## Roberta DiMezza

From: NICHOLAS SEKAS <nsekas@sekasinternational.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2024 3:59 PM **To:** House Judiciary Committee

**Subject:** OPPOSE HB 7454 and allow legal furs to continue to be sold in RI

House Judiciary Committee 82 Smith Street Providence, RI 02903

March 19, 2024

Re: Testimony in Opposition to House Bill No. 7454 - TRADE IN ANIMAL FUR PRODUCTS ACT

Dear Chair Craven and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I, Nicholas Sekas, representing Sekas International Ltd., am speaking on behalf of my business and all retail fur stores in America.

I vehemently oppose H 7454 – An act aimed at abolishing the sale of legal fur products with civil penalties for violations of such transactions; this bill represents yet another attempt to ban the sale of natural, timeless fur fashions.

I oppose H 7454 for several reasons:

- This bill will negatively impact businesses and jobs within the fur industry, jeopardizing livelihoods and economic stability.
- Fur is a sustainable and renewable resource, and the fur trade is subject to strict regulations and ethical standards to ensure animal welfare.
- Banning the sale of fur products infringes upon consumer choice and restricts individuals' freedom to purchase goods of their preference.

I urge you to vote against H 7454 and uphold the rights of businesses and consumers to engage in the lawful trade of fur products in the state of Rhode Island.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to voice my opposition to H 7454. I am available to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely, Nicholas Sekas President, CEO Sekas International Ltd. 231 W 29<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10001

Tel./SMS: 212-629-6095 Fax: 212-629-6097

Email: nsekas@sekasinternational.com

www.sekasinternational.com

This communication, including attachments, is for the exclusive use of addressee and may contain proprietary, confidential and/or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, copying, disclosure, dissemination or distribution is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail, delete this communication and destroy all copies.