



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID BARAM
FIFTEENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM 5006
HARTFORD, CT 06106

HOME: 860-243-3041
CAPITOL: 860-240-8585
TOLL FREE: 800-842-8267
E-MAIL: David.Baram@cga.ct.gov

VICE CHAIR
GENERAL LAW

MEMBER
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
BANKS COMMITTEE

March 6, 2012

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.

Many articles have been written about animal cruelty resulting from such practices. Unfortunately, there are numerous instances where people who win animals at places of amusement, never really wanted a pet, and don't know how to properly care for the animal. In such cases, these animals can be abandoned, injured, improperly cared for, and abused.

I think we can all agree that animals deserve proper care, attention, and owner responsibility. Using animals for prizes jeopardizes their safety, and can result in abuse and cruelty. That is why I urge this Committee to support H.B. No. 5377.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'David Baram'.

David A. Baram
State Representative