

Testimony Concerning SB 253

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

I am a registered voter in Lyme and I am a dog rescuer.

The current animal importation law has dramatically increased the costs of doing rescue work in Connecticut. The current law has placed a huge burden on me as the sole foster home for the rescue group, for example, to take time off from work to go to the vet in CT, when the dog was just at the vet in West Virginia less than 10 days ago, and got a clean bill of health, is fully vaccinated, neutered, dewormed and heartworm negative. It is redundant and moreover, insulting to the well-educated vets in West Virginia (and elsewhere) to require yet another vet visit. Perhaps small rescues such as mine could be exempt from these rules? I rescue less than 10 dogs from out of state a year. I understand this law was written for the large-scale rescues who allow people to adopt dogs off the back of transport trucks / buses, but this is clearly not best practice, nor has it ever been my practice. I carefully screen adopters, require personal and vet references, a home visit, and they come to my home to adopt a dog in need of a loving home.

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,

Nancy Doyle
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