From: Chloe Cook
To: Deborah Ortega - Councilwoman At Large; Kashmann, Paul J. - CC Member District 6 Denver City Council; Gilmore, Stacie M. - CC Member District 11 Denver City Council; Flynn, Kevin J. - CC Member District 2 Denver City Council; City Council District 5; District 9; dencc - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Make Pitbulls Legal
Date: Saturday, February 22, 2020 11:38:06 AM

Good Morning,

I am writing to express my opinion against continuing the ban on pit bulls in your city. As a passionate advocate for this kind, loving, gentle, loyal breed, I hope you will consider my words and experiences prior to your meeting tomorrow.

Breed specific legislation has been proven to be ineffective. In 2013 the White House issued a statement stating this, and agreed that it is in fact discrimination enshrined within the law. If I bring my pit bull to your city she will be taken from me based purely on her square head. How is this just? This is not what America stands for. To take away the right of Americans to keep their family members and prevent others from owning them is not only unethical, but it’s unconstitutional. This ruling is coming from a place of fear, and we have learned throughout history that fear based ignorance is a very dangerous game.

If you vote no on this important topic (which I'll reiterate has already sustained a majority vote), you are missing a truly incredible opportunity to end the shameful genocide of innocent, voiceless beings. I have been surrounded by pits my entire life, and have experienced the joy, love, and gentle companionship they bring. If you support the Mayor in his veto, you are doing a disservice to the hundreds of thousands of educated and responsible inhabitants of your city, and a disservice to yourself. Additionally, you are deterring thousands more from visiting your city. If your ultimate goal is truly to protect the public safety, which I whole heartedly support, you should focus on the sociopaths who are abusing, neglecting, and killing these dogs. The irresponsible and abusive pet owners who then become irresponsible parents, breeding more and more violence. With a 10% rise in violent crime in Denver this year alone, I really think this should be your focus. Again, this is a people problem. Not a dog problem. Especially not a pit bull problem.

I think it's important to note that leash laws are very important (for all dogs and breeds) and I think that we should consider spending resources on incentive's citizens to follow these leash and licensing laws, rather than using resources to take one specific breed from people's homes. I think this topic should be revisited in your meeting.

The majority vote last week was clear. The ban on this beautiful breed should be at long last lifted. Please do not let ignorance and discrimination prevail. Please take this opportunity and choose change. Choose to end the stigma placed on pit bulls. Choose to allow these magical creatures that love, protect, heal, and save so many lives to be allowed once again into your city. PLEASE choose to set the precedent. Have to courage and integrity to end discrimination.

I appreciate your time and look forward to see what the future of Denver holds for our amazing pittie friends.

Chloe Cook