

**PA12-127**

HB5258

Environment	1423-1427, 1618-1622, 2011-2017	17
House	5738-5742	5
<u>Senate</u>	<u>4441, 4497-4499</u>	<u>4</u>
		<b>26</b>

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**ENVIRONMENT  
PART 5  
1399 – 1742**

**2012**

12  
hac/gbr

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

March 7, 2012  
10:30 A.M.

miles an hour, I'll certainly be looking out for those bamboo, but thank you for your testimony.

SENATOR FRANTZ: Thank you.

REP. ROY: Thank you. Any other questions or comments, from members of the committee? If not, thank you Senator Frantz.

SENATOR FRANTZ: Thank you all very much.

REP. ROY: Take care. Representative William Aman.

REP. AMAN: For the record, William Aman, State Representative of the 14th District, composing mostly South Windsor. I would like to thank the Environment Committee for bringing forward the bill to the Public Hearing Bill Number 5258 AN ACT PERMITTING THE POSSESSION OF REINDEER YEARROUND.

One of the reasons I am here is to let you know that this is a serious issue for one of my constituents, and a few of yours, on the keeping of reindeer.

Up to a few years ago -- up to early around 2000 reindeer were allowed to be brought into this state. They weren't regulated. Chronic wasting disease is a very, very terrible disease. I was worried at that time, around the early 2000's, that it was spreading rapidly through native deer around the country, and in so the importation of any type of deer was stopped or severely eliminated, not only in Connecticut, but around the rest of the country.

In 2009 this committee came forward and allowed reindeer to be brought in, basically from Thanksgiving to New Year's, over the

Christmas holidays, providing they met certain requirements.

The ORR report that was written at that time that I think this committee used for justification, one of the things in it was that no reindeer has ever been diagnosed with chronic wasting disease. My review since then has indicated that no reindeer anywhere in the world has ever had this disease; however, they are in the deer family and could be susceptible to it.

So why -- why is my constituent concerned? They own a Christmas tree farm and like most small Connecticut farmers they are finding that surviving in an agricultural world in Connecticut is very, very difficult. And just like this pick your own strawberries, pick your own pumpkins and things, they need a draw to get people to basically spend the afternoon or day cutting down their Christmas trees.

And one of the ways that they have done it over the years is to bring in a reindeer for the children to come and pet and may -- and meet. Well, it's very expensive to bring in a reindeer from out of state and transport it into the state, and there are fewer and fewer places within a reasonable distance that that would be at all possible, and so regarding that he has done it, but it has become very expensive to do it.

What he would like to be able to do, and there's two or three other people who would like to do it, is to have his own small reindeer herd here permanently in the state of Connecticut.

My constituent is more than willing to work with the Department of Agriculture to make

sure that the standards for the herd, the medical testing and everything -- identification of the animals meet all of the requirements necessary to make sure that our native deer population are not put in threat, but I believe that the language in the bill as presented satisfies most of the concerns. However, I do understand that the Department of Agriculture and DEP probably are going to be looking at some changes in the language to make sure that their veterinarians are satisfied that it will be safe.

So I thank you very much for bringing this forward. I think it is a help for few of our Christmas tree farmers and other people that will be testifying and can give you more information about reindeer than I could ever do it, sometime later in the public hearing.

So I thank you for having me come forward today.

REP. ROY: Thank you. Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER: I -- I have a concern about the bill as it's drafted because you're -- you're really identifying chronic wasting disease as -- as a significant issue that you're trying to overcome in deer.

The current law says that to bring a deer in - - or a reindeer in you're going to need to have a veterinary certificate indicating that the reindeer does not have tuberculosis or brucellosis.

REP. AMAN: That -- that would be --

SENATOR MEYER: It -- it doesn't say chronic wasting disease, and so isn't -- isn't there an omission in the way the bill is drafted?

REP. AMAN: That's why I -- I said that the Agricultural Department wanted some add -- all reindeer or any deer right now are checked for those two diseases, and one of the things I did when I went online to look about purchasing reindeer I could not find a seller of reindeer that did not have on his website in big letters that their reindeer were checked for those two diseases, but that's -- that's the sort of the thing that I would like the Department of Agriculture to be very comfortable with what they're -- they're putting forward.

SENATOR MEYER: In other words you -- you support adding a chronic wasting disease as something that would -- a vet would have to inspect for?

REP. AMAN: Correct. Whatever --

SENATOR MEYER: Before the reindeer would --

REP. AMAN: -- and along with tuberculosis, brucellosis, and any other disease that they feel is a threat to the native deer population.

REP. AMAN: Okay. Thanks.

REP. AMAN: And any sort of monitoring -- I think one of the advantages of bringing them in all year is once the herd is here, it's isolated. And so if it's safe -- can be verified that it's safe when it's here and it never leaves here, you know that you're not bringing it in from the outside.

One of the risks of the current law is while it's a very, very remote possibility, there is a possibility of bringing in a deer that is -- is diseased. Whereas, if you've got a

controlled herd here, you know exactly what you have.

REP. ROY: Thank you. Just one quick question. When you say a small herd, what sort of number are we talking about, do we know?

REP. AMAN: I would think that -- and again, there are people testifying. They are a herd animal. I would think you're talking in the three to six range that somebody would want. They're not an inexpensive animal to keep or to maintain. So you're not looking at something that people are going to want.

The owners also likely to get them in when they're very, very small -- few days old and start handling them just like you do a puppy so that they are very used to people, they're halter trained, they become a pet. And so you're not going to just see big herds of these -- I don't think by any standards, and if the Department of Agriculture says that they want to limit it to you may not keep more than a certain number of deer, I don't think that my constituent would be upset about that at all.

REP. ROY: Thank you. Any other questions or comments, from members of the committee? Seeing none, thank you, sir.

REP. AMAN: Thank you very much for having me.

REP. ROY: Representative Michael Alberts.

JACKSON SCHIPKE: Hi, my name is Jackson Schipke. I'm an intern at the House Republican Office and I'm testifying today on behalf of Representative Alberts.

HB 5263

Good morning Chairman Meyer, Chairman Roy and

207  
hac/gbr

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

March 7, 2012  
10:30 A.M.

TERESA EICKEL: Thank you very much.

REP. ROY: Our next speaker is Martha Kelly.  
Martha? She doesn't appear to be here. Then  
we can go to John Dzen. John moves us back to  
the reindeer.

JOHN DZEN: I'm so excited to use the word good  
afternoon. I was fearful it was going to be  
good evening. It's been a long day today and  
thank you for your attention on this matter  
very important to us.

My name is John Dzen, Jr. and the name of our  
business is Dzen Tree Farm, Incorporated. We  
raise approximately 100 acres of choose and  
cut your own Christmas trees in South Windsor.  
I'm here today to speak in favor of Bill 5258.

Our business like many agricultural businesses  
in Connecticut is becoming more dependent on  
the theme of agri-entertainment. In years  
past we have rented reindeer for the month of  
December for their educational and  
entertainment value to our customers. The  
price of a one-month rental meets or exceeds  
the cost of year round animal care. If we  
owned reindeer there were would be other  
opportunities to use them to produce income.

My oldest son is student at the vo-ag program  
at Rockville High School and is looking for an  
animal project for school. My youngest two  
children are always looking for a project on  
the farm. If we succeed in getting Bill 5258  
passed into law, we intend on purchasing  
reindeer.

The state of Connecticut allowed the year  
round ownership of reindeer for many years  
before the concerns of chronic wasting disease

developed. About ten years ago the USDA recommended that each state institute a lock down and ban all 34 species of deer. I can only find evidence of chronic wasting disease being found in white-tail, black-tail, elk and mule deer.

The chronic wasting disease concerns in reindeer have never developed in the past ten years. In your very own OLR Research Report from February 5th, 2009 entitled Are Reindeer Susceptible to Chronic Wasting Disease? Paul Frisman says, "There is not yet a definitive answer to the question." He goes on to say that, "No cases of chronic wasting disease in reindeer or caribou have been reported."

In your own OLR Research Report from July 17th, 2009 entitled State Regulations on Import -- Importation of Reindeer, Jillian Redding outlines the laws of seven different states.

I believe that these two documents help shape the current state law that allows reindeer in the state for the month of December. Bill 5258 incorporates the regulations from many of these states that allow reindeer ownership today.

Bill 5258 includes many commonsense ideas. Before you buy a used car from an out of state dealer, you hire a certified mechanic to check the vehicle from head to toe. You verify the identification number for the car. You research the maintenance history of other cars made by the same company. You demand that the dealer provide you with a detailed history of the vehicle and its owners. You would never make a large investment in a used car from an out of state dealer if you were uncertain about the condition of the car.

Bill 5258 requires you possess a veterinary's report of inspection for the individually identified reindeer. You must possess documentation that the reindeer came from a herd that was monitored for three different diseases for a period of time. A reindeer farmer would never want to make a large investment and commitment and bring unhealthy reindeer to his own farm.

It should also be noted that anyone wishing to own reindeer in Connecticut would still be required to obey various laws set up by the federal government, including the Congressional Reindeer Act of 1937, United States Department of Agriculture and the Animal Health Inspection Service.

In summary, I would like to encourage you to pass Bill 5258. The bill sets up very strict rules that minimize the risk of reindeer transferring any problems into the state of Connecticut. The bill would be one more opportunity for family farms in Connecticut to produce more income and survive.

REP. ROY: Thank you. Representative Chapin.

REP. CHAPIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If this bill were to pass, how large of a herd would you envision owning?

JOHN DZEN: Reindeer are pack animals, so it's not possible to have one. Starting on a small scale would be two. It's a huge financial commitment, so I could never see the herd getting larger than six -- eight, maybe way out a herd of ten. It's very, very expensive.

REP. CHAPIN: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

210  
hac/gbr

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

March 7, 2012  
10:30 A.M.

REP. ROY: Thank you. Any other questions or comments from members of the committee? Seeing none, thank you, John.

JOHN DZEN: Thank you.

REP. ROY: John Mitchell.

JOHN MITHCELL: Chairman Roy, members of the Environment Committee, thank you for your time and service to the state of Connecticut's residents.

My name is John Mitchell a long, long time resident of South Windsor, former Mayor of the Town of South Windsor and a local businessman for 55 years. I'm not qualified to speak on the technical background of House Bill Number 5258, but of equal importance to my testimony, is the human merits of this bills enactment.

Farming in the presence of it and continued viability in the state of Connecticut should be supported and encouraged in any way possible, now and in the future. Throughout the years as a young boy and as a grown adult my life was truly blessed by learning the value of hard work as a worker for the Dzen family in the South Windsor.

Year ago this prominent family provided valued employment for their tobacco, potato and strawberry endeavors. Today they're known for their quality grown Christmas trees. They have been pioneers in the presence of farming in the town of South Windsor for many, many years.

Now the third generation continues. I consider it a blessing to have worked for John Dzen's, Jr.'s father and grandfather. Now, you have an idea as to how old I am.

211  
hac/gbr

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

March 7, 2012  
10:30 A.M.

Today families go together and see the fields of beautiful Christmas trees they have been able to see reindeer in the past and enjoyed the closeness of nature at its best. The quality of this farming operation cannot be minimized. The value of its jobs and contributions to the state's economy is of equal importance.

Over the years South Windsor's Dzen Tree Farm has been honored by the Governor's presence in the selection of that special Christmas tree for our state. Treasured, life long memories are born here, in South Windsor. Reindeer become a special connection for children and their families as they spend time together in the selection of their holiday tree.

Thank you for your time and consideration for HB Number 5258.

REP. ROY: Thank you, John. Any comments or questions from members of the committee?

JOHN MITHCELL: Thank you.

REP. ROY: Seeing none, thank you very much. Now, we will go on to poaching if Andy Rzeknikiewicz is here. How close did I come?

ANDY RZEZNIKIEWICZ: You did very well.

REP. ROY: Thank you.

ANDY RZEZNIKIEWICZ: It's pronounced Rzeknikiewicz. I'm here in favor to testify the Act increasing the penalty for poaching. I'm here as a concerned citizen in the state of Connecticut and as a representative of the Connecticut Audubon Society.

HB5263

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**ENVIRONMENT  
PART 6  
1743 – 2084**

**2012**

---

**DZEN TREE FARM, INC.***"Where Family Traditions Are Made!"*

John Dzen, Jr.  
245 Barber Hill Road  
South Windsor, CT 06074  
Home (860) 648-9565  
Cell (860) 573-2112  
Email: [dzentree@aol.com](mailto:dzentree@aol.com)  
[www.dzentreefarm.com](http://www.dzentreefarm.com)

March 7, 2012

Testimony in favor of Raised Bill 5258

Good morning members of the Environmental Committee,

My name is John Dzen, Jr. and the name of my business is Dzen Tree Farm, Inc. We raise 100 acres of choose and cut your own Christmas Trees in South Windsor. I am here today to speak in favor of Bill 5258. Our business like many agricultural businesses in Connecticut is becoming more dependent on the theme of agri-entertainment. In years past we have rented reindeer for the month of December for their educational and entertainment value to our customers. The price of the one month rental meets or exceeds the cost of year round animal care. If we owned reindeer there would be other opportunities to use them to produce income. My oldest son is a student at the vo-ag program at Rockville high school and is looking for an animal project for school. My youngest two children are always looking a project on the farm. If we succeed in getting bill 5258 passed into law, we intend on purchasing reindeer.

The state of Connecticut allowed the year round ownership of reindeer for many years before the concerns of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) developed. About ten years ago, the USDA recommended that each state institute a lock down and ban all of the 34 species of deer. I can only find evidence of CWD being found in white tail, black tail, elk and mule deer. The CWD concerns in reindeer have never developed in the past ten years. In your own OLR Research Report from February 5, 2009 entitled "Are Reindeer Susceptible to Chronic Wasting Disease?" Paul Frisman says "there is not yet a definitive answer to the question". He goes on to

say "No cases of CWD in reindeer or caribou have been reported". In your own OLR Research Report from July 17, 2009 entitled "State Regulations on the Importation of Reindeer" Jillian Redding outlines the laws for seven different states. I believe these two documents helped shape the current Connecticut law that allows reindeer in the state for the month of December. Bill 5258 incorporates the regulations from many of these states that allow reindeer ownership today. Bill 5258 includes many common sense ideas. Before you buy a used car from an out of state dealer, you hire a certified mechanic to check the vehicle from head to toe. You verify the identification number for the car. You research the maintenance history of other cars made by the same company. You demand that the dealer provide you with a detailed history of the vehicle and its owners. You would never make a large investment in a used car from an out of state dealer if you were uncertain about the condition of the car. Bill 5258 requires you to possess a veterinary report of inspection for the individually identified reindeer. You must possess documentation that the reindeer came from a herd that was monitored for three different diseases for a period of time. A reindeer farmer would never want to make a large investment and commitment and bring an unhealthy reindeer to his own farm.

It should also be noted that anyone wishing to own reindeer in Connecticut would still be required to obey various laws set up by the federal government including the Congressional Reindeer Act of 1937, United States Department of Agriculture and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

In summary, I would like to encourage you to pass Bill 5258. The bill sets up very strict rules that would minimize the risk of reindeer transferring any problems into the state of Connecticut. The Bill would be one more opportunity for family farms in Connecticut to produce more income and survive.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Testimony presented to the Environment Committee of

The Connecticut General Assembly

By the Connecticut Department of Agriculture

March 7, 2012

**H.B 5258 AN ACT PERMITTING THE POSSESSION OF REINDEER YEAR ROUND**

The Department has some concerns about the advisability of enacting legislation that may affect Connecticut's deer population by potentially introducing communicable diseases that are not resident in the state at this time. The most serious of which is chronic wasting disease. Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal nervous system disease known to naturally infect cervids (members of the deer family). It belongs to the family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE) or prion diseases. Though it shares features with other prion diseases, like mad cow disease in cattle and scrapie in sheep, it is a distinct disease known to only affect members of the deer family. The disease is progressive and always fatal. CWD has been discovered in wild deer, elk, or moose in 15 states and two Canadian provinces. Connecticut is presently a CWD free state. In addition to CWD, like any livestock, deer in general can harbor and transmit several diseases to other livestock.

Consideration should be given to legislation that would address all captive deer. The Connecticut Department of Agriculture should be recognized as the regulator of captive deer raised for agricultural and exhibition purposes. Instead of a piecemeal approach focused solely on reindeer the Department believes this is an opportunity to modify the ban on the importation of deer and facilitate the ownership of deer and deer farming. Presently, there are three deer farms in Connecticut but the ban on importation inhibits growth in this agricultural sector. A system should be developed that protects the indigenous wild herd and other species of livestock by allowing importation from CWD free herds that meet basic health requirements and provide for common sense regulations that prevent captive deer from coming into intimate contact with wild deer.

The Department offers the following language for the Committee's consideration which is largely crafted from language utilized by the USDA and the State of Vermont:

"Cervid" means any animal which is a member of the family "cervidae" kept for the purpose of exhibition, breeding or producing food or fiber whether captive or wild and all subspecies, including but not limited to the following: mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*); black-tailed deer (*O. hemionus columbianus*); elk (*Cervus elaphus*) including red deer or wapiti, moose (*Alces alces*); fallow deer (*Dama dama*); caribou or reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus*), white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) and silka deer (*Cervus nippon*);

165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106  
Phone: 860-713-2503 Fax: 860-713-2516  
*An Equal Opportunity Employer*



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



"Certificate of veterinary inspection" means a document issued by an accredited veterinarian or a veterinarian employed by the United States Department of Agriculture attesting to health status of the subject captive cervidae.

"Chronic wasting disease" ("CWD") means a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) of cervidae.

"Escape-resistant" means so constructed that the cervidae will remain confined under all circumstances, except when natural catastrophe or other incidents occur over which the owner or the owner's agent has no control.

"Herd" means one or more captive cervidae that are under common ownership or supervision and are grouped on one or more parts of any single premises, and all cervids under common ownership or supervision on two or more premises which are geographically separated but on which cervids have been commingled or had direct or indirect contact with one another.

"Official identification" means an identification system approved by the USDA and the commissioner or the commissioners designated agent, and a tag, mark or device approved by the USDA and the commissioner or the commissioners designated agent for use in identifying individual captive cervid's.

"Owner" means the person or the legal entity that has title to the animals.

"Premises" means the property, grounds, area, buildings, water sources and equipment commonly shared by a herd captive cervidae.

"USDA" the United States Department of Agriculture.

"USDA/APHIS" means the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

Importation and transfer of captive cervids shall comply with the following:

- (a) At least fifteen days prior to the date of importation or ownership transfer of captive cervidae any person, firm or corporation importing or transferring captive cervids shall notify the commissioner or the commissioners designated agent in writing of the intent to import or transfer ownership of captive cervids. Such notification shall be on forms provided by the commissioner or the commissioners designated agent. All imported captive cervidae shall bear official identification and shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection prepared by an licensed and accredited veterinarian which shall state:
1. the captive cervidae identified on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection originate from a USDA recognized CWD free state or, from a herd enrolled in the USDA/APHIS Chronic

165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106  
Phone: 860-713-2503 Fax: 860-713-2516  
*An Equal Opportunity Employer*



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Wasting Disease Herd Certification Program or equivalent state program in which the herd is monitored for, and certified free of CWD by the State Veterinarian or an Animal Health Official employed by the state of origin.

2. the captive cervidae identified on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection aged six (6) months of age and older have tested negative for brucellosis by a test administered no more than thirty (30) days prior to entry into this state;
  3. the captive cervidae identified on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection aged six (6) months of age and older have tested negative for tuberculosis by a test administered no more than sixty (60) days prior to entry into this state or originated from a herd that has been proven, through a whole herd tuberculin testing program to be free of tuberculosis;
  4. the captive cervidae identified on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection have tested negative for Anaplasmosis and Bluetongue by a test administered no more than thirty (30) days prior to importation; and
  5. the captive cervidae identified on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection are free of contagious and infectious diseases.
- (b) Annually in the month of February, owners of captive cervidae shall register each premise where captive cervids are kept. Such registration shall be on forms and in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner.
- (c) Owners of captive cervidae shall maintain and keep captive cervids within escape-resistant enclosures or when outside of an enclosure under the control of a person over the age of sixteen employed or authorized by the owner.
- (d) The Commissioner of Agriculture may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to enforce this section. In ensure the safety of captive cervids and those who may handle captive cervids, such regulations may include the proper type and construction of enclosures, fencing, animal handling facilities, temporary exhibitions and, shall provide for a implementation periods for those captive cervid enclosures existing at the time of adoption. Commissioner of Agriculture may adopt regulations concerning a Chronic Wasting Disease testing program, record keeping,
- exhibition, ownership transfer, captive cervid identification and transportation requirements.
- (e) Any violation of this section for a first offense shall be an infraction and for a second or subsequent offense shall be a class D misdemeanor.

Thank you for consideration of the views of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106  
Phone: 860-713-2503 Fax: 860-713-2516  
*An Equal Opportunity Employer*



Connecticut Department of  
**ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION**

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Public Hearing – March 7, 2012  
Environment Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Daniel Esty  
Presented By Susan Frechette

**Raised House Bill No. 5258 – AN ACT PERMITTING THE POSSESSION OF REINDEER YEAR ROUND**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Raised House Bill No. 5258, AN ACT PERMITTING THE POSSESSION OF REINDEER YEAR ROUND.

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has concerns about this bill and its potential impact on Connecticut's white-tailed deer and moose populations through the introduction of diseases that do not currently exist in the state. Our concern is that the proposed bill may exacerbate the already existing risk by increasing the frequency and number of animals transported into Connecticut from out-of-state sources.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is one of a family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE's), which include Mad Cow disease in cattle and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans. No treatment or vaccination exists and if contracted the disease is always fatal. Once established, CWD is extremely costly and difficult to contain, and nearly impossible to eradicate.

CWD is currently known to inflict white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk and moose. Reindeer (also known as caribou) is the only other deer species native to North America. Although CWD has not yet been identified in this species, genetic studies have revealed that there is no known scientific reason to believe they are not susceptible to contracting and transmitting the disease.

CWD continues to spread. Prior to 2000, CWD was found in only a few Midwestern states and the Canadian Province of Saskatchewan. As of 2012, CWD has been found in 18 states (Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming), two Canadian provinces (Alberta and Saskatchewan), and three countries (United State, Canada and Korea).

Although no relationship has been documented between CWD and humans to date, the presence of the disease reduces the appeal of infected deer to hunters. Such perceptions are likely to result in lower hunter demand and reduced deer harvests in areas most in need of population control. This outcome

could aggravate public health threats associated with Lyme disease, Babesiosis and Ehrlichiosis, vehicle-deer collisions, property damage, and ecological degradation associated with burgeoning white-tailed deer populations.

The Agency believes that it is the intent of Raised House Bill 5258 to eliminate the annual transport of reindeer into and out of Connecticut as allowed under the current statute (26-57a). Annual import/export would be eliminated by establishing an in-state domestic herd of animals that have been tested and found free of disease. However, as currently written the proposed bill does not place any limitations on the frequency and number of animals imported or exported. To address this concern the Agency recommends that the following language be added to the proposed bill

Reindeer imported into the State of Connecticut under the provisions of this section must remain in the state and may not be exported

In summary, DEEP is concerned that this proposal, as written, increases the risk that CWD may be spread to Connecticut. The additional text we have provided will address this concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact DEEP's legislative liaison, Robert LaFrance at 424-3401 or [Robert LaFrance@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov)

**H – 1139**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
2012**

**VOL.55  
PART 17  
5507 – 5828**

hac/jr/jf/gdm/gbr  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

419  
May 3, 2012

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted? Will members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally. Will the Clerk will announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5545 as amended by House A.

Total number voting	142
Necessary for adoption	72
Those voting Yea	105
Those voting Nay	37
Those absent and not voting	9

(On a roll call vote, House Bill No. 5545 as amended by House Amendment Schedule "A" was passed.)

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The bill as amended passes.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 201.

THE CLERK:

On Page 8, Calendar 201, House Bill No. 5258, AN ACT PERMITTING THE POSSESSION OF REINDEER YEAR ROUND, favorable report by the Committee on the Environment.

hac/jr/jf/gdm/gbr  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

420  
May 3, 2012

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Chairman of the Environment Committee,  
Representative Roy of the 119th, you have the floor,  
sir.

REP. ROY (119th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move  
passage of the bill, acceptance of the Committee's  
favorable report, passage of the bill.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The question is acceptance of the Joint  
Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

Representative Roy, you have the floor.

REP. ROY (119th):

Thank you. This is on the keeping a reindeer in  
the state, and to that end we have a -- an amendment.  
The Clerk has the amendment. It's LCO 4809, I ask  
that it be called and that I be allowed to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Will the Clerk please call LCO 4809, which will  
be designated House Amendment Schedule "A".

THE CLERK:

LCO 4809, House "A", offered by Representatives  
Aman and Roy.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the amendment. Is there objection to summarization? Is there objection? Hearing none, Representative Roy, will you proceed with summarization.

REP. ROY (119th):

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What the amendment does is sets up two pilot programs at two different farms for the said bringing of reindeer into the state. I move adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The question before the Chamber is adoption of House Amendment Schedule "A". Will you remark further on the amendment?

Representative Chapin of the 67th District.

REP. CHAPIN (67th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I also rise in support of the amendment before us. It is a product of compromise after some negotiation and addresses, I believe, all the issues that were raised during the public hearing and since. And I encourage my colleagues to support it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark

hac/jr/jf/gdm/gbr  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

422  
May 3, 2012

further? Will you remark further on the amendment before us? If not, I would try your minds. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Opposed, nay.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The ayes have it and the amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Will you remark further on the bill as amended? If not, will staff and guests please come to the Well of the House. Will the members please take your seats, the machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representative is voting by roll call; members to the Chamber. The House is taking a roll call vote, members to the Chamber, please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

Have all the members voted? Have all members voted? Will members please check the board to see if their vote is properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally. The Clerk will please announce the

hac/jr/jf/gdm/gbr  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

423  
May 3, 2012

tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5258 as amended by House A.

Total number voting	141
Necessary for passage	71
Those voting Yea	129
Those voting Nay	12
Those absent and not voting	10

(On a roll call vote, House Bill No. 5258 as amended by House Amendment Schedule "A" was passed.)

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The bill as amended is passed.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 419.

THE CLERK:

On Page 26, Calendar 419, substitute for Senate Bill Number 276, AN ACT CONCERNING LICENSING

REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCUMPUNCTURES, favorable report by the Committee on Public Health.

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

And the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Elizabeth Ritter of the 40 -- 38th, excuse me, you have the floor, ma'am.

REP. RITTER (38th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move for acceptance of

**S - 649**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
2012**

**VOL. 55  
PART 14  
4223 - 4505**

rgd/tmj/gdm/gbr  
SENATE

262  
May 9, 2012

Thank you, Madam President.

Calendar page 15, Calendar 464, House Bill 5344, move to place that item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Calendar page 17, Calendar 475, House Bill 5550. Move to place that item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Moving to calendar page 18, Calendar 480, House Bill 5258, move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Calendar page 23, Calendar 514, House Bill 5540, move to place the item on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Calendar page 24, Calendar 521, House Bill 5343, move to

rgd/tmj/gdm/gbr  
SENATE

318  
May 9, 2012

(HB 5283)

On page 3, Calendar 240, House Bill 3283; page 3, Calendar 299, House Bill 5437; page 5, Calendar 349, Senate Bill 374; page 6, Calendar 375, House Bill 5440; page 6, 362, House Bill 5011.

On page 7, Calendar 376, House Bill 5279; on page 7, 387, House Bill 5290; on page 8, 394, House Bill 5032; on page 8, 396, House Bill 5230.

Also on page 8, Calendar 398, House Bill 5241; on page 8, Calendar 393, House Bill 5307; on page 9, Calendar 403, House Bill 5087; on page 9, Calendar 406, House Bill 5276; on page 9, 407, House Bill 5484; on page 11, Calendar 424, House Bill 5495; on page 12, Calendar 435, House Bill 5232; on page 13, Calendar 5 -- excuse me Calendar 450, House Bill 5447; on page 14, Calendar 455, House Bill 3 -- I'm sorry -- House Bill 5353.

On page 14, Calendar 453, House Bill 5543; on page 14, Calendar 459, House Bill 5271; on page 15, Calendar 464, House Bill 5344; on page 15, Calendar 465, House Bill 5034; on page 16, Calendar 469, House Bill 5038; on page 17, Calendar 475, House Bill 5550; on page 17, Calendar 474, House Bill 5233; on page 17, Calendar 477, House Bill 5421.

Page 18, 480, House Bill 5258; on page 18, Calendar 479, House Bill 5500; page 18, Calendar 482, House Bill 5106; on page 18, Calendar 483, House Bill 5355; on page 19, Calendar 489, House Bill 5248; on page 19, Calendar 488, House Bill 5321; on page 20, Calendar 496, House Bill 5412.

On page 21, Calendar 504, House Bill 5319; page 21, Calendar 505, House Bill 5328; on page 22, Calendar 508, House Bill 5365; on page 22, Calendar 510, House Bill 5170; on page 23, Calendar 514, House Bill 5540; on page 23, Calendar 517, House Bill 5521.

Page 24, Calendar 521, House Bill 5343; page 24, Calendar 518, House Bill 5298; page 24, Calendar 523, House Bill 5504; page 29, Calendar 355, Senate Bill 418; on page 13, Calendar 444, 5037; and Calendar 507, House Bill 5467.

THE CHAIR:

Senator -- Senator Suzio.

SENATOR SUZIO:



## State of Connecticut

SENATE CLERK'S OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591  
(860) 240-0500

GAREY E. COLEMAN  
CLERK OF THE SENATE  
ERNEST J. COTNOIR  
ASSISTANT SENATE CLERK

TIMOTHY B. KEHOE  
PERMANENT ASSISTANT  
CLERK OF THE SENATE

Bills placed on the Consent Calendar on May 9, 2012

5358  
5148  
5394  
5326  
5025  
5534  
5539  
5320  
5462  
5394  
5511  
5283  
5437  
374  
5011  
5440  
5279  
5290  
5307  
5032  
5230  
5241  
5087  
5276  
5484  
5495  
5232  
5447  
5543  
5353  
5271  
5344  
5038



State of Connecticut

SENATE CLERK'S OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591  
(860) 240-0500

GAREY E COLEMAN  
CLERK OF THE SENATE  
ERNEST J COTNOIR  
ASSISTANT SENATE CLERK

TIMOTHY B KEHOE  
PERMANENT ASSISTANT  
CLERK OF THE SENATE

- 5233
- 5550
- 5258
- 5106
- 5355
- 5521
- 5248
- 5412
- 5319
- 5328
- 5365
- 5170
- 55440
- 5521
- 5298
- 5343
- 5504
- 418
- 5037
- 5467
- 5022
- 5259
- 5496
- 5360



**State of Connecticut**

SENATE CLERK'S OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591  
(860) 240-0500

GAREY E. COLEMAN  
CLERK OF THE SENATE  
ERNEST J. COTNOIR  
ASSISTANT SENATE CLERK

TIMOTHY B. KEHOE  
PERMANENT ASSISTANT  
CLERK OF THE SENATE

Bills from Senate Agenda Number 3 from the May 9th Senate Session that were placed on the Consent Calendar

HB5304  
HB 5342

rgd/tmj/gdm/gbr  
SENATE

319  
May 9, 2012

Good evening, Madam President.

I just want to clarify. I thought I heard the Clerk call House Bill 5034? Is that on the consent calendar?

THE CHAIR:

Do you know what page that is, sir?

SENATOR SUZIO:

No I -- he was reading so fast, Madam, I couldn't get it.

THE CHAIR:

It's -- yes it's 53 -- I don't know.

SENATOR SUZIO:

5034.

THE CHAIR:

5034, yes sir.

SENATOR SUZIO:

I object to that being put on the consent calendar, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Okay, that will be removed.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Yes, just seeing that -- ask to remove that item from the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered.

rgd/tmj/gdm/gbr  
SENATE

320  
May 9, 2012

At this time we'll call a roll call vote on the consent calendar.

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.  
Senators please return to the Chamber. Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Coleman, we need your vote, sir.

Senator Kissel, Senator Kissel. Senator Kissel, will you vote on the consent calendar please?

All members have voted?

If all members have voted, the machine will be closed.

Mr. Clerk, will you call the amendment -- I meant the tally.

THE CLERK:

On today's consent calendar.

Total Number Voting	36
Necessary for Adoption	19
Those Voting Yea	36
Those Voting Nay	0
Those Absent and Not Voting	0

THE CHAIR:

The consent calendar has passed.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, I believe the Clerk is in possession of Senate Agenda Number 6 for today's session.