

HB 992 "Buddy's Law"

Wednesday February 26, 2020

Good afternoon,

I am here to speak with you in support of HB 992 "Buddy's Law". Buddy was part of our family for 10 years, not just property. It is time that this thought be changed. Buddy was a loving member of our family until one summer evening June 20, 2018, when he was shot with a BB gun and a few days later after surgery to repair his spline and intestine, Buddy crossed the Rainbow Bridge to Doggy Heaven.

The old law is inadequate as the amount to buy dogs that are not from Puppy Mills and to pay for what we hoped to be lifesaving medical treatment has increased and the old \$10,000.00 limit regardless of what a jury would award is just not enough. Buddy's medical bills alone were in excess of \$15,000.00 and not to mention the cost to actually buy Buddy from a Breeder.

We have this case in civil court as we are here today and the case is set for May 21-22 here in Annapolis. It is time for people to pay for the abuse that they have inflicted upon a defenseless loving pet. Times have changed and should our laws. By passing Buddy's Law it cost the state nothing. By passing Buddy's Law it helps to ensure that families are reimbursed for the monetary loss they have suffered. Money will never bring Buddy back to us, but I promised him that I would fight to bring Justice for the heinous act that took his life.

Larry Sanders
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