



**\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\***  
**April 30, 2018**

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## **‘Scruffles Law’ Author And GOP 12th District Candidate Daryl Kipnis To Speak At Animal Rights Rally In Flemington On Saturday**

*Group Will Gather At PetSmart Location Where Dog Lost Its Life*

**Who: Somerset Attorney and GOP Congressional Candidate Daryl Kipnis**

**What: Press Conference During Animal Rights Rally**

**Where: 132 Route 31, Flemington, NJ 08822**

**When: Saturday, May 5, 2018 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Press Conference at 1:30 p.m.**

**Information:** "Scruffles' Law," named for Scruffles, the English bulldog owned by his client, Danielle DiNapoli of Lambertville, died after being presented for routing grooming at a PetSmart in Flemington on Dec. 29, 2017.

Kipnis's Somerset law office worked on writing the proposed law.

The proposed legislation recognizes the relationship that owners of domestic companion animals have with their pets and gives them powerful legal remedies against individuals who cause the injury or death of their pets through negligence, recklessness, or animal cruelty.

Under the current New Jersey law, pets are viewed as property and a pet owner may only recover economic damages (out of pocket expenses) against a party responsible for harming their pet, which results in many animal abusers not being taken to court.

However, if Kipnis' proposal becomes law, pet owners can now sue for economic damages, statutory damages of \$10,000 per action, punitive damages based on the nature and severity of the act and the emotional distress of the owner and recover counsel fees.

"When I ran for the New Jersey State Senate last year, I promised to introduce legislation that would make New Jersey the model for animal justice law in America," Kipnis said. "I fully intend to deliver

on that promise by assisting Danielle secure justice for Scruffles, and when I'm the next Congressman for the 12<sup>th</sup> District, I will work to ensure that the bonds between pets and their owners all throughout the country are recognized by law."

Kipnis was the only 2017 Republican candidate for the New Jersey State Legislature to be endorsed by the League of Humane Voters of New Jersey.

A copy of the proposed legislation is enclosed with this advisory. Kipnis welcomes contact from anyone wishing to assist him in advocating for animal justice.

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If you would like more information about this topic, or need assistance in covering this event, please call Charles W. Kim at (732) 666-2059, or email [kipnisforcongress@gmail.com](mailto:kipnisforcongress@gmail.com).