

Testimony for 3 bills:

SUPPORT SB 361 (increases penalties for animal cruelty) with ADDITION of language to prevent use of gestation crates.

OPPOSE HB 6034 (Sun hunting)

SUPPORT HB 5707 ("Beagle Freedom" bill, outdoor sheltering for dogs)

March 20, 2015

Dear Co-chair Kennedy, Co-chair Albis, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this testimony in **SUPPORT SB 361 with the addition of language that would prevent gestation crates from being used in Connecticut.**

I support increasing the penalties for malicious and intentional animal cruelty, and ask that you add language to SB 361 that would prevent gestation crates from coming to Connecticut. The intensive confinement of farm animals is already here in Connecticut – chickens confined in tiny cages at KofKoff Egg Farms in eastern CT -- and I don't want to see further expansion of these types of cruel farming practices.

**I am among the 91% of Connecticut voters who want a ban on gestation crates, and I will be following this matter very closely. Pay attention to what VOTERS want. This is your JOB, not catering to the deep pockets of corporations. We the voters of Connecticut are tired of politicians not paying attention to what voters want. We are paying attention.**

Did you know that a pig is as smart as the average dog? And a dog can be as smart as a 7 year old child. To be confined in such a crate is cruel and is not needed for farming pigs.

The greatness of a nation can be judged by their treatment of animals.

Sarah Rosato