

# Committee Report

# CONSENT CALENDAR

February 19, 2021

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Transportation to which was referred HB 174,

AN ACT relative to reporting a collision between a cat and a motor vehicle. Having considered the same, report the same with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Aidan Ankarberg

FOR THE COMMITTEE

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	<b>Transportation</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB 174</b>
Title:	<b>relative to reporting a collision between a cat and a motor vehicle.</b>
Date:	<b>February 19, 2021</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>CONSENT</b>
Recommendation:	<b>OUGHT TO PASS</b>

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

The intent of this bill is to further protect the property rights of domesticated pet owners by bringing the classification of a cat into equal standing to a dog under RSA 264:31. Under the current law, if a person were to strike a cat, there is no requirement that they must notify the owner of the cat or the authorities and they are free to simply drive away. This is inconsistent with the majority of laws in our state regarding property protection. Literally, you could hit a statue of a cat and you are legally obligated to report it, but you are not if you hit an actual cat. This bill addresses and solves this problem.

Vote 19-0.

Rep. Aidan Ankarberg  
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## CONSENT CALENDAR

### Transportation

**HB 174**, relative to reporting a collision between a cat and a motor vehicle. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Aidan Ankarberg for Transportation. The intent of this bill is to further protect the property rights of domesticated pet owners by bringing the classification of a cat into equal standing to a dog under RSA 264:31. Under the current law, if a person were to strike a cat, there is no requirement that they must notify the owner of the cat or the authorities and they are free to simply drive away. This is inconsistent with the majority of laws in our state regarding property protection. Literally, you could hit a statue of a cat and you are legally obligated to report it, but you are not if you hit an actual cat. This bill addresses and solves this problem. **Vote 19-0.**

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

# Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on

BILL TITLE: HB 174 relative to reporting a collision between a cat a motor vehicle

DATE: 2/19/21

LOB ROOM: 301-303

---

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☒ OTP      ☐ ITL      ☐ Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)      ☐ Adoption of  
Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Interim Study (2nd year)      (if offered)

Moved by Rep. Ankarberg \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by Rep. Aron \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 19-0 \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP      ☐ OTP/A      ☐ ITL      ☐ Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)      ☐ Adoption of  
Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Interim Study (2nd year)      (if offered)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP      ☐ OTP/A      ☐ ITL      ☐ Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)      ☐ Adoption of  
Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Interim Study (2nd year)      (if offered)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP      ☐ OTP/A      ☐ ITL      ☐ Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)      ☐ Adoption of  
Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Interim Study (2nd year)      (if offered)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

---

CONSENT CALENDAR: ☒ YES      ☐ NO

Minority Report? ☐ Yes      ☐ No      If yes, author, Rep: \_\_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Karel Crawford \_\_\_\_\_  
Rep Karel Crawford, Clerk

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK



1/22/2021 10:08:26 AM  
Roll Call Committee Registers  
Report

2021 SESSION

TRANSPORTATION

Bill #: HB - 174 Motion: OPT AM #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exec Session Date: 2/19/21

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Walsh, Thomas C. Chairman	X		
<del>Gagne, Larry G. Vice Chairman</del> Rep. Torosian	X		
Crawford, Karel A. Clerk	X		
Smith, Steven D.	X		
Hill, Gregory G.	X		
Aron, Judy F.	X		
Ankarberg, Aidan	X		
Gorski, Ted	X		
O'Hara, Travis J.	X		
<del>Pitaro, Matthew</del> Rep. True	X		
Sykes, George E.	X		
Cleaver, Skip J.	X		
<del>Fenton, Donovan W.</del> Rep. Grasse	X		
Pickering, Daniel R.	X		
Rich, Cecilia	X		
Telerski, Laura D.	X		
Fox, Dru	X		
Stevens, Deb	X		
Veilleux, Daniel T.	X		
<b>TOTAL VOTE:</b>	19	0	

# Public Hearing



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON

**BILL TITLE:** HB 174 relative to reporting a collision between a cat and a motor vehicle

**DATE:** 2/5/21

**LOB ROOM:** 301-303

**Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 10:40 am

**Time Adjourned:** 10:54

**Committee Members:** Reps. Walsh, Gagne, Crawford, **Smith**, Hill, Aron, Ankarberg, Gorski, O'Hara, Pitaro, Sykes, Cleaver, Pimentel, Pickering, Rich, Telerski, Fox, Stevens and Veilleux

**Bill Sponsors:** Rep. Abbas

TESTIMONY

\* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Abbas there is no state obligation to report hitting a cat. If you strike a statue of cat you have to report it but no a real cat. Has had my pet run over and no one stopped. Property rights of the law.

Rep. Pitaro :If a dog is hit and the person reports it to the owner, could the owner sue. A. This does not protect any civil suit.

Rep. Aron Q. What is the violation? A. You have to report it, there is a fine what is the enforceability of this, and it also exists of a dog.

Rep. Ankarberg: Who is Arrow's law? This is Rep. Abbas name for the law. Name of the cat that was killed.

Rep. Horrigan: in support of this bill.

Rep. Pimentel is replacing Rep. Fenton

# House Remote Testify

## Transportation Committee Testify List for Bill HB174 on 2021-02-05

Support: 3 Oppose: 0 Neutral: 1 Total to Testify: 1

Export to Excel

<u>Name</u>	City, State <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Abbas, Daryl	Daryl.Abbas@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Rockingham / District 8	Support	Yes (3m)	No	2/4/2021 2:22 PM
Rathbun, Eric	ericsrathbun@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2021 9:01 AM
Faria, Heather	hfaria@popememorialspea.org	A Member of the Public	NH Federation of Humane Organizations	Support	No	No	2/5/2021 9:45 AM
SHUTE, BRITTANY	brittany.shute@dos.nh.gov	State Agency Staff	DOS- DIV OF MOTOR VEHICLES	Neutral	No	No	2/5/2021 10:25 AM

# Testimony

Hello Committee Members,

The Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals supports **HB 174** (relative to reporting a collision between a cat and a motor vehicle).

The Commission supports this bill given that cats should be given the same protections afforded dogs and such reporting could provide necessary medical care for an injured cat.

Please feel free to contact either of us if you have questions.

Thank you.

Jerilee Zezula, Co-chair [zezula2@comcast.net](mailto:zezula2@comcast.net)

Jennifer Eber, Co-Chair [JEber@orr-reno.com](mailto:JEber@orr-reno.com)

~~~~~  
Jerilee A. Zezula, D.V.M.  
Associate Professor Emerita  
Applied Animal Science, University of New Hampshire  
[Jerilee.zezula@unh.edu](mailto:Jerilee.zezula@unh.edu); 603-767-6856

Bill as  
Introduced

HB 174 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0331  
08/05

HOUSE BILL **174**

AN ACT relative to reporting a collision between a cat and a motor vehicle.

SPONSORS: Rep. Abbas, Rock. 8; Rep. Kenney, Straf. 6; Rep. Janigian, Rock. 8; Rep. Burroughs, Carr. 1

COMMITTEE: Transportation

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the reporting of a collision between a cat and a motor vehicle to the cat's owner or the police.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.

Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through~~]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

21-0331  
08/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One*

AN ACT relative to reporting a collision between a cat and a motor vehicle.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 Short Title; Arrow's Law. This subdivision shall be known as "Arrow's Law."

2 Report of Injury to Dog or Cat. Amend the subdivision heading preceding RSA 264:31 to read as follows:

Report of Injury to Dog ***or Cat***

3 Report of Injury to Dog or Cat. Amend RSA 264:31 to read as follows:

264:31 Report of Injury to Dog ***or Cat***. The driver of any vehicle who knowingly strikes a dog ***or cat*** and fails to report the incident to the dog's owner or custodian ***or the cat's owner or custodian*** or to a police officer as soon as possible, shall be guilty of a violation.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2022.