



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER



Steven K. Reviczky  
Commissioner

Tel: (860) 713-2500  
Fax: (860) 713-2514

**Testimony presented to the Environment Committee of  
The Connecticut General Assembly  
By the Connecticut Department of Agriculture**

**February 11, 2013**

**H.B. 6317 - AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTRATION OF GROWERS OF SWINE AND  
CONTROL OF DISEASES**

**Chairmen Meyer and Gentile, Vice Chairs Maynard and Albis, Ranking Members Chapin and Shaban and members of the Environment Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today.**

During the previous legislative session, PA 12-80, An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Sentencing Commission Regarding the Classification of Unclassified Misdemeanors, inadvertently repealed CGS Section 22-319, an important Connecticut Department of Agriculture statute concerning the control of swine disease.

A miscommunication between our agency and the Sentencing Commission resulted in the entire statute's repeal, rather than repeal of only the penalty portion. The Department of Agriculture is requesting that CGS Section 22-319 be reinstated minus the penalty section, as was the original intention. (Penalties are provided for in CGS Section 22-321.)

CGS Section 22-319 is critical to the Department of Agriculture's ability to control infectious diseases such as brucellosis—which is transmissible to humans—and pseudorabies, a swine disease, by regulating the importation of swine and regulating swine breeders/growers. This statute is necessary to maintain our disease-free status with the USDA, which is critical in avoiding restrictions on the interstate movement of swine originating from Connecticut.

**Thank you for your time today and for your thoughtful consideration of this testimony. Please let us know if we can provide any additional information that would be helpful.**