



## State of Connecticut

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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#### Testimony

HB 5555 An Act Concerning the Provision of Emergency Assistance to Animals.  
Judiciary Committee  
March 17, 2014

Senator Coleman, Representative Fox, Senator Kissel, Representative Rebimbas and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 5555 An Act Concerning the Provision of Emergency Assistance to Animals.

I am writing in support of HB 5555 as it will afford certain protection from litigious persons who seek to sue a person who is acting in the role of emergency response or a Good Samaritan capacity to large injured animals. This concept was requested due to the last three years weather, in which many animals roamed due to lost barns and downed fencing and needed an individual to intervene until their owner was found.

I believe that any person who acts, in good faith and in the normal course of business, as a volunteer and without fee, who renders emergency care or treatment to large animals shall not be liable for damages as a result of his acts or omissions which may occur during emergency care or treatment.

Without this bill and its protections, people who would be able to provide assistance or care for an injured animal may hesitate to act or be unwilling to respond to the aid or care of an injured animal for fear of litigation.

Thank you for raising this proposal and I look forward to working with the committee to move this legislation forward.

DebraLee Hovey  
State Representative, 112<sup>th</sup> District