

## Testimony Concerning HB 5027

### Jean Anderson DeVito "Our Companions Animal Rescue" Volunteer

I would like to thank the Environment Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB 5027 which would *prohibit the sale of dogs or cats from substandard domestic animal mills at pet shops.*

I am a registered voter in Southington, and a Volunteer with Our Companions Animal Rescue. As a person who loves and cares for animals, and also recognizes the need to respect and treat them humanely, it is my desire to speak up on their behalf. I believe it is a human responsibility to stop the breeding of cats and dogs in domestic animal mills. This is cruel and unnecessary on the part of those who operate these animal mills. Often these animals are so in-bred and/or raised in unhealthy conditions that they do not have their deserved start at a healthy life.

It is also my belief that pet stores who purchase these animals should be subject to large fines. If they did not handle the sale of domestic animals from these vendors to begin with, people would not purchase them at pet stores. With all the domestic animals available and needing good homes, which are currently in shelters in CT, there is no need for pet stores to sell them in the first place. Cruelty to animals must be prevented, and stopped where it currently exists. I believe HB 5027 will help toward achieving this goal.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify and I do hope you will strongly support this important piece of legislation.

Thank you,

Jean Anderson DeVito  
38 Windsor Way  
Southington, CT 06489-3838  
(860) 266-0727  
[jeanarabbit@cox.net](mailto:jeanarabbit@cox.net)