

Alaska State Legislature

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Representative Carl Gatto

To: Representative Jay Ramras
Chair, House Judiciary Committee

Fr: Representative Carl Gatto

Date: February 5, 2010

Re: Hearing Request for (CS)HB 138

I respectfully request that House Bill 138, "An Act relating to penalties for cruelty to animals" be scheduled for a hearing in the House Judiciary Committee at your earliest convenience.

The purposeful and prolonged torture of an animal is an inexcusable offense. HB 138 recognizes that offenders who actively prolong the suffering of another living being should be faced with felony charges. Also, animal torture and abuse are often precursors to domestic violence, and this bill aims to head off possible violence in the home while it is still directed at pets and neighborhood animals.

Included in this packet:

- Current version of HB 138
- Original version of HB 138
- Sponsor Statement
- Explanation of Differences from the original bill
- Copy of current statute for committee members' reference

If necessary, further documentation will be forthcoming. Please contact my staffer Thomas Reiker at 465-3163 or Thomas.Reiker@legis.state.ak.us. Thank you for your time and efforts in scheduling a hearing for HB138.

Sincerely,

Representative Carl Gatto