M. Miller

<u>Please vote NO on HB 7454 -</u> a bill that would prohibit the sale, offer of sale, trade or distribution of fur products as defined and makes violations punishable by a civil fine.

As a Consumer & a Business person, as an American & a Tax Payer, I wonder why some politicians are so ready to listen to and be swayed by propaganda that would cost JOBS, cost TAX revenue and take away simple freedoms to choose how we dress and what we eat? Why they are willing to listen to extremists with an agenda built on proven LIES?

Are you so willing to take away your constituents freedom of choice by banning the sale of fur? And IF SO....will you be closing up shoe stores, lingerie boutiques, steak houses as well? If you are, are you also willing to take away their rights to buy silk, wool, leather, suede and down? Are you willing to SHUT down restaurants and SHUT down grocery stores that sell meat, chicken, pork, dairy and fish products? Are you willing to SHUT down zoos and SHUT down aquariums?

Will you stop your constituents from seeking medical care and advancements that may have been studied on or researched with animals? It was Ingrid Newkirk, president and co-founder of Peta that stated "*Even if animal research resulted in a cure for AIDS, we'd be against it.*"

Animal extremist's organizations like Peta attack the fur industry because it is made up of mostly small entrepreneurial businesses. But their agenda is MUCH LARGER than that and it is not a secret. They want to eliminate all animal use and all animal consumption. Well-funded and often criminal actions taken by this vocal minority, make big money trying to shut down legitimate businesses and in fact, overwhelmingly, Americans favor CHOICE about what they wear and what they eat. <u>These huge tax free groups want to shut</u> <u>down tax paying businesses and put thousands of people on the unemployment line.</u> There is NO GOOD time to put people out of business but on the heels of the worst pandemic ever experienced is THIS what you think is a good idea?

- Fur is a renewable and sustainable resource. / Fake Fur is petroleum based and not biodegradable.
- Natural Fur lasts Generations and does not sit in landfills.
- Natural fur is produced ethically and responsibly throughout the entire production process.
- There are 270 Fur Farms in the USA they are inspected 3 times a year by an independent 3rd party.
- There are 1.2 MILLION other farm that raise animals & are seldom inspected at all.
- The fur trade supports land-based cultures & local indigenous populations contributing to environmental conservation
- Natural fur is held to ethical global standards like Furmark that ensures the highest animal welfare and sustainability

The Fur industry employs thousands of people from fur farmers, trappers, manufacturers and retailers. The industry dates back to the exploration of the United States. Please do your research and not listen to the cries of the small vocal propaganda based animal right's minority. It is well past time that you get the facts on what the agenda of animal extremists really is and that fur is simply the FIRST rung on the ladder of eliminating the use of all animals. Stop the madness now. Please vote NO on HB 7454

Sincerely,

Mart S. Milla

Mark S. Miller