

Roberta DiMezza

From: David Brunetti <davidabrunetti1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 29, 2025 10:53 AM
To: Rep. Craven, Robert E.; Rep. McEntee, Carol Hagan; Rep. Knight, Jason; Rep. Dawson, Matthew S.; Rep. Noret, Thomas E.; Rep. Place, David J.; Rep. Corvese, Arthur J.; Rep. Bennett, David A.; Rep. Caldwell, Justine A.; Rep. Cruz, Cherie L.; House Judiciary Committee; Rep. Batista, Jose F.; Rep. Ajello, Edith H.; Rep. Felix, Leonela; Rep. Casimiro, Julie A.; Rep. Hopkins, Marie A.
Subject: House Bill No. 5447 - Substitute A
Attachments: H 5447 Sub A_Farmed Animal Fur Product Sales Ban Bill comments_House Judiciary Comm_4.29.25.pdf; D Brunetti Gmail Communication with Fur Commission USA_request for confirmation of fur farming regulations_3.6.25.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Chair Craven, First Vice Chair McEntee, Second Vice Chair Knight, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is David Brunetti, and I live in Burrillville, RI.

I am writing to you today about House Bill No. 5447 Substitute A – the Farmed Animal Fur Product Sales Ban Bill. I support this bill and urge you to vote in favor of it. My reasons for this appear in my attached testimony and the supporting document.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide you with my comments.

Sincerely,

David A. Brunetti
Burrillville, RI 02830

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Modern Warrior: Damien Mander video - the inspirational evolution of an unlikely animal welfare activist (12 min. that might change your life):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9FCsyK4aRXQ>



David Brunetti <davidabrunetti1@gmail.com>

Re: Merit Award Program

1 message

David Brunetti <davidabrunetti1@gmail.com>
To: Challis Hobbs <challis.hobbs@furcommission.com>

Thu, Mar 6, 2025 at 3:09 PM

Hello again Challis,

Thanks again for the prompt response. That sort of helps. However, since I cannot locate ANY regulations specifically or actually covering fur farming from a fairly deep search of the internet, I need at least one document, preferably multiple documents, from you which I can actually view to make my case.

Otherwise I would conclude that there are no such regulations.

Coming from a scientific background - a long term career as a chemist in the pharmaceutical industry - I always base my actions on facts which I can see for myself.

Thanks again,
Dave

On Thu, Mar 6, 2025 at 2:57 PM Challis Hobbs <challis.hobbs@furcommission.com> wrote:

Hi Dave,

Thank you for clarifying your position.

I understand your concerns and appreciate your willingness to base your testimony on the presence of meaningful regulations.

Yes, there are regulations in place for all types of livestock farming (including fur farming) at multiple levels, including federal, state, and industry-led standards. Our regulations are the same to those in place for major livestock groups like chickens, pigs, and cows, with subtle differences for relevance.

I have attached a one-pager on our certification program standards for your reference. Additionally, I would like to point out that there are **no** mink farms currently operating in Rhode Island.

Does that help?

Sincerely,
Challis

On Thu, Mar 6, 2025 at 12:26 PM David Brunetti <davidabrunetti1@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello again Challis,

It is quite simple, I am an environmentalist and wildlife enthusiast. If there are meaningful regulations of this industry, then I will testify in opposition to the proposed ban. If not, then I will submit testimony in support of it.

So, are there ANY such regulations? If so, what are they?

Thanks again,
Dave

On Thu, Mar 6, 2025 at 2:17 PM Challis Hobbs <challis.hobbs@furcommission.com> wrote:

Hi David,

I'm glad to hear and see about your interest in this! I'm still a bit unclear on your specific **role** in regards to the bill you mentioned and your overall stance on the potential fur sales ban.

Could you please provide me with a bit more detail on **your involvement** and interest in this issue? Understanding your perspective will help me guide you to the most relevant resources and information.

Sincerely,
Challis

On Thu, Mar 6, 2025 at 12:09 PM David Brunetti <davidabrunetti1@gmail.com> wrote:

Thanks Challis.

It would depend on whether or not regulations actually exist for this industry and what is covered in those regulations.

Thanks again,
Dave

On Thu, Mar 6, 2025 at 1:53 PM Challis Hobbs <challis.hobbs@furcommission.com> wrote:

The link below has info on our program! So are you opposed or for the ban?

<https://www.furcommission.com/about-4-4>

On Thu, Mar 6, 2025 at 11:32 AM David Brunetti <davidabrunetti1@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Challis,

Thanks for the prompt reply. I am trying to obtain information for testimony on a bill that seeks to ban the sales of fur from fur farmed animals in my state of RI.

Can you provide some details about the merit awards program, what parties perform inspections of the respective fur farms, how many inspections occur annually, and any actual regulations specifically covering fur farms in the United States?

This would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,
Dave

On Thu, Mar 6, 2025 at 12:39 PM Challis Hobbs <challis.hobbs@furcommission.com> wrote:

Hi David,

Thank you for reaching out regarding our Merit Award Program. I'm happy to provide you with more information.

Could you please elaborate on what specifically piqued your interest in our program? Understanding your perspective will help me tailor the information I provide to best address your inquiries.

Sincerely,
Challis Hobbs

On Thu, Mar 6, 2025 at 10:35 AM David Brunetti <davidabrunetti1@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Challis,

As a follow-up to the voice mail message which I just left for you, I wanted to know if I could get some information from you about your Merit Award Program for fur farmers. I found out about it the other day through an acquaintance and wanted to get more information.

Apparently it involves independent veterinarians to ensure compliance with humane standards. That sounds great and I would like to learn about it.

Thanks,
David Brunetti

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