



32 Parker Road, Somers, Ct. 06071

March 5, 2009

The Honorable Edward Meyer and
The Honorable Richard Roy
Connecticut General Assembly
Environment Committee

Dear Co-CHAIRS,

I am writing on behalf of the Connecticut Dog Federation [CDF}. It is a statewide organization consisting of thirty-seven Kennel Clubs recognized by the American Kennel Club. We have a membership of over fifteen hundred Connecticut voters and their families. Our members are pet owners, dog breeders, dog judges, dog handlers, dog exhibitors and veterinarians. Please note our opposition to HB 6555, which would limit or outlaw the use of certain management tool for elephants.

This bill is unnecessary, unjust and based on misunderstandings. We support the humane treatment and proper care of elephants in circuses.

Currently the state of Connecticut is trying to implement Raised bill # 786 An act concerning the establishment of a training and certification program for municipal animal control officers. We do not even have them trained on domestic animals yet we are going to throw in a complete new category. Does this make sense? Besides where is the money going to come from to cover this extra training?

As taxpayers, we look at the current financial condition of the state and wonder why our legislature is spending precious time on this. Please stop and think, where else will our children ever be able to see an elephant in the flesh if it isn't in the circus or a zoo?

Please do not support this bill.

Sincerely


Edward f. Lyons

Treasurer CDF

Legislative liaison member