



Connecticut Farm Bureau Association
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March 2, 2012

Testimony in Support of:

Raised Bill No. 5119 AN ACT CONCERNING CONDITIONS OF DENIAL FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A LICENSE OR PERMIT BY THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE.

Raised Bill No. 5123 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PLACEMENT OF ANIMALS SEIZED IN ANIMAL CRUELTY CASES

Raised Bill No. 5124 AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPEAL OF CERTAIN ANIMAL RESTRAINT ORDERS.

Submitted by: Henry N. Talmage, Executive Director, Connecticut Farm Bureau Association

The following testimony is submitted on behalf of the Connecticut Farm Bureau, a statewide nonprofit membership organization of over 5,000 families dedicated to farming and the future of Connecticut agriculture.

Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, members of the Environment Committee.

The Connecticut Farm Bureau supports the Raised Bills 5119, 5123 and 5124. Included in each Bill are provisions that will strengthen the authority of the Commissioner of Agriculture to act to protect the interests of the residents of Connecticut.

Raised Bill 5119 A Act Concerning Certain Conditions of Denial For Issuance of a License or Permit by the Commissioner of Agriculture is particularly important to ensure that past demonstrated performance can be considered in the process of obtaining licenses and permits from the Department of Agriculture. The result will be that past offenders will not automatically gain approval of licenses and permits and those that have a track record of noncompliance can be denied approval. This is an important tool to protect the agricultural interest of the state of Connecticut.

Raised Bills 5123 and 5124 contain important provisions that will allow the Commissioner to take actions that will result in better results for the protected animals and increased efficiency of operations for the Department of Agriculture.