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OF THE UNITED STATES**

Celebrating Animals | Confronting Cruelty

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November 16, 2016

Bexley City Council
2242 East Main Street
Bexley, Ohio 43209

Dear Council Members:

As a leading expert on animal management policies and breed-specific legislation (BSL), the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) applauds the Council's decision to remove the ban on "pit bull" dogs in Bexley.

As stated in our October 20, 2016 correspondence, ordinances that target a specific breed or type of dog are ineffective, costly, and inhumane. It bears repeating: BSL has failed everywhere it has been tried and does nothing to improve community safety. Repealing the breed ban is a commendable step in the right direction for Bexley, and we strongly encourage the Council to continue the journey toward breed-neutral dog policy.

The HSUS is committed to assisting legislators strengthen animal management ordinances, such as dangerous dog laws and restrictions on tethering and dogs at large. The best use of limited local resources is an approach which ensures that dog owning residents are aware of standards and have access to the pet care services, information, and resources conducive to meeting them. We stand ready to help Bexley meet these goals.

Breed-neutral regulation of dogs is the bedrock of the human-animal relationship that enriches our lives and our culture. We welcome the opportunity to partner with your city in crafting an effective dog management ordinance.

Respectfully,

Corey Roscoe
Ohio Director