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**From:** Mary Spinelli <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** September 17, 2018 2:54 PM  
**To:** Office of the Legislative Counsel  
**Subject:** [PROBABLE-SPAM] Bill 27

[REDACTED]  
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia  
B2W 4X7  
September 17, 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to bring to light some serious concerns I have about amendments to Bill 27. As an owner and a breeder of purebred dogs for close to 40 years, I am wish to express my grave concerns regarding Bill 27 which I understand will be presented for Law Amendment this afternoon. If the Bill passes, it essentially provides agencies within the province with the power to violate the constitutional rights of citizens who own pets against unreasonable search or seizure.

Bill 27 will extend powers to the SPCA to ***demand*** access to our pets without probable cause and without a search warrant. While I support the work of the SPCA generally, I do not feel their employees should have such far reaching authority. **It empowers an individual SPCA employee, with minimal training, a greater degree of authority than our highly trained HRM Police Officers and RCMP members.** If highly trained professionals are not permitted, by our Constitution, to invade our private property on a whim, I would be greatly concerned if such power were vested in an employee of the SPCA.

**I am also concerned that this Bill will provide those with extreme animal rights agendas to exercise this authority against members of the dog community.**

A definitive example of just this situation occurred in Colchester Country earlier this year. A highly respected breeder was set upon by an SPCA employee who proceeded an unauthorized tour of this individual's home and detached kennel building. **The breeder was threatened and intimidated on this occasion and on a subsequent visit. On the second visit, several vehicles pulled onto her property, complete with crates, muzzles and various other paraphernalia to affect a seizure of all canines on the property.** After considerable posturing and threats on behalf of the employees as well as unnecessary lawyer fees and mental

anguish on the behalf of this breeder, the perpetrators of these egregious tactics left voluntarily, without explanation or apology.

**These are the actions of a police state, where law abiding citizens can be harassed and threatened on a whim. Without judicial oversight or due process our rights will be stripped away.**

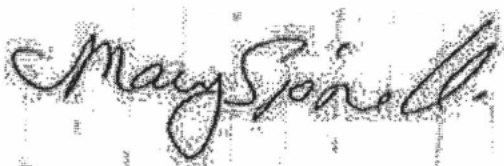
I am concerned that Bill 27 is receiving such swift treatment without any consultation with the Dog Clubs and other animal interest groups in our province.

There are several recognized and provincially incorporated entities such as the Halifax Kennel Club whose directors and members would gladly participate in a discussion of the implications for the passage of this Bill. Why have none been contacted?

As an owner, breeder and **CKC licensed Judge** I am deeply concerned that this Bill will give authority to individuals who may be anti-breeder or who have inflated and extreme concepts of animal rights. Allowing such individuals the ability to exercise their agenda with the authority which Bill 27 will provide them is a recipe for disaster.

I sincerely request that you not support passage of this Bill until wider consultation with those who will be affected can be undertaken. If you need assistance identifying individuals and groups who can contribute meaningfully to this issue, or if you would like to discuss any aspect of this email, I encourage you to contact me.

Sincerely,



Mary Spinelli, B.Sc. (Agr.)  
[Redacted]

Regards,

Mary Spinelli [Redacted]  
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