



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**PUBLIC PETITION NO.**

**PE01706**

### **Name of petitioner**

Geraldine Mackenzie

### **Petition title**

Introduce a law to allow pets in rented and supported accommodation

### **Petition summary**

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to introduce a law to allow all Scottish residents who live in rented and supported accommodation to let their pets live with them.

### **Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition**

I have written to my local MSP, Colin Beattie.

### **Petition background information**

Legislation is needed to enable people to keep the bond they have with their pets. The devastation and mental effects it can have on people having to give up their animals due to no pet clauses in leases is damaging and can be avoided. The legal arguments behind this are set out clearly in this article Rook, D (2018) "For the Love of Darcie: recognising the human-companion animal relationship in housing law and policy", Liverpool Law Review. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10991-018-9209-y>

The bond between humans and animals can be seen as being similar to that of family. Sometimes people who live alone especially, their pets can be the only company they have. I see no reason for landlords to refuse people to keep their animals as part of their households as long as there is no disturbance from them, they are non destructive or if a family offered to pay a higher "pet deposit."

A lot of people, increasingly more so, will be in the rental sector for their entire lives as it is now so difficult to get onto the property ladder. Therefore people like this, are always prevented from having a family pet and I think this is unreasonable.

### **Unique web address**

<https://www.parliament.scot/GettingInvolved/Petitions/petsinrentedaccommodation>

**Related information for petition**

**Do you wish your petition to be hosted on the Parliament's website to collect signatures online?**

YES

**How many signatures have you collected so far?**

0

**Closing date for collecting signatures online**

10 / 10 / 2018

**Comments to stimulate online discussion**