

# It's Time to Raise the Standard of Care for North Carolina's Dogs

## Please Vote YES on Duke's Rescue Act (HB657)



Duke

North Carolina's animal protection statute (N.C. Gen. Stat. §14-360) has not been updated since 2015. It does not require any essential duties of ownership. Adding standards for basic care would give law-enforcement officials the tools they need to educate, warn, and intervene *before* animals suffer.

When our local service area experienced dangerously cold weather this winter, PETA's rescue team found dogs chained and/or penned without shelter, water buckets frozen solid, and chains frozen to the ground or so tangled that they restricted movement. We found **Cinnamon** with a collar deeply embedded in her neck and dogs who were dying of—or had already succumbed to—hypothermia, dehydration, and starvation, among other things.

If enacted, HB657 would define adequate shelter, space, food, water, and care and prohibit keeping dogs tethered outdoors when temperatures are below 32 degrees and above 85 degrees or during heat advisories or severe weather warnings that include hurricanes, tornadoes, or severe thunderstorms. It would also include language to help prevent tethered dogs from becoming tangled and protect them from injury and strangulation.

HB657's namesake, **Duke**, was kept outside on a chain until PETA found the remains of another dog who'd starved to death on the property and sued for custody of him and four other survivors. Duke was adopted by one of his rescuers.



Cinnamon



Cases like these underscore why **Duke's Rescue Act** is essential:  
It would give law enforcement the authority to intervene  
before dogs are reduced to piles of bones.

Please vote **YES** on **HB657**.



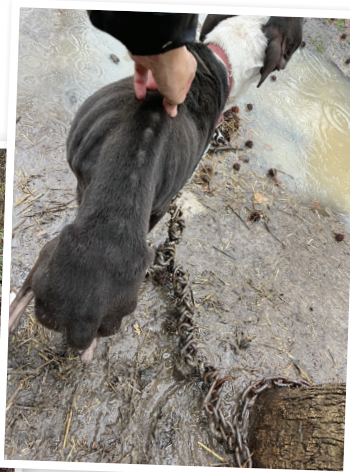
PETA found the skeletal remains of **Juju** and two other dogs still tethered to their doghouses after their owners had apparently neglected to feed them for a month.



When PETA found **Daisy** outside in the frigid weather, she was emaciated. Her spine, ribs, and hips visibly protruded. Weak and huddled inside a doghouse, she was guarding the remains of her penmate, King, who had died from starvation and/or hypothermia. A veterinary exam found fur between Daisy's teeth and bone fragments in her digestive tract, confirming that she'd resorted to eating her companion's remains in order to survive.



**Kali** was found chained, emaciated, and so weak that she was unable to stand or keep her head up.



**Cash** was skin and bones when PETA fieldworkers found him shivering in the freezing rain, barely able to move due to the heavy chain around his neck. The chain was kinked and tangled. It weighed 10 pounds, more than a third of what Cash himself weighed.



**Lucky** was found slowly starving to death only a few feet away from the still-chained decomposing remains of his yardmate, Coco. Despite extensive veterinary efforts, Lucky succumbed to the neglect he had endured at the end of a chain roughly 10 days post-rescue.



**NORTH CAROLINA COALITION**  
for Dog Protection 