

Roberta DiMezza

From: Paige Parsons <paige@rabbit.org>
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 2:44 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Support for S.B. 25 / H. 5447 – The Trade in Farmed Animal Fur Products Act

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3.7.2025

Dear House Judiciary Committee of the Rhode Island General Assembly,

On behalf of **The Rabbit.org Foundation**, I am writing to voice our **strong support** for **S.B. 25 / H. 5447**, which would prohibit the sale, trade, and distribution of fur products from farmed animals in Rhode Island. As an organization dedicated to advocating for the welfare of rabbits and all animals, we commend the state for taking this vital step toward ending the cruel and unnecessary fur trade.

Fur farming is inherently inhumane. It subjects animals—including rabbits—to confinement in small wire cages, exposure to extreme stress, and inhumane slaughter methods, all for products that are entirely unnecessary in today's world. Despite being widely recognized as intelligent, social, and sentient beings deserving of protection, rabbits are among the most exploited animals in the fur industry.

Beyond animal welfare, the fur industry poses **significant public health and environmental risks**. Fur farms have been linked to zoonotic disease outbreaks, while their waste and chemical processing contribute to serious environmental pollution. Rhode Island has the opportunity to be a leader in **banning the sale of fur from farmed animals**, aligning the state with the growing global movement toward more ethical and sustainable industries.

By passing **S.B. 25 / H. 5447**, Rhode Island will take a compassionate, progressive stance that reflects the values of its residents. We urge you to support this legislation and help end the cruelty of farmed fur.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Paige K Parsons

Paige K Parsons
Founder and President
[The Rabbit.org Foundation](https://therabbit.org)
paige@rabbit.org
650.520.4290