

**REPRESENTATIVE DIANA S. URBAN**  
FORTY-THIRD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 011  
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591  
CAPITOL: 860-240-8710  
Diana.Urban@cga.ct.gov



**CHAIR**  
COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

**MEMBER**  
BANKING COMMITTEE  
LEGISLATIVE REGULATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

To Members of the Environment Committee

I am so sorry I wasn't there Friday to testify but My husband decided to throw a Frisbee for our 85 lb "I have to catch any thrown object as fast as I can" mixed breed rescue dog who decided to take the shortest route possible which was through me....stress fracture in my back and a torn meniscus and a husband living in the dog house is the result!

I believe most members are familiar with my record on animal issues which was recently boosted by being named one of the Top 10 Defenders of Animals in the country by the Animal Legal Defense Fund. I try to combine my passion for animal protection with my background in economics to pursue good policy

With that being said HB 5354 on Snapping Turtles and 5358 on Horse Shoe Crabs definitely meet the mark and I wholeheartedly support them

On the other hand, HB 5358 on black bear hunting, 5366 on expanding Sunday Bow hunting and SB 348 on night shooting of coyotes do not meet that mark. As far as Black bears I would like to associate my remarks with those of Zoe Linehan...as they say...from the "mouths of babes often comes the unfiltered truth... I couldn't put forth any better arguments, so her testimony has my full support. As a data person I would just add that I know that DEEP's numbers involve extrapolation and projection which is a very imperfect way to count

Night shooting of coyotes is simply unacceptable in a state with the density of population that we have. We have invaded their habitat and our best policy is to shoot them at night? There are many ways to mitigate the impact of coyotes that involve actually thinking and educating the public

.As far as increasing Bow hunting I am on record many times observing that Sunday is a day for family and as I work with young kids on horses it is also a day to ride in the woods without fear of errant arrows or wounded deer. I would want to see hard data on expansion before making a policy change that impacts approximately 1% of the population that hunts and 99% of the population that doesn't

HB5355 is simply a necessity given the dogs that froze to death during some of our sub zero days as well as dogs that have literally baked on sweltering days. We think we are a civilized society but that kind of treatment of sentient beings belies that notion. We need to address the situation in a humane way. It is far past time to do this

Thanks you for your attention and I am always available for questions