals are aggressive, largely as a result of how they are bred and raised. However, the dogs in question when we say "breed specific" are dogs that, as you know, can be extraordinarily aggressive and harmful if not raised properly.

I know there are dog-owners who know how to properly raise and care for animals such as pit bulls. However, there are so many who do not (and many who intentionally abuse them to produce fighting dogs), that continuing to allow the breeding of these animals was no longer a risk we could take.

Our government feels it is in the best interest of the people we represent, and the animals in question, to enforce this legislation. I understand that many disagree with this (we listened to and considered all sides of the argument), and I respect their opinion. However, I do support this legislation. I believe this is the appropriate action to take in response to ongoing incidents of both harm to the people we represent and to the animals we care for.

Thank you again for getting in touch.

All the best,
Kathleen

Kathleen Wynne, MPP
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