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From: Carlos Hernandez <clhernandez298@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 5:08 PM
To: House Corporations Committee; red-kennedy@rilegislature.gov; Rep. Serpa, Patricia A.; Rep. Voas, Brandon T.
Subject: Thank You for Lobbying for Animal Welfare

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Good afternoon,

I am here because I wanted to thank you all for taking action against pet lobbyists. As someone who volunteers at the Rhode Island Parrot Rescue, I have seen first-hand that parrots are essentially their own individuals. And it is disheartening to see pet lobbyists continue to push for the sales of these animals despite the appalling conditions of parrot mills.

I also am in support of educating prospective parrot adopters so that they can make informed decisions in having a bird in their lives. Parrots are animals that are long-lived and need specific, consistent, high-quality care in order to thrive.

Allow me to recall a time where I met one of RIPR's rescues: Monet, a blue-throated macaw. She arrived at the rescue from the MSPCA. She seemed timid, at first, and given how she arrived with plucked primary feathers (IE, half of her body was covered in only gray down feathers), I assume that she was a part of the pet trade and someone tried smuggling her in. Although, I will never know the true backstory of Monet. But the point is that over the past several months, Monet opened up to me and the other staff as she realized that she was in a safer place. Monet is a sweet bird who appreciates head scratches and will be dedicated to you once you spend the time to get to know her.

Therefore, in support of birds like Monet, thank you for supporting the bill that will ultimately curb unethical practices and selling of birds within our humble ocean state.

Best regards,

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