Hello Elizabeth,

Please give students a choice so that they can succeed!

• Students at all educational levels have objections to cutting up animals for dissection. Forcing these students to dissect dead animals can interfere with their ability to learn the required information, cause them psychological trauma, and even discourage them from pursuing careers in science.

• Both the National Science Teachers Association and the National Association of Biology Teachers support dissection choice policies.

• Modern alternatives to dissection like computer programs, DVDs, and models have been shown to teach anatomy and biology as well as or better than dissection.

• Alternatives to dissection save teachers and schools time and money because they last for years and do not need to be re-ordered for each class.

• Fifteen states—including Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York—have laws or policies allowing students to opt out of dissection.

Best regards,
Deb Wilson Sutfin
Durham, CT
(I will not be at the meeting)