

I would like to express support for the following bills:

HB 5416 (Section 2): Would ban gestation crates. While CT farms may not currently use gestation crates, a ban on their use would send a strong message about the stand our state takes on the humane treatment of animals. It is horrifying to think that gestation crates exist at all when we know that pigs have an intelligence level almost equal to that of dogs; not that I am suggesting they are anything but horrifying for any species of livestock, but pigs due to their intelligence are particularly self-regarding subjects of their own lives and must be fully aware of the situations in which they are placed out of human cruelty.

S.B. 445, the “puppy mill bill”: Support, but with additional request to include requirements that 1) all new pet shops shall not sell commercially-bred dogs AND 2) for current pet shops, a phase-out of the sale of commercially-bred dogs. *This additional inclusion is vital to combat the puppy mill trade.* It is hard to believe that anyone who is aware of what goes on in puppy mills would purchase a puppy from a pet store; I am sure that with more awareness the market for pet store puppies would be drastically reduced; however, that might be wishful thinking on my part and this bill would ensure that puppy mills receive no support from our state.

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