

Testimony in Opposition to H5534: Property Subject to Taxation

Barbara Walsh. 62 Frederick Street, Warwick, RI 02888

Date of Hearing: May 13, 2025

To Chair Abney and the honorable Members of the House Finance Committee:

I oppose this bill for two reasons. First, there is no legitimate agricultural purpose to fur-bearing farms. Fur-bearing animals are not 'of use' to humans other than in a very narrow use of their coats for vanity objects, which are not needed and should be banned. Other legislation has been introduced which would ban fur farms and products from these animals and these bills should be supported. Torturing animals and providing state incentives for doing so is unconscionable.

Second, this may not be a time to burden municipalities which requires tax relief without a state subsidy to cover such losses.