From:	Tiffany Meltcher
To:	dencc - City Council
Subject:	[EXTERNAL] I STAND WITH PITBULLS
Date:	Saturday, February 15, 2020 7:37:32 PM

Mayor Hancock,

I'm writing to express my complete disgust and disappointment in your attempt to veto the bill that will allow pit bulls into your city again. Pit bulls are sweet, loving, loyal, gentle, amazing creatures and continuing this band on their breed is unjust, discriminatory, racist, appalling, and will effect no change. In the last year, violent crime has increased in your city by 10%. This is what you should be focusing on. On violent PEOPLE. Once you work to eliminate THAT, violent animals of ALL breeds will be minimized. Dogs are not your problem, people are.

In a recent study, the following was determined:

- Pit bulls are about average when it comes to aggressive behavior toward people.
- They are high on the list of aggression toward other dogs, but not the highest.
- Even though a pit bull is strong enough to do a lot of damage when it does bite, it does not bite differently than any other dog.

According to your county shelter websites:

Under Denver's Ordinance Sec. 8-67, pit bull breeds (American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, or Staffordshire Bull Terrier) are banned in the City and County of Denver.

Pit bull type dogs are defined as any dog displaying the **majority of physical traits** of any one or more of the above breeds, or any dog exhibiting those distinguishing (physical) characteristics, which substantially conform to the standards established by American Kennel Club or United Kennel Club.

You are discriminating here based purely on looks and nothing else. This is ATROCIOUS and the majority are going to fight to stop this. The vote was 7-4, you need to listen to your people. Use your power for GOOD, use it to release pit bulls from the stigma they've suffered from for so long. You are making things so much worse if you veto this bill. I feel for those who have suffered from animal attacks but YOU MUST know that the dogs who harm them (which are other breeds as well) are a DIRECT RESULT of their owners!!!!!! How have you not made this connection?? We need to focus on being responsible pet owners and giving consequence to animal abusers.

You say you've gotten 900 phone calls about this issue. Of people telling you their horrible experience and trauma with pit bulls. Those 900 people are .015% of your city's population. And while it's unfortunate, it's not prevalent. Listen to the remainder. Listen to the hundreds of thousands of comments against you on your video. Listen to me.

Do not get in the way of this change. Take the opportunity to change the world and take strides forward. Do this for those who can’t speak for themselves.

Thank you,

Tiffany Meltcher