

Testimony in support of H7334: Psittacine Birds

Barbara Walsh, 62 Frederick Street, Warwick, RI 02888

Date of Hearing: February 11, 2026

To: Chair Solomon and the Honorable Members of the House Corporations Committee

Please support H7334: Psittacine Birds. This is a humane focus on the treatment of birds which deserves our attention if we believe animals should be treated humanely. It also provides for informed consent when purchasing creatures and other commercial aspects of retail sales. In your consideration of this bill, I would ask that you focus on the emotional, social, and physical needs of creatures that can live up to 100 years. When you focus on this aspect of humane needs of animals, you must pass this bill. The bird rescues in RI generally have about 400 birds needing care and hoping for adoption. There are currently more parrots available in RI than will ever obtain homes. It is unconscionable that more and more birds enter the pipeline because pet stores sell them for profit which results in fewer homes for the available homeless parrots. This same issue applies to cats and dogs but some municipalities such as Warwick, have alleviated the competition for obtaining a home by preventing pet stores in Warwick from selling cats and dogs. They are still in business, and more cats and dogs have been placed in homes because of this city ordinance. I would ask you to do the same for these highly social creatures. Please imagine how they live a pitiful life for possibly 50 years in a cage in a sanctuary simply because there are too many to all obtain homes. As well, the inhumanity of 'bird mills' is addressed in the link I include here from a terrific animal welfare organization – World Animal Protection. [Where Birds in Pet Stores Come From](#) The birds which are sold to pet stores come from breeding facilities that are inhumane to thousands more birds, Birds are intelligent and need stimulation. They don't get that in bird mills and may not get enough in a sanctuary if living there 50 years. Please think about what this feels like to the parrots who depend upon we humans to care for their social and emotional needs in addition to the physical.

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