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(S.D.)-State Legislature Okays Bill Against Dog Breed Policies



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 03/05/2014 08:25 AM

PIERRE, S.D. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - The South Dakota House has passed a measure to keep local governments from setting policies targeting specific dog breeds.

The body voted 41-28 on the measure. It passed the Senate in early February and goes next to the governor for final approval.

Opponents to the measure say local governments should maintain the authority to set their own policies on dogs and dog breeds.

Supporters say choice of dog breed is a personal property right. They say it's difficult to determine the breed of a dog by sight and humans should be held responsible for their dogs' behavior, not the breed.

Communities can continue to set policies that affect all breeds of dogs.