



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

**Raised Bill No. 6555**

LCO No. 3798

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT VETERINARY  
DIAGNOSTIC LAB.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) Commencing July 1, 2003,  
2 and annually thereafter, the Connecticut Veterinary Diagnostic  
3 Laboratory at the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources of The  
4 University of Connecticut shall be allocated sufficient funds for its  
5 continued operation and accreditation from the appropriation to The  
6 University of Connecticut, for Operating Expenses.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2003</i>

**Statement of Purpose:**

The Connecticut Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at The University of Connecticut provides the veterinary pathological and diagnostic expertise necessary for investigation and control of diseases that affect Connecticut's citizenry and animals such as bioterrorism threats posed by Anthrax, West Nile Virus, Lyme Disease, Mad Cow Disease and Foot and Mouth Disease. State financial support for the lab through the Department of Agriculture has decreased over the past ten years to a

point where such support does not cover the cost of staff and the lab's accreditation is threatened. The goal of this bill is to provide a permanent, adequate source of funding for this lab which is one of the most comprehensive labs of its type in the eastern United States.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*