

## Roberta DiMezza

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**From:** newportnauti@cox.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 22, 2025 2:05 PM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Cc:** Elizabeth Omeara  
**Subject:** RI H.5926 - Our Household opposes!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Dear House Judiciary Committee! H.5926 is the wrong path that puts animals, pet owners, and entire industries at risk AND does nothing new to protect them!

Why H.5926 is problematic

Breaks Legal Precedent – current precedent is that spouses and children can claim damages for emotional loss; H.5926 radically implies that animals have like human rights.

Unintended Harm to Animals – Opens the exploitation door for those people who keep pets just to pursue financial claims.

Could impact veterinary care as lawsuits raise prices or the animal's consent becomes a legal issue during care.

Legal Confusion – H.5926 – animals cannot be held legally responsible like humans; unscrupulous lawyers will increase lawsuits that eventually overwhelm the court system with emotional damages lawsuits related to pets.

Risk to Industries – threatens the stability of our state's food supply when H.5926 grants pets near human rights target farming, fishing, livestock, animal breeders, and service providers.

We advocate that humans must be in control of their pets and animals, when animal loss happens search for and deal with the human/owner/caretaker of the animal involved to resolve or bring suit.

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