



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

John E. Brooks

## Senator Brooks hears constituent's concern: backs "Kirby and Quigley's Law"

JOHN E. BROOKS February 2, 2017

| ISSUE: **ANIMAL CRUELTY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**(Albany, New York)**- Senator John E. Brooks (SD-8) co-sponsored legislation that overwhelmingly passed the Senate, which expands the definition of aggravated cruelty to animals to include harm to a companion animal during the commission of a felony.

The bill will enhance laws relating to animal cruelty by ensuring that a person causing injury or death to an animal during the commission of a felony is guilty of aggravated cruelty to animals. Under current law, a person is only guilty of aggravated cruelty to animals if he or she intentionally kills or causes injury to a companion animal.

Senator Brooks backed the legislation after hearing a local constituent's story, Debbie Wilson of Freeport, whose dog was beaten during a home burglary and subsequently had to be euthanized.

"Clearly in these acts the individual is taking a very violent action on these animals. One of the constituents from my district had written a letter to me about a burglary at her home, during which her dog was injured and passed away. The burglar faced no criminal charges regarding the harm done to the dog," **said Senator Brooks.**

“For everyone that has had a pet, when that pet passes, we consider that animal part of the family. This law address a very serious problem in the state, animal cruelty. There has to be a real and severe penalty for these actions,” **Sen. Brooks continued.**

To watch Sen. Brooks' remarks on the floor, visit:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5\\_mOeXnbdUc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5_mOeXnbdUc)

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#### RELATED LEGISLATION

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### 2017-S1680

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- Introduced
- - In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- - Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
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Expands the definition of aggravated cruelty to animals to include harm to a companion animal during the commission of a felony

January 10, 2017

In Assembly Committee

Sponsored by **James Tedisco**

Do you support this bill?