

March 18, 2015

To: Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee

Re: **SUPPORT SB 361 (increases penalties for animal cruelty) with the addition of language that would prevent gestation crates from being used in CT**

Additionally,

OPPOSE HB 6034, Sunday hunting, and

SUPPORT HB 5707, "Beagle Freedom Bill", outdoor sheltering for dogs

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. I would also request that language be added to SB361 to prohibit pig gestation crates from being used in Connecticut. While we already have battery cages in egg farms in Connecticut at KofKoff Egg Farms, I do not want to see the expansion of cruel intensive confinement practices on our State's pig farms. Please ban gestation crates before they gain a foothold in Connecticut.

A recent survey showed the vast majority of Connecticut voters, 91%, support a ban on gestation crates. This is an issue I will follow closely.

I also **SUPPORT HB 5707**, which would provide adoption opportunities for dogs and cats used in certain experiments and which would define outdoor sheltering standards for dogs.

In addition, I **OPPOSE Sunday hunting (HB 6034)**, due to the cruelty of hunting and the high crippling rate of bow hunting.

Yours truly,



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