



**Senator Houck and Crime Commission to analyze dog laws
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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For additional information, please contact 540.786.2782

SPOTSYLVANIA- Senator R. Edward “Edd” Houck (D-Spotsylvania) has requested the Virginia Crime Commission’s help in drafting legislation in reaction to the tragic dog mauling incident. In a letter dated April 14th to Senator Kenneth Stolle (R-Virginia Beach), Chairman of the Crime Commission, Senator Houck asks for assisting “in reviewing current statues and recommending any statutory changes.”

Senator Houck has contacted additional groups for their feedback. In letters dated April 18th, he asked Thomas Evans of the Virginia Federation of Dog Clubs and Breeders, Robert Kane of the Virginia Hunting Dog Owners’ Association and Maureen Hill-Hauch of the American Dog Owners Association for their comments and suggestions. The Virginia Municipal League, the Virginia Association of Counties, local officials, and animal rights groups also have been enlisted to provide an additional perspective.

Senator Houck is calling on the general public to offer their thoughts as well. Constituents can contact him at his Spotsylvania office via email at ehouck@adelphia.net and via snail mail at P.O. Box 7, Spotsylvania, VA 22553 to express their opinions.

“It is essential that many parties are involved in the decision process so the best possible legislation can be achieved. I hope to gain important insight into this pertinent issue by consulting members of the dog breeding community and state and local lawmakers for their knowledge and expertise. With this bill, similar incidents can be avoided in the future,” Houck noted.

Senator Houck is currently serving his 22nd year in the State Senate. He represents the 17th District which is comprised of Culpeper, Louisa, Madison and Orange counties as well as parts of the City of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County.