

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF H 5606 HEARING ON MARCH 20, 2025

FROM: VOLUNTEER SERVICES FOR ANIMALS (VSA)

TO: Rhode Island House Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Dear Honorable Chairman Bennett and Honorable Representatives Phillips, Carson, Boylan, Cortvriend, Fogarty, Handy, Kislak, Knight, McEntee, McGaw, Nardone, Santucci, Speakman, and Spears:

H5606 will ban wildlife killing contests on both public and private lands in our State. This is truly a depraved activity. We know that this occurs in some states in our country and if it is happening in Rhode Island we hope that this legislation will become law and that those who would be saddened by the loss of this activity will find another way to have fun. If passed, the penalties are modest in comparison to what could be the destruction. The thought of such a contest truly disgusts this organization and we hope that the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee and the House of Representatives will send a message of equal disgust by helping to make H 5606 Rhode Island law.

We want to acknowledge and thank the sponsors of this legislation: Representatives Kislak, Bennett, Speakman, Boylan and Spears, and we thank the House Environment & Agriculture Committee for accepting VSA's testimony via email.

Very respectfully yours,

Joanne J, Rongo

Chair of the Board of Directors