

I am opposed to H.B. No. 6305 (COMM) AN ACT PROHIBITING HUNTING IN PROXIMITY TO WILDLIFE PRESERVES.

At this time, one of the greatest threats to our declining and endangered species in Connecticut is the degradation of habitat by unchecked deer population. That is why conservation groups like the Nature Conservancy and Audubon Society bring in deer hunters to their properties – to improve the habitat for other species. I have walked through many forests that have not a single wildflower, bush, or tree sapling due to deer overbrowsing, and many threatened species need that vegetation to survive and breed successfully. If anything, we should be promoting deer hunting in wildlife preserves the way the Nature Conservancy and Audubon Society do.

Thank you.

Teresa Gallagher

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