



Where the broken road ends...

*in love*

My name is Jennifer Self-Aulgur and I am the Director of Education and Community Programs for Humane Society of West Michigan, based in Grand Rapids.

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 377 and 378, the animal abuse registry.

I have worked in the animal care field for over 10 years and have seen firsthand the atrocities committed against companion animals by the hands of humans. As one of the largest shelters in West Michigan, we annually adopt out over 2000 animals each year. Every person who adopts goes through an interview process to help make a good match. However, we have no way of knowing if a person who is adopting an animal has ever been involved in an animal abuse case.

This law would enable us to be sure that every animal we place will not end up in the home of someone who might just turn around and abuse or neglect it. It will give us the power to protect the animals who come to us to find a new home that is safe and loving.

Furthermore, having an Animal Abuse Registry would help to add accountability. Too often, people who are convicted of animal abuse walk away with no jail time and just a small fine, and would easily go adopt or buy an animal the next day. Adding the responsibility of participating in the registry would add a level of seriousness to the crime of animal abuse that we do not currently have.

I also believe that this bill would not only help shelters but also the general public who might be breeders and selling litters of puppies or someone looking to rehome their animal. I find that most people, whether they be breeders or people who can no longer keep their animal, do want them to end up in a home where they will be safe and loved.

Finally, I as a lifelong resident of Michigan would be proud to be part of the first state that has a statewide Animal Abuse Registry. We would be setting precedent that Michigan does not take animal abuse lightly.

I hope you will support this bill and in turn support the many animals that this bill will potentially save.

**HUMANE  
SOCIETY**



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**FAX**

*Fax Transmittal Form*

**TO**

Name: *Senator Bieda*  
Organization:  
CC:  
Phone Number:  
Fax Number: *517-373-9230*

**FROM**

Name: *Jennifer Self-Aulgar*  
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Date Sent: *6/17/13*  
Time Sent: *3*  
# of pages including cover page: *2*

- Urgent
- For Review
- Please Comment
- Please Reply

**Message:**

*Hi Senator Bieda,*

*I testified in the House Committee for HB 4535 and am unable to make the senate hearing for SB 377 & 378. I would love for my testimony to be submitted.*

*Thank you for all your work on this (and so many other bills*

*Jennifer Self-Aulgar*