

Dear Honorable Members of the Children's Committee,

I am writing in SUPPORT of HB 6329, AAC Dissection Choice.

I have always been extremely concerned that dissection serves to desensitize children; that the life-less body before them was once living, breathing, and capable of feeling pain, and emotions, just as they do.

For the child that does feel compassion and appreciates the essence of life, this can become a life-long memory of being forced to cut apart the body of an animal.

For most children, it may long forgotten and over with. Unfortunately, I would be concerned with those who enjoy this experience.

If we want a more compassionate world and to work toward ending violence, appreciation and sensitivity for all life forms needs to be a priority.

Dissection is not necessary for preparation for any veterinary or medical school. Almost all medical schools have eliminated the use of animals in teaching. This teaching tool is archaic, and should be replaced with alternatives, like computer programs (dozens are available). Many studies have shown that kids who use alternatives have been shown to grasp the learning objective better than those who dissect. Plus, alternatives are cheaper, which interests me as a taxpayer.

We need to join our neighboring states (and others) that have laws of policies to allow kids to opt-out, including Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Maine, Vermont, and New Jersey. Children should be given the right to opt out of dissection and perform an alternative assignment.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

---

Diana Braun  
679 Main Street  
Monroe, Connecticut 06468