

Dear Elizabeth Giannaros,

I am writing to you to express my support for HB5530. Students should not be forced to dissect an animal. When I was in high school, I remember being deeply uncomfortable with this process. It also sends a very dangerous message to impressionable students: that cutting up animals and ignoring their rights as living beings is acceptable and even expected. How can today's students learn to feel compassion for their non-human fellow creatures if they are being taught such an attitude in school?

Not only that, but with all of the sophisticated technology at our fingertips today to learn about anatomy, I feel that it is unnecessary to do dissections at all. Dissection is barbaric and a relic of the past.

In addition, fifteen states—including Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York—have laws or policies allowing students to opt out of dissection. I consider Connecticut to be a relatively progressive state, and I am proud of that. I was born and raised in Connecticut and take pride in our progressiveness. Isn't it time that we took it to the next level?

Please take into account my comments.

I will not be attending the meeting in Hartford. (I live in Stamford).

My contact information is as follows:

Erin Cain  
81 Leonard Street  
Stamford, CT 06906  
203-273-8661

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Erin Cain