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Sent: September 24, 2018 12:00 AM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Bill 27

I urge all members to set aside the Review of Bill 27 until proper consultation with affected stakeholders can be held. There is no need or justification for rushing through this major legislation in 10 days, without appropriate input from stakeholders and those who may be affected by these major changes.

This legislation is very flawed, and will have unintended consequences.

It reeks of animal rights groups, who seek to remove animals from our lives, rather than have them well cared for and humanely treated.

Specifically, giving the right of inspection to society personnel who frequently have animal rights tendencies, of private homes and residences, without cause or complaint, gives far fewer rights to the average pet owner than a drug dealer, or pedophile!

Decisions about Veterinary care are best left to veterinarians and their clients, not the provincial legislature.

The description and list of 'cosmetic surgery' is both misleading and false - some of these procedures are indeed for the improved health of the animal, as well as accommodating them into our communities. For example, dewclaw removal prevents much more serious injuries later in life. Debarking is usually only done as a last ditch effort to keep a chronic barker in his/her home, rather than dumped at a shelter. A better description might be 'medically unnecessary', and would include spay and neuter - a much more complicated and risky surgery done solely for the convenience of the owner, and banned in most European countries.

Contemporary research has shown that surgically altering dogs has deleterious effects on both health and longevity.

In summary, please delay the review of Bill 27 pending input from those most affected by these drastic changes.

Laurie