

TESTIMONY CONCERNING RAISED BILL 5446

Janice Lund

Berlin Animal Control

I would like to thank the environment committee for the opportunity to express my support of Raised Bill 5446, An Act concerning the payment procedure for the sterilization and vaccinations of certain dogs and cats and providing for Animal Control Officer training.

I am a registered voter in Berlin and I am an Animal Control Officer in Berlin, CT.

I have been with Berlin Animal Control since 1988, full time since 1998. I have seen many new Bills passed which have benefited Animal Control in many ways.

I work closely with a registered Animal Organization that assists the Berlin Animal Control with adopting our animals and providing medical care at their expense for sick and injured animals.

This bill would insure that ALL animals are neutered prior to adoption. The compliance rate with the voucher a new adopter receives is less than 70 %. That is not acceptable.

In these bad economic times, I find the average family cannot afford to neuter their new pet even with the discount they receive with the state voucher.

I volunteer at a monthly low cost spay/neuter clinic and know firsthand the difficulties families are having financially in neutering their pets. Spaying and neutering not only help curb the pet over population, it makes for healthier pets.

Our commitment as ACO's are to enforce the humane ethical treatment of animals. Please help us to continue to do our jobs the best way we can by passing this bill.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to testify and I hope you will strongly support this legislation.

Thank you

Janice Lund

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