

## Roberta DiMezza

---

**From:** James Sword <swordfurs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 3, 2025 12:11 PM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Cc:** Rep. Craven, Robert E.; Rep. McEntee, Carol Hagan; Rep. Knight, Jason; Rep. Ajello, Edith H.; Rep. Batista, Jose F.; Rep. Bennett, David A.; Rep. Caldwell, Justine A.; Rep. Casimiro, Julie A.; Rep. Corvese, Arthur J.; Rep. Cruz, Cherie L.; Rep. Dawson, Matthew S.; Rep. Felix, Leonela; Rep. Noret, Thomas E.; Rep. Place, David J.; Rep. Roberts, Sherry  
**Subject:** OPPOSE HB 5447 and allow legal furs to continue to be sold in RI  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

House Judiciary Committee  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

March 4, 2025

Re: Testimony in **Opposition** to House bill No. 5447– TRADE IN ANIMAL FUR PRODUCTS ACT

Dear Chair Craven and members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I am James Sword of Swords Fine Outerwear and Alterations and Alberts Swords Fine Outerwear speaking on behalf of my business and all retail fur stores in America.

I vehemently oppose H 5447 – An act obliterating the sale of legal fur products with civil penalties for violations of such transactions; namely another attempt to ban the sale of natural, everlasting fur fashions.

I oppose H 5447 because I have been working in this industry for 34 years and truly believe it's the most eco friendly industry in the world. There is no pollution put into the air, almost all remains from animals are used [lotions, make-up, hair products, dog and cat food, etc]. Also, all of our garments will bio-degrade! It is the greenest industry!

I urge you to vote against H 5447 and continue to allow legal fur fashions and products to be sold in the state of Rhode Island.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to speak against 5447. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

James H. Sword

25112 Center Ridge Rd

Westlake, Ohio 44145

440-249-5001

29500 Aurora Rd

Solon, Ohio 44139

440-600-2886

## Recent News Stories About the Popularity of Fur!

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/02/16/style/vintage-fur-trend.html>

<https://nypost.com/2025/02/19/lifestyle/real-fur-is-making-a-comeback-after-years-of-exile-youll-see-it-on-the-runway-again>