

**Testimony Concerning SB 253**  
**Susan Casagrande**  
**DOUBLE DOG RESCUE**

I would like to thank the Environmental Committee for the opportunity to express my support of SB253, An Act Concerning Revisions to the Animal Importation Statutes

I am a registered voter in West Hartford, and I am writing as both an adopter from and foster home for Double Dog Rescue.

As an animal lover, the last thing I want is to have sick dogs subjected to transport. Before Double Dog sends any dog up to CT for adoption, the dog has had a minimum of two documented veterinary exams and many have had several more. The transport arrives on Saturdays. Since most clinics are closed for the weekend by the time I get my new foster home and settled, to comply with the 48-hour requirement I must take time from work to see a vet on the Monday. Regardless of a clean bill of health from licensed vets, if my foster has not been adopted within two weeks of arrival, I must incur the costs and time from work to get yet another health certificate. I cannot pass these costs on to the adopters as it would make the adoption fee prohibitive and leave my foster homeless longer, resulting in few dogs being saved. The requirement for multiple visits for a healthy dog is overkill.

When I go to meet the transport to receive a new foster, I am overwhelmed by the love and anticipation in the faces of the adopters there to meet their new dogs. These are people who have chosen to adopt a homeless dog.

**I strongly urge you to support this bill which will help alleviate hardships on caring citizens and organizations who are working to protect and rescue animals.**

Thank you,

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