

Hello,

My name is Gabrielle Wilson, and I am a sophomore at Naugatuck High School, in Naugatuck. Naturally, the subject on dissection in schools is prevalent on most animal rights activists' minds, and the law to have an option always open to students who choose not to dissect would be a milestone for us. As someone who has stopped eating meat and other practices that infringe on animal rights, I feel that a teacher forcing me to dissect as part of a grade is not only disregarding the animal's rights, but also mine, as my morals are now being breached in order to pass a science class. If I don't want to eat an animal, why should I have to cut them open? As the 21st century progresses and new technologies are being created, there are many new alternatives to traditional dissection, with many more bound to appear in the future. DVDs, interactive computer programs, and 3D models are just as educational - and sometimes more efficient than - actual specimens. In today's economy, saving money while providing good educational tools is a challenge, but investing once into other reusable dissection alternatives would save schools money that is now unnecessarily being spent for specimens such as animal organs that need to be purchased after each use to put towards other educational necessities. Seriously sitting down and considering the good old fashioned pros and cons list of real specimens and alternatives, it is apparent that using dissection alternatives in school would not only keep the morals of people passionate about animal rights intact, but help in other areas to benefit everyone. Thank you for reading this email, and I hope you keep these key points in mind while considering passing this bill.