First and foremost, we’d like to thank everyone the world over for their outpour of support for Regan and her family. It is truly beautiful to see compassionate people across the globe reach out, stand vigil, and ultimately join us in carrying Regan’s torch.

What must be said is that Regan’s death was senseless, in that it was entirely preventable. For years activists have been attempting to engage these plants, and the ag industry’s complete and utter lack of compassion over the years has led to various incidents, some of which can be viewed freely online. While she championed many causes, Regan’s last moments were spent standing for what she most deeply believed in, alongside beloved friends supporting animal rights.

Those aware of this struggle for the better treatment of animals will immediately think of Bill 156. If you are unaware, Bill 156 passed in Ontario days before Regan’s death; of this, NDP MPP John Vanthof said:

“People are going to get hurt because of this. They [the ag industry] read a lot more into this than a simple deterrent, and that is a problem... when someone’s badly hurt or killed, it’s going to be an issue here [Queen’s Park] again, and it’s going to be a much bigger issue for that family.”

What Mr. Vanthof was trying to say was that legislation structured in this way, to suppress the speech of whistleblowers and make common acts of protest a crime, will not stop the activists and only embolden those who disagree with them. The struggle in a case like this is determining whether an accident or act of malice occurred, and if the latter did, can we actually seek justice? We are facing that struggle as a family right now, and we are grateful that the entire animal rights community joins us in the struggle to carry on Regan’s legacy. Rest assured we will not rest until justice is served.

In pursuing justice, we have this to say; it does not end with a senseless death or a major meat distributor. This is not just a fight for vegetarians, vegans, and animal rights activists. This is a fight for the sanctity of our rights as free citizens to demonstrate for what we believe in. We seek to repeal Bill 156 in its entirety, and let it be known we believe Regan’s blood is on the hands of those that supported this vile legislation.