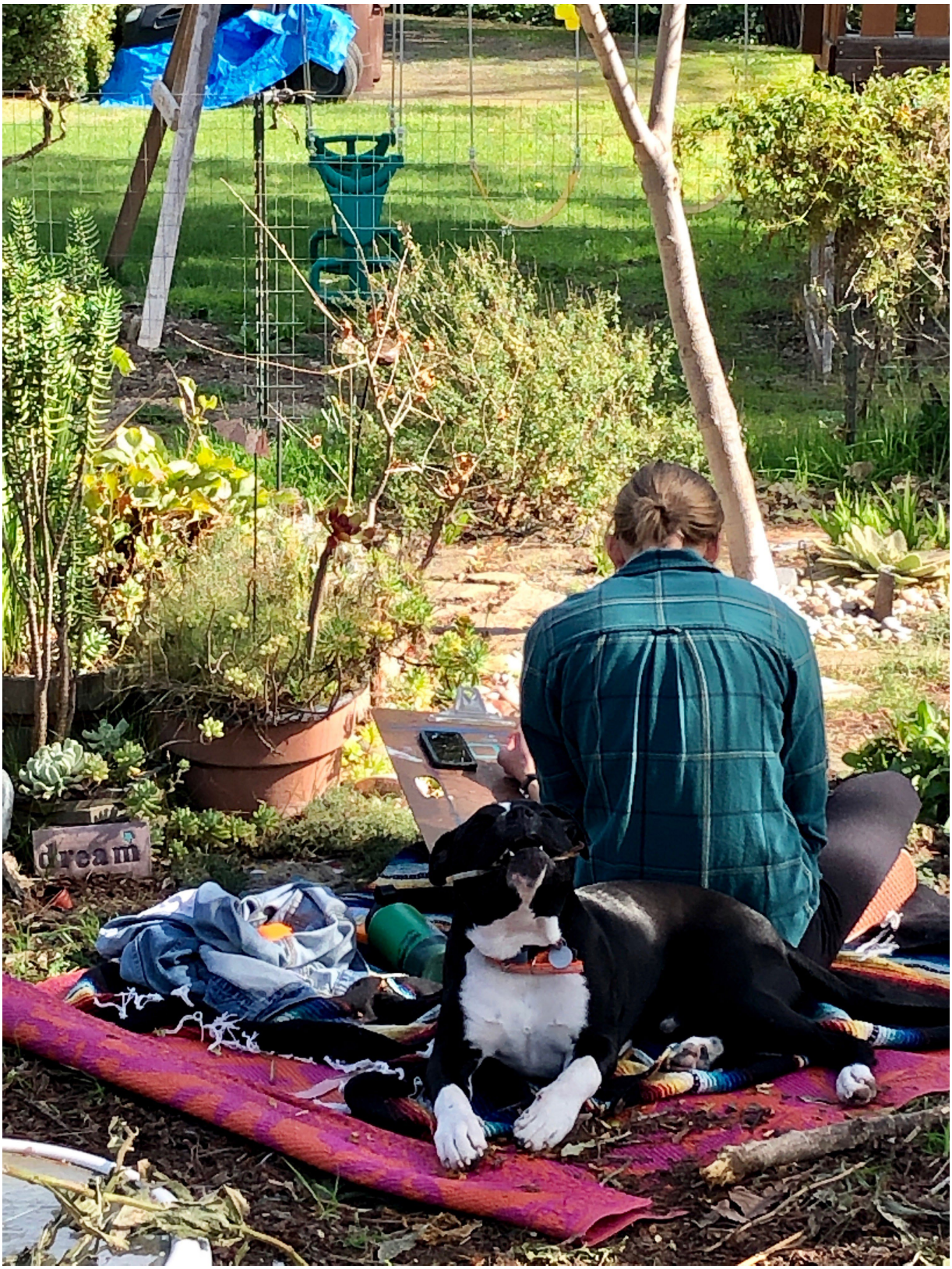
From: Harmony Soffer
To: dencc - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal BSL!!!!
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2020 12:32:10 PM

Dear Denver City Council,
My name is Harmony Soffer and I am writing to tell you about my dog Mr. Burns. He is a 1 year old American Staffy(his birthday was last Monday) and we have had him since he was 13 weeks old. This dog and I had an immediate connection, and to this day share a close bond. As a college student I struggle with anxiety and when I'm breaking down he is always right there to lick the tears from my face and remind me that everything is going to be ok. His favorite activities include going to the dog park and on hikes with our friends there. He also loves to cuddle and watch movies in bed. Like most pitties he has no concept of personal space and attempts to fit himself on every vacant lap(he thinks hes still a tiny puppy). He is a sock thief, stick enthusiast, proud grumpy lip, cuddle monster and forever companion. As with any puppy he had challenges but I am happy to say that he passed basic manners at our local rescue and training facility. We are looking forward to enrolling him in more manners classes soon. Even with how sweet and happy he is, people still look at him and all they see is a monster. You have no idea how frustrating it is as a responsible owner to hear the things people say about him. Even my own family members have made comments like "you can never trust them they are bad at their core. They could flip at any second." I don't think people realize the impact these comments have. They don't realize they are talking about my baby. The solution to re-educating the public is not to ostracize them but to include them, giving people a new impression of these amazing animals. The key to having a well adjusted, non aggressive dog has nothing to do with their breed. Proper training and socialization will determine if a dog is aggressive or not. Training is not the responsibility of the dog; it is the responsibility of the owner and dogs should not be punished for peoples irresponsibility. While I currently live in California, this issue is especially important to me because I am going to be attending CU Boulder in the fall. My dad lives in Denver and I am going to school there to be closer to him. I really want to be able to visit my dad without the fear of my dog being taken from me. below I've attached pictures of my baby Burns. Hopefully seeing the reality of what a Pitbull is is enough to sway you all to make the right choice and let the Pitties back into Denver.
Best Regards,
Harmony and Burns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