

Testimony in *SUPPORT* of HB 5836: To utilize existing funds in the state’s Animal Population Control Program to expand spay/neuter and vaccination benefits to the pets of low-income families.

Submitted by:

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Dear Honorable Members of the Environment Committee:

As a resident of the Town of Stonington, I fully support HB 5836. This bill is a “win-win” for all concerned. HB 5836 would use existing funds from the APCP to provide vitally important health care to the animals of low-income families. Using funds in this way will not only help families with limited means, but will save taxpayer dollars as well.

Animals that are not spayed/neutered will produce multiple litters of unwanted babies. Most of these unwanted cats and dogs will eventually wind up at municipal shelters – placing more of a burden on already stretched town budgets and personnel. The benefits of vaccination should be obvious – rabies and other diseases pose a serious health risk to both domestic animals and humans (making this a public safety issue)!

From the perspective of a taxpayer, HB 5836 is a “no-brainer”. Everybody benefits: animals, families, and municipalities. Please support this common sense approach to animal population control and public safety.

Thank you.