

William H. Herzfeld
1031 Windsor Avenue
Windsor CT. 06095
860-298-9168
Wmherzfeld@sbcglobal.net

Dear Chairpersons Hartley & Dargan, and Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee,

I am writing in support of H.B No. 5377, An Act Prohibiting the Use of Animals, Reptiles, or Birds as Prizes at Bazaars or Carnivals or as Raffle Prizes.

This Bill amends C.G.S. 7-177 subsection (a) by adding the prohibition of animals, reptiles, or birds as prizes at a bazaar, raffle, carnival, or place of amusement. This provision is consistent with, and a natural extension of existing statute C.G.S. 53-250 which prohibits the use of animals, birds, or reptiles for purposes of soliciting donations, as an award in the operation of a game, or to attract street trade.

My involvement with this issue and the subsequent bill began in 2007. At that time, I became aware of goldfish being given as prizes at a yearly Windsor town event. Although the H.B. 5377 exempts fish, on investigation, it became evident that the issue is bigger than that. Pets are not an after thought or the result of a ticket bought at a charity raffle. All pets deserve to be going in to a wanted and safe environment.

It is my hope that passage of this bill will help reduce abuse, animal cruelty and animal abandonment.

A number of other states have already taken this stand. It is my hope that Connecticut will join that group.

Respectfully,

William H. Herzfeld

Windsor Town Councilor