

I understand that there will be a public hearing to discuss dissection choice legislation on Feb. 22, 2011.

I will be unable to attend this hearing, but I would like to make the following comments in support of this bill.

It is my belief that forcing children, at any educational level, to cut up animals can be a traumatizing event. In addition, it may also have the unwanted effect of causing these kids to become desensitized to animal suffering, and to become callous about their treatment.

In addition, it is my understanding that there are very adequate alternatives to dissection, including computer programs and DVDs.

I have to believe that it is much more costly for schools to purchase dead animals than it would be to purchase alternatives that last much longer, possibly for years, and would not need to be re-ordered every year.

I urge our legislators to support this bill, and to show the rest of the country that Connecticut is forward thinking by giving students the choice to not dissect.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janice Gavitt
71 North Lake Shore Drive
Brookfield, CT 06804
203 775 1415