R016-0708

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING DANGEROUS DOGS IN MARYLAND

WHEREAS: On October 21st, 2007, in Baltimore, a pit bull puppy attacked and mauled 17 month old Jadyn Garrison, badly injuring the boy and his father, leaving both hospitalized; and,

WHEREAS: This puppy had shown no prior signs of having a violent nature, nor had ever been abused; and,

WHEREAS: This is not the first instance of a pit bull attack in Baltimore this year, as at least three people have been mauled by pit bulls in the city so far this year, including a 10 year old boy and a 7 year old girl; and,

WHEREAS: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have determined that pit bulls have been responsible for more dog-bite-related attacks in the United States during a 20-year period; and,

WHEREAS: The United Kingdom passed a 'Dangerous Dogs Act' in 1991, which identified pit bull terriers as a dangerous breed, and required them to be neutered and to be muzzled at all times in public; and,

WHEREAS: The State of Maryland owes it to its citizens to protect them from these dangerous animals.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the Maryland General Assembly to pass legislation banning the sale or adoption of pit bulls in the State of Maryland, and banning the counties of Maryland from giving new dog licenses to pit bulls.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Maryland General Assembly should also pass legislation requiring all pit bulls in Maryland to be spayed or neutered, and require all pit bulls to be constantly on a leash and muzzled while in public.

MANDATES: Martin O'Malley, Governor
Michael Busch, Speaker of the House
Thomas V. "Mike" Miller, President of the Senate
Kumar Barve, House Majority Leader
Anthony O'Donnell, House Minority Leader
Edward Kasemeyer, Senate Majority Leader
David Brinkley, Senate Minority Leader

SPONSOR:
Scott T. Besore
Tory Caucus Leader
Co-Delegation Chair Person
University of Maryland, Baltimore County