



**Testimony Concerning HB 5836 • March 10, 2013**  
**Graphic Designer for Our Companions Domestic Animal Sanctuary**

I would like to thank the Environment Committee for the opportunity to express my support of Raised Bill 5836, to utilize existing funds in the state's Animal Population Control Program (APCP), to expand spay/neuter and vaccination benefits to pets belonging to low-income families.

I am a registered voter in Vernon, and I am a graphic designer and volunteer for Our Companions Animal Rescue.

Animals have been a part of my family since I was too young to remember. Thankfully, we have always had the means to have them spayed/neutered and give them the vaccinations they needed. In this economy, many people are unable to properly take care of themselves, and unfortunately, taking their beloved pet to the vet just isn't feasible. Rather than have them relinquish the pet to a pound or shelter, which would not only be devastating to both the pet and their family, we need to use all available funds to help them. There are already far too many beautiful animals in pounds euthanized too soon. Why would we want to add more when we can help them?

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

Thank you,

Mandy Wieting  
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