

March 20, 2015 Environment Committee

I would like to thank the Environment Committee for the opportunity to express my SUPPORT of SB 361 (increases penalties for animal cruelty)with the addition of language that would prevent gestation crates from being used in CT

Additionally, please OPPOSE HB 6043, Sunday hunting.

Pigs in gestation crates suffer so much, confined to coffin-like environments for years. This is completely unnecessary; farmers have shown time and time again that it is very feasible to factory farm pigs without the use of gestation crates. It is a medieval method of raising living, feeling beings, and does not belong in CT. With other states starting to ban gestation crates, there is a chance big agriculture might try to come to CT, and set up shop here. I would NOT like to see CT being used to house farms that use gestation crates, and banning it before it becomes a problem would be the best course of action. The immense agony these poor pigs endure in gestation crates must be beyond belief. Much as the chickens at KofKoff egg farm in Bozrah are currently suffering in battery cages (which I would also like to see banned in CT, as animal suffering has no place in an advanced society) pigs would be equally subject to the most unnatural life imaginable.

Also, please oppose Sunday hunting. It is the one day of the week I feel safe going for hikes, and I feel safe taking my dog with me. I use the forests as much or more than hunters, and skewing the state forests to hunters desires makes it dangerous for all the hikers. Plus, bow and arrow hunting is considered cruel, since the deer doesn't usually die right away, and instead runs off injured. So please keep Sundays as a peaceful day, and save the pain the deer would feel by being shot by arrows.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify and I do hope you will strongly support SB 361 and oppose HB 6043.

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