

**PA13-83**

SB1018

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**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**ENVIRONMENT  
PART 5  
1323 - 1665**

**2013**

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think we need two different definitions. And I think we want to be very clear about this. So, I think there is a value of looking at tightening this up and sharpening the focus, so, we have a unified strategy for our planning purposes going forward.

With that, I would like, with your indulgence, to invite Deputy Commissioner Whalen to talk to a number of other bills that are before you. And, at that point, we would then be open to questions and happy to respond to all three of us.

SENATOR MEYER: Yes, Mr. Whalen, nice to see you.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER WHELAN: Nice to see you, too.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you members of the Committee. Thank you, Commissioner, for letting me speak today.

HB5816 HB6541  
HB6538 HB6539  
SB1017 SB1018

I want to touch briefly on a number of bills before the Committee today for which we have provided extensive testimony. So, I'll try to keep my comments as brief as possible. I'm just going to go in numerical order here.

The first bill House 5811 is AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF VESSELS WITH ELECTRIC MOTORS ON INLAND WATERS OF THE STATE. The Department is opposed to this bill in that it would eliminate the requirement for basic boater safety education for vessels powered by small electric motors. Whether a boat had -- contains an electric engine or an internal combustion engine, we feel that boaters still need to know the rules of the road, understand how to interpret the lights they see on the water at night, understand basic concepts of boating stability, and behave in a safe and predictable manner for other boaters in the waterfront. And, so, to exclude this group we

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Department of Construction Services to remove most of the buildings which were substandard and did not meet any current codes when we bought the property, so, that we can clean the property up and have it more accessible to recreational residents.

We have absolutely no plans to sell the land. We acquire land in perpetuity for the residents and visitors of the State of Connecticut. And we intend to do that with this property.

The next bill is Senate Bill 1017, AN ACT CONCERNING ABANDONED BOATS. Again, in light of recent storms, I think this is a particularly germane bill. The Department currently processes between 50 and 100 abandoned boats per year. They're generally abandoned on land. And it's -- they're generally abandoned -- left for the landowner to reconcile. It's a cumbersome process. It takes a long time. And it can be very frustrating for the person who is left with this abandoned boat to deal with.

You know, in New Jersey they dealt with 1400 abandoned boats in the wake of Storm Sandy. We were fortunate. We dodged that bullet, but it could happen at any time. And we'd like to have a web based publically viewable system that's quicker and easier for people to navigate, so, that when they come across an abandoned boat on their property, they can work with us to deal with it more expeditiously. And it's -- I should emphasize that it still preserves the rights of the owner of the boat should they wish to retrieve it, they have that opportunity.

The final bill -- I think it's the final bill I'll mention is Senate 1017. This, again, is an agency bill which we're grateful for your support. It's AN ACT CONCERNING ENFORCEMENT OF

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ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION LAWS. It does a number of, mainly, administrative things. It would clarify our environmental law enforcement ability for the use of snares by explicitly defining the term snare which does not now exist in law. So, we would be able to more effectively enforce those people who are poaching and using what we consider to be illegal tools while still maintaining the ability to live capture without harm certain types of species.

It also provides a more easily enforceable fine for violations concerning the importation, possession, or liberation of certain fish and aquatic invasive species like zebra mussels. It removes an outdated exemption which prevents us from issuing violations for people who commit -- for marine fisherman who commit certain violations. If they were fishing in the inland district, we would be able to find them and take their license away. In the marine district, we can't take their license away. So, we'd like to have the opportunity to do that for those violators who are particularly persistent problems.

This bill would also clarify the license requirements and applicability of fishery's regulations for those taking marine baits species and lobsters. Again, this is related to the marine fishing bill that was passed a few years ago. And it would also update the marketing requirements for commercial fishing gear and boats engaging in commercial activity.

And with that, I will stop and take a breath.

SENATOR MEYER: Thank you.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER WHALEN: Be happy to answer any questions.

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a parking lot on the first snowy day when they have their permit and forced to skid and practice turning into the skid. But we're now off topic and I'm sorry.

REP. URBAN: No, my bad. I will get right back on.

Commissioner, of course, you know I'm going to be asking you about the snares. Is this primarily for use for coyotes? Is that the worry? Susan, is this primarily for use with coyotes?

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COMMISSIONER DANIEL C. ESTY: No. The current law does not provide a definition of a snare.

REP. URBAN: No, I'm aware of that. I want to go beyond that to what we're doing.

COMMISSIONER DANIEL C. ESTY: We want to be able to differentiate between snares that decapitate, strangle or mutilate animals. And those snares which we would like to be able to use for bears, foxes, coyotes, other problem animals for which a snare is -- this is a live-capture snare. It's not one that kills.

REP. URBAN: So, then I can assume that there will be no such thing as a jelly head in one of these snares where the blood is not cut off sufficiently and the blood still allows to go the brain?

COMMISSIONER DANIEL C. ESTY: Again, we're looking at a definition of snare that allows for a lock enclosure, so, when the animal -- so that the animal will not (inaudible).

REP. URBAN: So, my assumption is the animal will struggle?

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COMMISSIONER DANIEL C. ESTY: It depends on the animal.

REP. URBAN: They're not just going to lay down and go to sleep.

COMMISSIONER DANIEL C. ESTY: Bears actually will pull against the snare and lie down. Coyotes - the type of snare device we're talking about is called a Collarum and it's not unlike a dog leash.

REP. URBAN: Well, what I would like and you know because you've been in front of my children's committee and I'm the data person. So, I'm now going to ask you because I'm enormously concerned and we are running that bill on leg hold traps and children that if a child got caught in one of these snares or for some people just -- maybe I shouldn't say just as important as their child, but almost as important as their child would be a beloved pet got caught in a snare. So I need data from you that tells me how many animals have been caught in these snares, say, over a 10-year period. How many of them were found dead? How many were found alive? Once you find them, do you dispense with them at that point or are they relocated? And those -- and, precisely, where these snares have been placed and I'm assuming it has to be someone who is licensed to do it. It's not just somebody who decides that it's a cool idea to put it in their backyard?

COMMISSIONER DANIEL C. ESTY: I think I'd like to have Rick Jacobson come up and talk a little bit about this because I think the goal here is to be able to enforce the law. And we can't now do that because of the way the law is written. So, I'm going to have Rick chat a little bit what we're trying to do.

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REP. URBAN: Well, maybe -- because I don't want to see you sit here and belabor this because there are a lot of people that are going to testify on it.

From my perspective, I don't want to go this direction. I want to go the other direction and really get rid of snares and find a different way of dealing with problem animals. And I know that we have discussed this. And I know that we agree to disagree. So, I guess I will leave it at I very much want that data on how many are caught in snares, whether they're found dead or alive, and whether they are dispensed whether they are alive or whether they're relocated.

RICK JACOBSON: I can answer that question pretty quickly, actually. Snares are not legal in Connecticut. So, there are no animals legally captured in snares in Connecticut period.

REP. URBAN: So, you're making them legal now, is that what you're telling me?

RICK JACOBSON: This bill would provide the opportunity to craft in regulation very specific guidelines on what constitutes a snare for purposes of live capture. And, so, it would be my commitment to work with various constituent groups like the Human Society of the United States, the Trappers Association, Nuisance Wildlife Control Operators Association. To craft those to ensure that the standards we set for what is an allowable passive captured technique is not injurious.

REP. URBAN: I'm not sure you can do that. But I will leave that to the experts. And I would hope that whatever they come out with that if my dog or my child gets caught in it, that it's not going to be a problem.

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so much more these days to Lisa because, you see, she is the mom of one of the little children who dies on the 4th of July in that boating accident in Oyster Bay. The boat that she and her daughter were on was overcrowded and swamped and sank taking with it the lives of three little kids, one of them was Victoria.

After the accident, Lisa took an in-classroom boating course and has become an advocate for boating safety. No matter what the state, Connecticut, New York, anywhere, there is a potential for the same thing happening that took her daughter from her.

I'm sorry that she cannot come, but family is important. She has submitted written testimony and I would, please, invite you to visit it to learn a little bit more about Lisa.

With all that in mind, probably the best way to end my testimony is to use the phrase that Lisa Gaines did in her written testimony to you. Please help the future -- prevent future tragedies by keeping our waters safe. Thank you and I'm pleased to answer any questions.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Annie Hornish.

ANNIE HORNISH: Thank you. Dear Co-Chair Meyer, Co-Chair Gentile, and honorable members of the Environment Committee. On behalf of the Connecticut supporters of the Human Society of the United States, I'm here to oppose a provision within S.B. 1018. An that would be a provision that would legalize certain types of snares.

Snares are primitive types of traps that are inhumane and indiscriminate. A snare is simply

a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor. It catches an animal either by the neck, mid section of the body or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.

As with leg hold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck and body snares can strangle their victims or crush their vital organs leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets; coyotes and foxes because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotoid arteries slows death.

Snares are indiscriminate. Non-target species can suffer in these devices. Snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs. Just a few weeks ago in Nebraska, a dog -- a family dog was killed in a snare that was set. The family was hiking through a public hiking trail. The dog died of a broken neck.

Snares are the wrong approach. Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped. They breathe earlier and have larger litters. And their numbers quickly rebound even when a large percentage of their population is removed.

There are better solutions. Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed long-term by removing food attractions, hazing coyotes who have become too human habituated or bold using appropriate dog fencing and not allowing pets to free roam or be unsupervised.

This morning, Deputy Commissioner Whelan

offered that the purpose of the language pertaining to snares is to define snares and to allow live capture without harm. And if you look at line number 96, the proposed definition of snare reads as follows. "Snare means a device often consisting of a noose used to kill or injure animals by entanglement, strangulation or decapitation. By specifying killer or injure in the language, this opens the door for the use of devices like the Collarum neck snare which markets -- they market themselves as offering humane capture. And they claim to not injure or kill. But a Collarum is a snare. And they are cruel and indiscriminate like other snares.

These snares cannot -- Collarums cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being in snares when these devices are used. And, in fact, Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well.

There's also humane issues. The Collarum website states that in a study and I quote "70 percent of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30 percent? How badly were they injured and what would be considered a significant injury?

The same website stated that "Most dogs and foxes sustainably less damage because they fight less than coyotes. However, a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself."

I thank you for your time and consideration.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Annie.

Senator Meyer.

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SENATOR MEYER: Annie, other than the definition of snare which does look like it's intended to be a device that will strangle or kill an animal, other than that, there's nothing in this bill that empowers anybody to use a snare. So, that means that there's some other provisions of Connecticut law that deal with snares. Can you direct our attention to those?

ANNIE HORNISH: Certainly, Section 26-72, that's where it states where snaring is illegal in Connecticut. Snares cannot be used. And the way they're defining snares is how we have a problem with this. If, perhaps --

SENATOR MEYER: I'm sorry. I have a different question.

ANNIE HORNISH: Sure.

SENATOR MEYER: Let me try to restate it.

ANNIE HORNISH: Certainly.

SENATOR MEYER: What -- where is it and what does it say about the legal ability to use a snare in Connecticut?

ANNIE HORNISH: In Section 26-72 it says quote "No person shall place, set or attend any snare, net or similar device capable of taking or injuring any animal."

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. So, this provision in this bill is directly inconsistent with that?

ANNIE HORNISH: It's inconsistent in that the language that they use it says "kill or injure." It could -- that could be interpreted -- if a company is marketing itself like the Collarum saying that they are humane and they do not kill or injury, it, say, hypothetically,

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it would -- they would not follow in the definition of a snare and they would be allowed to use their product. And we're arguing that devices like the Collarum are, indeed, snares, indeed, could cause injury or kill. So, we're suggesting that if part of the reason the agency wants to define snares, if they want to provide a definition of snare, if they added, perhaps, the word "capture" that would define snares, but would not allow use of devices such as the Collarum.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. Because it sounded to me now that I hear you and what the Department said this morning is that the snares are not intended to kill because, now, you've told us that there's a prohibition in Connecticut against snares. And, now, it defines snares as being a device used to kill or injure animals. Your point is that is what? I'm just not sure I understand what you're saying.

ANNIE HORNISH: My point is that I think that the definition that is being offered in this language might exempt a product like the Collarum. It might exempt it because -- and then we're arguing that the Collarum is, indeed, a snare and, indeed, also, can cause injuring and suffering to animals. They're marketing themselves as humane -- as a humane product, as a humane snare. And because the definition of snare that is being offered on line 96, it says "consisting of a noose often used to kill or injure animals." I would suggest if the word "capture" was included in there, that would remove Collarums from being used -- from being able to be used.

SENATOR MEYER: You made a tough argument because you're saying that Collarums neck snare can injure or kill?

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ANNIE HORNISH: Yes.

SENATOR MEYER: And, therefore, the language we've been given here is that would be prohibited in the State of Connecticut?

ANNIE HORNISH: It -- correct.

SENATOR MEYER: So?

ANNIE HORNISH: So, but Collarums, if you go to the manufacturers, they market themselves as being humane. And we're arguing that they're -- that we do not believe they are humane. They market themselves as a humane trap as they can just contain an animal without injuring the animal.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. So, this is a pretty subjective thing here?

ANNIE HORNISH: Yes.

SENATOR MEYER: The manufacturer says it's wonderful.

ANNIE HORNISH: Yes.

SENATOR MEYER: And the animal organization is saying, no, it's a killer?

ANNIE HORNISH: Correct, correct.

SENATOR MEYER: And the words we're being given is you can't have in Connecticut any snares that kill.

ANNIE HORNISH: That kill or --

SENATOR MEYER: It's against the law --

ANNIE HORNISH: Correct.

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SENATOR MEYER: -- to kill an animal?

ANNIE HORNISH: And if it's defined -- if the word "capture" were included in that, that would be a better -- we would suggest that be a better definition of the word. If there is a desire to define "snare", if the word "capture" on that line 96, that would be a better definition, a more accurate.

SENATOR MEYER: Okay. Thanks.

ANNIE HORNISH: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you. Any other questions?  
Annie, thank you for patience.

ANNIE HORNISH: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: It's been a long day.

That concludes our public hearing. Oh, I'm sorry. Wait a minute. Senator Chapman.

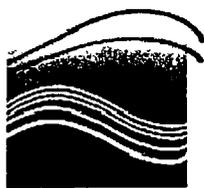
SENATOR CHAPMAN: (Inaudible).

REP. GENTILE: Oh, okay.

SENATOR CHAPMAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. I just wanted to let you know that Representative Buck Taylor was on her way here, but, unfortunately got in an auto accident. She's, I believe, she's been treated and released. But that is the reason she didn't make it today.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you for bringing that to our attention and we hope she's all right.

REP. SHABIN: Madam Chair, the same thing. Representative O'Day who's out of the state on business and asked me to put that on the record for the throngs of people watching.



Connecticut Department of  
**ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION**

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

Public Hearing – March 8, 2013  
Environment Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Daniel C. Esty  
Presented By Deputy Commissioner Susan Whalen

**Raised Senate Bill No. 1018 – AAC ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAWS**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Raised Senate Bill No. 1018 – AAC Enforcement of Environmental Conservation Laws. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) offers the following testimony.

We appreciate the Committee's willingness to raise this bill at the request of the DEEP. This proposal, which we strongly support, would 1) clarify environmental law enforcement ability for non-selective and injurious methods for wildlife capture by explicitly defining the term "snare" while allowing for the safe, wild capture of certain species; 2) provide an alternate, easily enforceable fine for violations concerning possession, importation or liberation of fish and certain aquatic invasive species, 3) remove an outdated exemption for violations of certain marine fisheries regulations from the requirements for suspension of hunting, fishing, and trapping privileges for violations of fisheries and wildlife laws, 4) clarify license requirements and applicability of fisheries regulations for those taking marine bait species or lobsters, and 5) update marking requirements for commercial fishing gear and boats engaged in commercial activities.

**Section 1**

The use of snares in capturing wildlife is addressed in several sections of Chapter 490 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS). However, as a snare is not defined, a wide array of devices, including both those that inflict injury and death as well as those designed as humane, species-selective alternatives are prohibited. This amendment will create a definition for what constitutes a snare – a looped cable device designed to inflict injury or death – and remove restrictions on devices tailored for use in suburban and urban settings.

Several northeastern states, including New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, and to a limited extent New York, allow the use of species selective, restraint devices for various uses including nuisance wildlife control.

Defining what constitutes a snare as a device designed to inflict injury or death would reduce the instances of unnecessary and avoidable capture and injury to domestic animals as well as targeted and non-targeted wildlife, while enabling more effective control of nuisance wildlife.

### Sections 2 and 3

The introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species such as Asian carp and zebra mussels in Connecticut can harm the state's terrestrial and aquatic natural resources, and decrease the recreational, aesthetic and economic values of those resources. The possession, importation into the state, and liberation of vertebrate and invertebrate species are regulated under CGS 26-55. This proposal provides for an alternative fine for fish and species identified as invasive in regulations promulgated under CGS 26-55. The alternate fine is needed to enable the agency to enforce laws designed to prevent the introduction of invasive species. P.A. 09-198 increased the fine for violations of CGS 26-55 from an infraction to "a civil penalty not to exceed one thousand dollars." The legislative intent was to create a strong disincentive for illegal ownership of dangerous animals; however, it inadvertently rendered fish and invasive species regulations promulgated under CGS 26-55 unenforceable. The Office of the Attorney General has indicated to DEEP that they would typically not prosecute cases concerning prohibited fish species and invasive aquatic invertebrates such as zebra mussels as they pose no direct threat to human safety. Although education and outreach remain the primary tools to prevent the spread of unwanted/invasive organisms, this proposal will restore an easily enforceable deterrent when needed.

DEEP does note that the language of section 3 of this bill as currently written would require court appearances, and not allow for efficient payment of fines by mail as an infraction. Nor would the current language properly address multiple and continuing violations. To address these concerns, DEEP requests that the committee review a drafting change that we suggest for this section to remove lines 114 through 120 and replace that section as written with the following language:

Sec. 3. Section 26-55 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (e) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

**(NEW)** (e) Any person who imports or introduces into the state, or possesses or liberates live fish or aquatic nuisance invertebrates in violation of this section or any regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to this section shall be deemed to have committed an infraction and shall be fined ninety-five dollars. Importation, possession or liberation of each live fish or aquatic nuisance invertebrate shall be a separate and distinct offense and, in the case of a continuing violation each day of continuance thereof shall be deemed to be a separate and distinct offense.

### Section 4

The agency is authorized under CGS 26-61 to suspend all hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses following convictions or payments of a fine for violations of fish and game laws and regulations. Currently, violations of regulations adopted under CGS 26-159a are exempt from the suspension requirements. Most of the marine fisheries creel/length limits and seasons are adopted under this section. However, since July, 2009, a marine recreational fishing license has been required. Additionally, new enforcement concerns, such as the commercialization of blackfish by recreational anglers have developed. Removing this exemption would provide for consistency in penalties between the Inland and Marine districts and make available to the agency a necessary deterrent (suspension of licenses) to violators of marine sport fishing regulations, providing more effective management of the resource.

**Sections 5 and 6**

A marine waters recreational fishing license requirement was adopted in 2009 (PA 09-173) and this amendment clarifies that a marine waters license is required to use certain seines, nets and traps to take bait species and other species for personal use in the marine district. This ensures that licensing requirements for taking bait species in the marine district are consistent with those for taking bait species in the inland district. Additionally, this amendment would enhance law enforcement and conservation efforts by requiring finfish taken incidentally under a personal use lobster pot license to conform to sport fishing length limits and seasons adopted under CGS 26-159a. Presently the law only requires conformance to sport fishing creel limits.

**Sections 7, 8 and 9**

Currently, requirements for marking commercial fishing gear are set by CGS 26-143a. This proposal shifts the determination of marking requirements from statute to regulation. Repealing the existing requirements would facilitate full online licensing and reduce agency administrative costs associated with providing commercial fishing vessel "flags" and metal tags for certain fishing gear. The proposed regulatory authority to specify commercial fishing vessel and gear markings under CGS 26-159a would provide greater flexibility to determine the appropriate size and type of marking needed across the broad range of vessel sizes and gear types now in use.

In summary, the DEEP strongly supports this bill as it would greatly improve the DEEP's ability to enforce marine sport fishing, commercial fishing, party and charter fishing boat regulations, enhance the DEEP's ability to prevent the introduction or spread of aquatic invasive species and the enforceability of fish possession and stocking regulations, reduce DEEP administrative costs, further facilitate full online licensing and allow for greater enforcement of snares aimed at injuring or killing animals.

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 860-424-3401 or [Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov).

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within SB 1018, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

I vote, and this issue is important to me.

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares: **TAKE THE TIME TO READ BELOW**

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
- Audobon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...jellyheads," the snarers call them. When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.
- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate--non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold,

using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

I oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device. Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

INHUMANE: The Collarum website ([collarum.com](http://collarum.com)) states that in a study, "70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a "significant" injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that "most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes" – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

NON-SELECTIVE: These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,  
Katherine Eslinger

156 West Main St, Apt C6  
Avon, CT 06001

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

**I vote, and this issue is important to me.**

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
- Audubon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...jellyheads," the snarers call them. When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.
- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate--non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is **INDISCRIMINATE**.

**INHUMANE:** The Collarum website ([collarum.com](http://collarum.com)) states that in a study, "70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a "significant" injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that "most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes" – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

**NON-SELECTIVE:** These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well.

(see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours Truly,

Kristina Wittchen  
138 Thomas Street  
West Hartford, CT

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

I am a concerned Greenwich citizen and a member of the Connecticut State Council of the Humane Society of the United States. Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION to a provision within SB 1018, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws**. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

I vote, and this issue is important to me.

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NON-SELECTIVE: These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me (information below) with any questions or for discussion.

Yours truly,

Linda Bruno  
81 Valley Drive  
Greenwich, CT 06831  
cell: 914-953-3543  
email: [lbruno527@gmail.com](mailto:lbruno527@gmail.com)

Testimony for 3/8 public hearing— OPPOSE SB 1018 (oppose provision to legalize snares)

March 7, 2013

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

**I vote, and this issue is important to me.**

The Humane Society of the United States has done an excellent job of summarizing the strong reasons why this bill should be opposed by members of the Environment Committee. The text of their opposition overview is below.

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

Mary Jane Engle, MPH  
113 Harbor Pkwy.  
Clinton, CT 06413

Testimony for 3/8 public hearing-- OPPOSE SB 1018 (oppose provision to  
legalize snares)

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within SB 1018, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws.

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**We are living in the 21st Century and I would hope that our society could forego medieval torturous practices on sentient beings!**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Natalie Jarnstedt  
2560 Stanwich Road  
Greenwich, CT 06830

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,  
Paul Nyberg  
22 Dew Road  
Barkhamsted, CT 06063

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee:  
I am a long-time advocate for the rights and safety of animals, and strongly oppose any measures that would undoubtedly cause great pain and suffering without any just cause.

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within SB 1018, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Rosenberg

East Haddam

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,  
Ava Fiore  
57 McCulloch Dr.  
Somers, CT 06071

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

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- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor, it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
- Audubon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...**"jellyheads," the snarers call them.** When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.
- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate--non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their

population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

**INHUMANE:** The Collarum website (collarum.com) states that in a study, "70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a "significant" injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that "most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes" – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

**NON-SELECTIVE:** These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Barbara Biel

124 Lakeside Dr Unit 111

Bristol, CT 06010

Hello Senator Meyer and Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony for public hearing March 8, 2013.

I am writing to URGE you to PLEASE OPPOSE a provision within SB1018, ACC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I OPPOSE the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping wildlife, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

SNARES ARE CRUEL and NON-SELECTIVE in what can be caught in them. If the goal is to catch coyotes/fox, then catching and killing them is the wrong approach. There is much documented information to this effect and would love to share it with you at your request.

I vote and this issue is important to me.

THANK YOU for your consideration in this matter,

Sue Kautz, RN  
3 Beckwith Rd  
Haddam, Ct  
06438

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION to a provision within SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

Audubon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...**jellyheads, the snarers call them**. When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.

- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate--non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes that have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I OPPOSE THE USE OF THE "COLLARUM" OR ANY SIMILAR DEVICE.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

Thank You,  
Susan Printy  
135 Boggs Hill Rd.  
Newtown, Ct. 06470

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

Audobon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...jellyheads," the snarers call them. When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.

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- Snares are indiscriminate--non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes that have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I OPPOSE THE USE OF THE "COLLARUM" OR ANY SIMILAR DEVICE.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is **INDISCRIMINATE**.

Thank You,  
Yvonne A. Janssen  
Thomas G. Murphy  
635 Ruth Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06606

March 8, 2013

**Re: keep snares illegal**

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION to a provision within SB 1018, AAC** enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

I vote, and this issue is important to me.

Snares are not only cruel, but non-selective, so domestic pets are at risk.

We need to explore and apply humane methods of wildlife conflict resolution.

I also oppose the use of the "collarum", as this device, by the company's own numbers, is neither humane nor non-selective.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

Neil Hornish  
53 Whitman Drive  
Granby, CT 06035

SB1018

Dear Senators/Representatives,

Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

If our indoor/outdoor cat should ever be killed by a coyote, it will be a quick death.  
(He's compelled to roam - has had a wonderful life these 11 years since we adopted him [was a stray, and we neutered him]; with luck he'll continue to have a good life with us and outdoors).

If a coyote (or our cat) is ever caught by a snare, it will be a slow, painful death.

NO SNARES, please.

Thank you

Peter & Judy Herrmann  
35 Wiltshire Lane  
West Hartford, CT 06117

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**. I am a registered voter and this issue is important to me.

Yours truly,

R M. Schmidt  
266 Cognewaugh Rd.  
Cos Cob, CT 06807

07-March-2013

Senator Meyer  
Ms. Gentile

**RE: SB 1018 (oppose provision to legalize snares)**

Dear Senator Meyer, Ms. Gentile:

By means of introduction, my name is Richard Kragle. I am a resident of Glastonbury, CT and am an active voter in all elections.

I am writing today to **OPPOSE the section in SB 1018**, An Act Concerning Enforcement of Environmental Conservation, that would legalize snare traps.

From various perspectives these traps should NOT be legalized:

- 1) They are reminiscent of medieval torture devises that impose cruel and inhumane suffering to the animal (or person) caught in them. A panicked child caught in one of these could just as well suffer the same excruciating cerebral hemorrhaging and rupturing that these devises cause.
- 2) They are indiscriminant. They cannot distinguish between a wild predator, family pet, or person. These snares have a mouth-activated, pull back mechanism which is designed to capture canines (our much loved family dogs).
- 3) They are not effective. Studies show that coyote populations rebound after suffering a decline caused by such devises.
- 4) Other means of control have proven more effective.
- 5) They are often camouflaged (cannot be seen), which poses an unseen threat to human and domesticated life.

As a nature and animal enthusiast, and on behalf of the vast voting population that enjoys the outdoors and value humane treatment of animals and that far outnumber the population using these snares, I respectfully request your support in **opposing** this provision.

Thank you for your consideration and support on this matter.

Sincerely,  
Richard Kragle  
1136A Main Street  
South Glastonbury, CT 06073

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my written testimony for the public hearing held on 3/8/13.

I write in **opposition to a provision in SB 1018** that would legalize the use of snares. After reading a great deal about the subject, I cannot fathom why with the advancement of technology, and bait contraceptives we should digress on this matter. I ask that you **keep snares illegal**.

We cannot look to the past, for the answers of the future. In fact by and large, this backwards thinking has **not solved** deer over population, or the coyote problem. As the number of hunters and trappers diminish (by 35 % in the last decade) and the population of problem animals increases, we will be forced to **rethink yesterday's methods**.

The use of snares is nothing more than kicking the can down the road. Using hunters and trappers to solve this problem is not working. **If it worked, we wouldn't be discussing these matters every single session.**

The truth is we may have saved money with this current model but we have **not solved the problem**.

I believe it's time we use the tools of the 21<sup>st</sup> century (contraceptive bait) which may cost more, but will pay for itself overtime in lack of highway accidents, and a great many other issues.

I urge you to look forward, and acknowledge that the current model of hunting, trapping, and now legalizing snares is not working. Populations continue to rise, and the number of hunters and trappers continue to diminish. It's a no win situation.

Please, **keep snares illegal**; please leave them in the past where they belong.

Very Sincerely,

Lori Nicholson

133 Pawson Road

Branford, CT 06405

203 488-9760

SB1018

I am writing to you to please ask your kind help in preventing snares for hunting. These are inhumane and cruel. I deeply appreciate your kindness and caring and support in this matter.

Thank you- KIm Hoyt McGennis, Tolland CT 860 871 9104

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

*Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in OPPOSITION to a provision within SB 1018, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and as that you KEEP SNARE ILLEGAL.*

For many years, snares have been used throughout the country for hunting, capturing and killing of defenseless animals. Many others, hunters in particular, would disagree saying that snares are not cruel and should be completely legalized. The snares themselves is a wire noose that is triggered when an animal steps on it (or in it) and catches the animal in different places, depending on the type of snare and how the animal is standing. When the animal struggles and tries to get away, the snare tightens, which can be extremely painful and in some cases fatal.

Snares are laid on the ground, hidden so that the animal cannot see them, then when the animal steps on it, the snare is triggered. Automatically, as a response to the surprise, the animal is shocked and begins to struggle this causes the snare to tighten. Most people would say that this isn't meant to hurt the animal, but rather to get the animal to stop moving. However, the animal doesn't know what the snare is and therefore has the sense of fear. As fear progresses a reaction is to run or do whatever the animal can to get away; a panic response. This response not only happens in animals, but humans too. If a human is being held against will, and doesn't know what is going on, our automatic reaction is to retaliate and try to get away. Thus, the snare tightens on the animal, which can make the animal panic even more. The snare, depending where it is place, can possibly kill the animal by blocking blood or air flow and/or crushing organs (there are many more ways); all which leads to a long painful death to the animal.

Hunting is done throughout the country, in rural and urban areas where other animals live and can be threatened by the use of snares. When a person sets up a snare, they guess where to set it up based on statistics of what animals live there. The hunters although, do not know for sure what kind of animal they will catch. So, for example, a neighborhood dog can become a victim to the painful snare and can be severely hurt. The snare cannot tell the difference for a coyote to a pet dog, so therefore the snare potentially threatens any type of dog/pet that may be going for a walk or even a hike with the family.

Killing animals by the use of snares, and using snares in general is inhumane and needs to be stopped. The animal in a snare is a victim of pain and anguish for long exceeding periods of time and can be slowly killed. Snares not only pose a threat to wild animals, but domestic ones as well. If the snare is not illegal, there is no telling the amount of innocent, harmless animals that can be killed and in pain for days on end.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

Lacie Dube

64 Tracey Ann Court

Naugatuck, Connecticut

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

I vote, and this issue is important to me. I recently read this story about a woman's poodle who was caught in a leg hold trap. My heart sank and I really just couldn't even believe that leg hold traps and snares could still be legal in a state as populated as CT.

<http://www.greenwichtime.com/opinion/article/Op-Ed-Trapped-From-heavenly-to-horrible-in-a-4240670.php#ixzz2Jf5ux7ED>

In addition, this is why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
- Audubon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...jellyheads," the snarers call them. When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.
- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate--non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws.

I oppose the provision which would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

**Snares are cruel and are not selective, i.e., any animal can become the victim.**

**I am a registered voter and this issue is important to me.**

Yours truly,

JC van Verre  
1 Broad Street #14D  
Stamford, CT 06901

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

SB1018

I am writing to encourage you to oppose the provision in SB 101 that would make leg snares legal in CT. There are compelling reasons why these snares are currently illegal in CT and other states including Arizona, New York, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, and Vermont: beyond the obvious cruelty to the wildlife unfortunate enough to run afoul of them, who injure and even asphyxiate themselves as they struggle to get free from the snares' hold on their legs or neck, these snares pose significant dangers to domestic animals as well, as in the case of Scooter, a Brittany Spaniel who was strangled to death by a snare hidden a few feet off a walking path in a Woolwich, NJ park

([http://www.nj.com/gloucester-](http://www.nj.com/gloucester-county/index.ssf/2013/02/hunting_snare_kills_woolwich_f.html)

[county/index.ssf/2013/02/hunting\\_snare\\_kills\\_woolwich\\_f.html](http://www.nj.com/gloucester-county/index.ssf/2013/02/hunting_snare_kills_woolwich_f.html)). Advocates of this provision to SB 101 may point to the Collarum snare as a safer and more "humane" alternative to the more dangerous types of snares critics often refer to, and while its target specificity and low injury rate might cast it in a favorable light, it is not without its flaws: for instance, a 2011 report by the USGS found that the Collarum does occasionally, and even kill, animals it catches

(<http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2011/1190/appendix.pdf>). Clearly any device intended to immobilize an animal is not without such flaws: a wild animal who finds him or herself unexpectedly restrained will instinctively fight against his or her captivity, even if doing so results in self-injury.

However, even discussing the "cruelty" or "humaneness" of these snares misses the larger point entirely. The push for legalizing these devices is rooted in a desire to trap and kill animals either deemed "undesirable" as pests or "desirable" as furbearers. Either way, the fate of the animals caught in these snares is the same: a needless death. Coyotes, for instance, have become a part of the Connecticut ecosystem, and Connecticut residents need to learn to coexist with them rather than try to "manage" them in the hopes of creating a perfectly anthropocentric utopia in which we can pretend that we are somehow "separate" from the non-human world. The CT DEEP recommends several commonsense measures residents can take to live with coyotes that don't involve trapping and killing them (<http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2723&q=325992>), and as the Humane Society points out, attempts at controlling the coyote population through hunting, trapping, and other lethal means often backfire and result in increases in coyote populations

([http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/wild\\_neighbors/coyote\\_conflict\\_solutions.pdf](http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/wild_neighbors/coyote_conflict_solutions.pdf)).

Certainly we can begin to move toward a model of coexisting with the non-human world rather than trying to "manage" it to suit our needs.

For these reasons, I encourage you to oppose SB 101. Thank you for your time.

Anthony Sorge  
266 Kasson Rd.  
Bethlehem, CT 06751

To: The Honorable Members of the Environment Committee

Re: **SB 1018 - ACC Enforcement of Environmental Conservation Laws that would legalize the use of snare traps**

Date: March 7, 2013

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee:

Please accept this letter as my testimony for the public hearing scheduled for 3/8/13 regarding the potential legalization of "Collarum" and similar animal snare traps. While manufacturers claim these devices trap wild animals in "humane" fashion, I strongly disagree and urge you to **OPPOSE the provision within SB 1018 that would legalize these devices. Please assure CT voters that snare traps will remain illegal.** This issue is not only important to me and my family, but to voting friends and neighbors, and all the wild and domestic animals within our community.

Despite what manufacturers tell us, snare traps are not only torturous devices, but are indiscriminate in their cruelty. We share our forests and fields with dogs, horses and the very wildlife whose natural behavior snare traps are intended to curtail. While I routinely harness and leash my pets and keep to designated hiking and biking trails, countless others allow theirs to roam free. If snares are legalized, thousands of innocent animals - wild and domestic, fawns to fisher cats - will be at risk of injuries that cause dehydration, starvation, self-mutilation, disease, loss of limbs, skin, fur and feathers, prolonged exposure to the elements and untimely deaths. If snare traps become legal, can anyone guarantee that they will be checked in a timely fashion? Who will handle trapped (thus dangerous) animals and treat their wounds? And who can assure that, rather than killing their victims and disposing of them where no one will see, trappers will actually relocate wild animals to suitable habitats?

There are better ways to resolve problems brought on by expanding populations and shrinking habitats. Enacting and enforcing humane animal control policies and providing adequate training for our Animal Control Officers (ACOs) are key. Rather than legitimize barbaric devices, let's give Connecticut's pet owners, ACOs and policy makers unbiased information about what works and what doesn't. Rather than buy into commercial marketing ploys, let's foster compassionate choices and encourage future generations to do likewise. No matter what manufacturers would have us believe, snares are not only cruel, but violent - and **violence is violence, whether perpetrated by assault weapons, or by invisible snares deliberately set to snap tight around the necks and limbs of animals in their nesting and feeding areas.**

We can encourage CT residents to become better guardians of our precious wildlife and natural resources by teaching them about the dangers of allowing pets to roam free. We can promote humane training, leashing, fencing and other proven methods for keeping pets, humans and wildlife healthy and safe. We can help our friends and colleagues understand the vital roles wild animals fulfill on our planet. They are not "pests". They are assets to society who depend on us for their continuing survival.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Annie Chittenden, Neck Road, Madison, CT

Members of the Environment Committee:

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

**I am a registered voter and this issue is important to me.**

Yours truly

Bo Jarnstedt

250 Stanwich Road

Greenwich, CT 06830

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in OPPOSITION to a provision within SB 1018, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

I vote in every election, and this issue is important to me.

Having traps in our beautiful CT outdoors, which ensnare ANY animal unlucky enough to venture near enough and holds them in pain while they struggle for freedom, is inhumane. Such needless cruelty, moreover, diminishes us, erodes our compassion, and sets an such a nasty example for our children it makes me shudder. I oppose ANY expansion of such practices, including use of a contaption named the Collarum, which belongs to that grand category of "maybe improving in particular, but still failing in general".

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Steve Owens  
210 Scott Dr  
South Windsor, CT

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in OPPOSITION to a provision within SB 1018, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

I am a registered voter and this issue is important to me.

Yours truly,

Susan O'Kane

76 George Street

Stamford, CT 06902

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within SB 1018, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

These things are really dangerous. How do you know that they are not going to kill our pets or our children? Do you really think we should take that risk in order to make a few hunters happy?

Sincerely,

Wendy Horowitz

95 East Rock Rd.

New Haven, CT

TO: Senator Edward Meyer, Co-chair, Representative Linda Gentile, Co-chair, and  
Members of the Environment Committee  
FROM: Dr. Nan Zyla, President, HARP, Inc. ([skyharp@yahoo.com](mailto:skyharp@yahoo.com), (860) 767-2196)  
RE: OPPOSE S.B. 1018, An Act Concerning Enforcement of Environmental  
Conservation Laws, Provision to legalize snares  
DATE: March 8, 2013

HARP strongly OPPOSES the provision in S.B. 1018 that would allow the use of  
SNARES.

SNARES HAVE BEEN BANNED IN CONNECTICUT SINCE 1955 with good reason:  
they are terribly CRUEL, INHUMANE AND BARBARIC. Overturning the ban on  
snares would be a throwback to the pre-1955 era, and would be a very bad idea. Snares  
are currently BANNED in Arizona, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Oklahoma,  
Rhode Island, and Vermont. Snares are also explicitly BANNED for use on land in the  
following states: Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina,  
Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Wisconsin.

SNARES ARE INHUMANE: Snares are barbaric, primitive wire nooses. The small  
victims of neck snares may lose consciousness from STRANGULATION after struggling  
for up to ten minutes, but bigger animals, such as coyotes, may SUFFER FOR DAYS or  
die from the damage inflicted days after release! A Wildlife Society study using snares  
concluded that "SNARES ARE NOT HUMANE DEVICES FOR  
TRAPPING...BECAUSE OF THE PROLONGED TIME UNTIL DEATH."

SNARES ARE INDISCRIMINATE: In a published study of SNARES SET  
SPECIFICALLY FOR COYOTES conducted by the Wildlife Society with the USDA,  
researchers found that 91 NONTARGET DEER AND 6 DOMESTIC COWS OR  
CALVES WERE ACCIDENTALLY CAPTURED. The authors concluded that "efforts  
to snare coyotes [should] not be conducted in areas frequented by deer or livestock."

WHAT ARE THE POPULATION NUMBERS FOR COYOTES? WHAT IS THE  
SCIENTIFIC BASIS for this regressive, retrograde idea to allow snares? The title of the  
bill sounds good, but snares cannot be used "for environmental conservation" because  
snares are INDISCRIMINATE in the types of animals caught. What is being "conserved"  
if pet dogs or cattle can be caught in snares?

The company literature for a type of snare called "the Collarum" states that it is "100%  
canine specific," but that "animals other than canines are very unlikely to be caught."  
This contradicts the findings referenced above. It also states, "an unknowing human is at  
little risk." A 1999 study is noted, stating, "70% of coyotes caught showed no significant  
injuries." What was the sample size so we can figure out how many animals 70%  
represents? How many animals make up the 30% WITH significant damage? And how is  
"no significant damage" defined??

Every animal has an important role to play in the ecosystem, either as predator or prey. Coyotes are an important predator, and are valuable in controlling prey species such as deer. Natural selection works to regulate wildlife populations when habitat and food resources can no longer support the "carrying capacity" of a species, and the numbers of that species begin to decline. Using unnatural – and inhumane – methods of killing animals with snares removes the healthiest individuals, rather than those who are aged or sick. Scientific research has shown that when animals such as coyotes are removed from the environment, populations rebound.

DEEP has a financial interest in listening only to the 2% of state residents who hunt or trap because of the sale of hunting or trapping licenses. In contrast, 98% of Connecticut's taxpayers do not hunt or trap. HARP abhors cruelty, inhumanity, lack of compassion and the promotion of violence in every form, including trapping and using snares.

HUMANE ALTERNATIVES to snares involve individual responsibility in taking actions such as securing trash and supervising pets. Humane alternatives also can include a contraception program, and live-trapping and relocation.

Environment Committee testimony for hearing 3/08/13  
**Opposition to SB 1018 (legalizing snares)**

Laski/Moore Family  
279 Fern St.  
Manchester, CT 06040

We strongly oppose the proposed use of snares and/or collarum. They are brutal devices that cause horrible pain and perhaps death to whoever is caught in them. This bill is a far cry from what our State needs at this time. Indiscriminate killing and wounding is abhorrent.

The use of snares will not solve the problem of coyotes wandering in the "wrong places" as others will fill in when those caught have died an agonizing death.

Snares are inhumane and can hurt us all. Please do not pass SB 1018.

Thanks you,  
Robert Moore  
Karen Laski  
Geysler (canine companion)

SB1018

I oppose the legalization of cruel snares Please do what you can to oppose the legalization.  
Thank you very much,  
Sally Westcott RN  
298 Castlewood Dr.  
Bloomfield, Ct. 06002-1371  
[sallywestcott@rocketmail.com](mailto:sallywestcott@rocketmail.com)

Sent from my iPad

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
- Audubon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...**"jellyheads," the snarers call them.** When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.
- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate--non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

**INHUMANE:** The Collarum website ([collarum.com](http://collarum.com)) states that in a study, "70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a "significant" injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that "most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes" – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

**NON-SELECTIVE:** These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

Pierre Camirand

22 Dew Road

Barkhamsted, CT 06063

Dear Senator,  
I am writing you to state that I am opposed to SB 1018 and encourage you to vote against it.  
Thank you  
Rhys Atkinson  
Bridgeport, Ct.

SB 1018

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and members of the Environment Committee:

I can't fathom how the legalization of snares can even be considered. It's mindboggling to me that such cruel instruments are on the agenda, other than to ban all cruel animal traps.

Thank you for your attention,  
Julie Lewin, Guilford

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Julie Lewin

President, National Institute for Animal Advocacy

Author, "Get Political for Animals and Win the Laws They Need"

[www.nifaa.org](http://www.nifaa.org) 203-453-6590

Training state and local laws for animals

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

This is my testimony (for public hearing on 3/8/13) in *OPPOSITION* to a provision within SB 1018 that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that YOU CONTINUE TO *KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL* in CT.

I am a volunteer with Animal Alliance Welfare League in New Britain, and have recently been appointed Chairman of the Humane Commission by the Mayor in my city. I *vote, have influence and this issue is important to me.*

I oppose the use of snares because they are cruel and indiscriminate. Non-target species can suffer in these devices as these snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic pets.

In addition, I oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device. Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is indiscriminate. According to the Collarum website "70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a "significant" injury?

Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,  
Diane Smith  
76-D North Mountain Rd  
New Britain, CT 06053

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,  
Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within SB 1018,  
AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for  
trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

Sincerely,  
Genevieve Hoyt  
Tolland, CT

I am writing to you to please ask your kind help in preventing snares for hunting. These are inhumane and cruel. I deeply appreciate your kindness and caring and support in this matter.

SB 1018

Thank you for your time,

Ali Hoyt  
96 Metcalf Road  
Tolland, CT, 06084  
8608719104

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony for the public hearing scheduled for this coming Friday, March 8, 2013, in opposition to a provision within SB 1018. I oppose legalizing the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you ensure that these cruel and indiscriminate devices continue to be illegal in our state. I vote, and this and all animal welfare issues are of great importance to me.

Thank you.

Amy de Flumere  
694 Beaumont Highway  
Lebanon, CT 06249

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**ENVIRONMENT  
PART 6  
1666 - 2009**

**2013**

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee:

I am writing to provide testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that **SNARES BE KEPT ILLEGAL**.

As a registered voter who votes, I would like to stress how important keeping snares illegal is to me.

I oppose allowing the use of snares for the following reasons:

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
- Audubon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...jellyheads," the snarers call them. When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.
- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate—non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

In addition, I also oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device. Despite its marketing claims, this product is **NOT humane**, and it is **INDISCRIMINATE**.

**INHUMANE:** The Collarum website ([collarum.com](http://collarum.com)) states that in a study, "70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And

what is considered a "significant" injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that "most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes" – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

NON-SELECTIVE: These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sherry Wernicke  
55 Summit Road  
Riverside, CT 06878

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within SB 1018, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

I vote, and this issue is important to me.

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
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**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

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NON-SELECTIVE: These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,  
Christine Kaminski  
449 Ezra St  
Bridgeport, CT 06606

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

I vote, and this issue is important to me.

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

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- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
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**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,  
Debra Shore  
102 Clapboard Ridge Road  
Greenwich, CT 06830

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

I vote, and this issue is important to me.

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

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Yours truly,  
Karin Barth  
224 Mistuxet Ave  
Mystic, Ct 06355

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

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**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

**INHUMANE:** The Collarum website (collarum.com) states that in a study, "70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a "significant" injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that "most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes" – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

**NON-SELECTIVE:** These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Barbara Biel

124 Lakeside Dr Unit 111

Bristol, CT 06010

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

**I vote, and this issue is important to me.**

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

1. Snares are cruel and indiscriminate

A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.

As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.

Audubon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...**"jellyheads," the snarers call them.** When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.

For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.

Snares are indiscriminate--non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

2. Wrong Approach

Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those

removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

### 3. Better Solution

Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, “hazing” coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

#### I oppose the use of the “Collarum” or any similar device.

Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

#### INHUMANE:

The Collarum website ([collarum.com](http://collarum.com)) states that in a study, “70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage.” But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a “significant” injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that “most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes” – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

#### NON-SELECTIVE:

These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see

<http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

Jessica Rubin, 22 Braintree Drive, West Hartford, CT 06117

Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

**I vote, and this issue is important to me.**

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
- Audobon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...**"jellyheads," the snarers call them.** When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: See article at:<http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.
- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate--non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, “hazing” coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I oppose the use of the “Collarum” or any similar device.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

**INHUMANE:** The Collarum website ([collarum.com](http://collarum.com)) states that in a study, “70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage.” But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a “significant” injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that “most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes” – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

**NON-SELECTIVE:** These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see<http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,  
Michael Santese  
120 Long Hill Rd  
Andover, CT

Sent from my iPhone

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in OPPOSITION to a provision within SB 1018, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

I am a life long Connecticut resident and a registered voter. This issue is very important to me.

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
- Audobon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...**"jellyheads," the snarers call them.** When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.
- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate--non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or

trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, “hazing” coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

I oppose the use of the “Collarum” or any similar device. Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is **INDISCRIMINATE**.

**INHUMANE:** The Collarum website ([collarum.com](http://collarum.com)) states that in a study, “70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage.” But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a “significant” injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that “most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes” – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

**NON-SELECTIVE:** These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Stacy Attenberg  
Cheshire, CT

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL.

**I vote, and this issue is important to me.**

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
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- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate—non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

INHUMANE: The Collarum website (collarum.com) states that in a study, "70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a "significant" injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that "most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes" – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

NON-SELECTIVE: These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely,

Sandra Marenholz

Cheshire, CT.

203-215-8063

**Testimony for 3/8 public hearing– OPPOSE SB 1018 (oppose provision to legalize snares)**

Dear Senator Meyer,

Please accept this as my testimony (for public hearing held on 3/8/13) in **OPPOSITION** to a provision within **SB 1018**, AAC enforcement of environmental conservation laws. I oppose the provision that would legalize the use of snares for trapping, and ask that you **KEEP SNARES ILLEGAL**.

I vote, and this issue is important to me.

Why I oppose allowing the use of snares:

**SNARES ARE CRUEL AND INDISCRIMINATE (NON-SELECTIVE):**

- A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.
- As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
- Audubon magazine (Sept 2002) described what snarers call "jellyheads"—snared animals with grotesquely swollen heads. From this article: "...jellyheads," the snarers call them. When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating." See article at: <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>.
- For animals that survive, pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release.
- Snares are indiscriminate—non-target species can suffer in these devices. These snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, "hazing" coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**I oppose the use of the "Collarum" or any similar device.** Contrary to its marketing claims, this product is NOT humane, and it is INDISCRIMINATE.

**INHUMANE:** The Collarum website (collarum.com) states that in a study, "70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a "significant" injury? This could potentially include common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that "most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes" – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

**NON-SELECTIVE:** These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

*Carrin McSorley*

Practice Director  
J.L. Glashow, M.D., P.C.  
Phone 203-301-4074  
Fax 203-301-4017  
<http://www.glashowmd.com>

*Testimony in OPPOSITION to a provision within SB 1018 legalizing snares (AAC Enforcement of Environmental Conservation Laws)*

Submitted for the public hearing 3/8/13 by:

Rosamund Downing

39 Moss St.

Pawcatuck, CT. 06379

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee:

As a resident of Stonington, CT. and a DEEP certified Wildlife Rehabilitator, I strongly oppose the legalization of snares. It is appalling to me that the approval of such a cruel and indiscriminate device should even be considered by our legislature.

Imagine an animal - perhaps your beloved dog - ensnared around the neck, torso or leg in a *Collarum* device. The animal would experience the agony of crushed internal organs, choking, or bursting blood vessels in its head. The more he struggles for freedom, the tighter and more excruciating the pain becomes. Even if the animal somehow manages to extricate himself, his injuries (resulting from tissue damage and infection) will likely cause a slow, horrific death.

Despite claims to the contrary, *Collarum* snares are not humane. A study cited by *Collarum* itself indicated that at least 30% of coyotes

trapped in their snares sustained injury. Again, imagine the panic and pain your dog would experience in this indiscriminate trap.

Our state should be exploring non-lethal, humane solutions for resolving wildlife issues instead of resorting to barbaric devices that are more befitting of the Middle Ages than 21<sup>st</sup> Century America! It is also well established that artificially depopulating a targeted species only causes that species to rebound more quickly (through earlier breeding and larger litter sizes). In other words, removing or killing animals will not permanently reduce the population. The only effective, long-term solutions involve "hazing", appropriate fencing, and the removal of food attractants.

Snares are illegal in CT. and that is how it should remain – permanently. I will be greatly ashamed if my state allows these torture devices to be re-introduced. I, my family and friends are animal lovers and we all vote.

Thank you.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES

Page 1 of 3

March 8, 2013

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Environment Committee  
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Hartford, CT 06106  
(860) 240-0440

Re: Please **OPPOSE** SB 1018's provision to legalize snares

Dear Co-Chair Meyer, Co-Chair Gentile, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

On behalf of the Connecticut supporters of The Humane Society of the United States, I submit this letter to **OPPOSE** SB 1018, in particular, the provision to legalize snares.

Snares are primitive types of traps that are inhumane and indiscriminate. A snare is simply a wire noose attached at one end to a stake or anchor; it catches an animal either by the neck, midsection of the body, or foot. As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens.

**Snares are cruel.**

- As the trapped animal struggles, the snare tightens. As with leghold traps, animals caught in snares often injure themselves further as they struggle. Neck/body snares strangle their victims or crush their vital organs, leading to an agonizing and often prolonged death. These traps are particularly cruel to their primary targets—coyotes and foxes—because the significant musculature around these animals' tracheas and common carotid arteries slows death.
- For animals that survive and are released: Pressure from the wire ligature can damage cellular structures, which in turn can lead to necrosis of tissues (pressure necrosis) and ultimately death in the days following release (Stocker 2005).
- The use of neck snares is seen as the least favorable option and the least humane of all legal trapping techniques (White et al. 2003).
- From Audubon magazine's September 2002 article "Maine's War on Coyotes," consider the following excerpt, which can be found at <http://audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite0209.html>:

Celebrating Animals | Confronting Cruelty

2100 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20037 t 202 452 1100 f 202 778 6132 [humanesociety.org](http://humanesociety.org)

PRM

"Killing an animal by strangling it with a wire loop often results in a slow, painful death, sometimes lasting days . . ." wrote Hulsey to his bureau director. "It would violate state humane laws to treat a domestic dog in the same manner."

Hulsey is just one of many department biologists speaking out. Last fall Wally Jakubas, the agency's top mammal scientist, got concerned when, checking 94 snared coyotes during a study to determine the genetics of the beast, he noticed a large proportion of carcasses with grotesquely swollen heads, bullet holes, fractured limbs, and broken teeth. Of particular interest to Jakubas were the animals with swollen heads—"jellyheads," **the snarers call them**. When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an **unpleasant death**. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. **To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating.**"

**Snares are indiscriminate/non-selective.**

- Non-target species can suffer in these devices. Snares cannot distinguish between coyotes and domestic dogs.
- Even when neck snares are set and utilized correctly, they commonly catch non-target species and these can have high mortality (Phillips 1996; Chadwick et al. 1997).

**WRONG APPROACH:** Trapping and killing coyotes doesn't resolve problems, as a number of communities that tried lethal control have found out. Coyotes from the surrounding area quickly replace those removed. Coyotes also have an adaptive reproductive response when hunted or trapped – they breed earlier, have larger litters, etc. – and their numbers quickly rebound, even when a large percentage of their population is removed. In one study, even after as much as 75% of the population was removed, coyote numbers rebounded back to pre-removal levels in a mere 8 months (E. Gese, 2005).

**BETTER SOLUTIONS:** Most problematic coyote behavior can be changed, long-term, by removing food attractants, hazing coyotes who have become too human-habituated or bold, using appropriate dog fencing, and not allowing pets to free-roam/ be unsupervised.

**CONCERNS WITH COLLARUM NECK SNARE:**

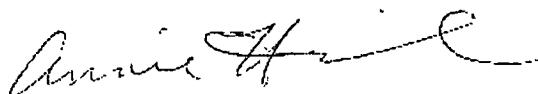
**NON-SELECTIVE:** These snares have a mouth-activated, pull-back mechanism which is designed to capture canines. Yet these snares cannot distinguish between a dog and a coyote. Domestic dogs are certainly at risk of being ensnared where these devices are used, and in fact Collarum snares are marketed to catch dogs as well. (see <http://www.collarum.com/parts.htm>)

**HUMANE ISSUES:** The Collarum website ([collarum.com](http://collarum.com)) states that in a study, "70% of the coyotes caught showed no significant damage." But what about the other 30%? How badly were they injured? And what is considered a "significant" injury? This could potentially include

common injuries seen in snaring and trapping including lacerations in skin, injuries to tendons and muscles, and broken teeth. The mouth-activated nature of this device raises the spectre of mouth and muzzle injuries, which could be life threatening. This same website stated that "most dogs and foxes sustain substantially less damage because they fight less than coyotes" – however a panicked or high-strung dog could seriously injure himself, and a thick-necked breed could have less or no slack in the noose.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,



**Annie Hornish**  
Connecticut State Director  
The Humane Society of the United States  
Cell: (860) 966-5201  
Email: [ahornish@humanesociety.org](mailto:ahornish@humanesociety.org)

My name is Pat Young, Haddam, Ct I oppose SB 1018 Legallizing Snares

I have been a wildlife rehabilitator for almost 30 years. We do mostly the RVS species - raccoon, skunk and fox. Every year it becomes more discouraging when release time comes- where can they go to be somewhat safe. The answer is nowhere.

We have a year long hunting season - 313 days minus the 52 Sundays and 5 months of trapping in almost all of our state forests and parks. Our state lands have become one big huge wildlife management area for DEEP, hunters and trappers to enjoy.

There are 97 parcels of state land where trapping occurs. Among them

Haddam Meadows (234 acres)  
 Devil's Hopyard (860 acres)  
 Selden Neck State Park (527 Acres)  
 Rocky Neck State Park (562 acres)

On all these parcels, body crushing traps, leghold traps, traps to drown beaver are used and now the Snare. These traps are indiscriminate and DEEP has no data nor information on what animals are actually caught in these traps.

My special concern is the gray fox. Again no population numbers. The gray fox and coyote are similar in size and looks at first glance. The coyote has vertical black lines on his front legs. Is the gray fox being mistaken for a coyote?

The question is "why so many coyotes? We began hearing coyotes shortly after the turkeys were introduced into the state in the mid-70s. It's common knowledge that putting food into the food chain that's not naturally there will attract predators.

Every year DEEP throws thousands of pheasants onto our state lands for the purpose of hunting. These birds are not native to Connecticut and if they are not killed by hunters, they starve to death or are taken by predators such as the coyote. This happens every year.

Also when hunters kill a deer, they "gut it" which means the deer is cut open and it's innards removed. The deer is taken away by the Hunter but the innards are left behind.

Between body parts of the deer left behind and the pheasants which survive we, are giving the coyote one big huge buffet

The Snare trap is just another band-aid to the coyote problem. We need to address the problem of why so many coyotes. Let's concentrate on the pheasant season and why all those deer body parts are left behind.

*Pat Young*

**H – 1168**

**CONNECTICUT  
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Yes, Madam Speaker. On page 34, House Calendar 610, favorable report of the standing Committee on Environment, substitute Senate Bill 1018, AN ACT CONCERNING ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAWS.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative Gentile.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Good evening, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I move for acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate -- Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The question is acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate. Representative Gentile, you have the floor, Ma'am.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, this bill really is a technical revision bill. It makes several changes to the environmental conservation laws. It lowers the fine from \$1,000 to \$85 for importing, possessing or liberating fish or aquatic invasive species and authorizes the Department of

Energy and Environmental Protection to suspend a marine waters fishing license, authorizes DEEP Commissioner to specify marking requirements for commercial fishing vessels among various other technical changes.

And with that, Madam Speaker, the Clerk has amendment LCO 6258. I ask that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Will the Clerk please call LCO number 6258 which shall be designated Senate Amendment Schedule A.

THE CLERK:

Senate Amendment A, LCO 6258 introduced by Representative Meyers and Stillman.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize. Is there any objection to summarization? Is there any objection? Hearing none, Representative Gentile, you may proceed with summarization.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. As I mentioned in my opening remarks one of the technical changes that's being made is the lowering of one of the fines. And this amendment simply states that language. And I

urge passage of the amendment -- adoption of the amendment.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The question before the Chamber is on adoption of House -- Senate Amendment Schedule A. Will you remark on the amendment? Representative Shaban of the 135th.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of the amendment. The Chairwoman described what it does. It teased out some of the -- some of the issues that some folks had with the bill. It was done up in the Senate and I think it makes sense and urge adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

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

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Those opposed, nay. The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Will you remark further?

Representative Gentile.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes. As I stated again my opening remarks there are several technical changes that are being made including some exemptions. And this -- there is some specification as to what those exemptions are. Two potentially dangerous animal laws currently in existence at DEEP. And with that, Madam Speaker, the Clerk is in possession of LCO number 6959. I ask that the Clerk call it and that I be given leave to summarize.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Will the Clerk please call LCO number 6959 which shall be designated Senate -- Senate Amendment Schedule C.

THE CLERK:

Senate Amendment C, LCO 6959 introduced by  
Representative Chapin et al.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize the amendment. Is there any objection to summarization? Is there any objection? Hearing none, Representative Gentile, you may proceed with summarization.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. As I stated earlier this amendment actually adds the exemptions to the potentially dangerous animal laws. And another thing that it would do is it actually codifies existing DEEP practices. And I would urge adoption.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The question before the Chamber is adoption of Senate Amendment Schedule C. Will you remark on the amendment? Will you remark? Will you remark further on the amendment that is before us? If not I will try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Those opposed, nay. The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted. Will you remark further on the bill that is amended? Representative Gentile.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. once again I would just like to state that this bill is very technical, makes some technical changes, codifies existing practices and I would urge passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

You -- will you remark further on the bill as amended? Representative Shaban of the 135th.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of the bill as amended. But with that I have a -- one or two quick questions if I may to the proponent with respect to some of those amendments. Through you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Please frame your question, Sir.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Madam -- Madam Speaker. And through you. I'm looking at -- I guess it's the section 502 that got added on by -- I forgot if it was amendment B or C. And it talks about any improvement upon real property that is donated to DEEP shall be maintained by the Department in a safe and sanitary and secure condition. But if it can't be it shall be raised.

. Through you, Madam Speaker. Was there any discussion in the Senate I guess because that's really where this came in. I don't know if the Chairwoman knows about who's going to make that call. Because I think it's a good idea but I'm you know I'd hate to see some donor or (inaudible) disputes about you know

what's safe, what's satisfactory, you know how this is going to work. Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative Gentile, one moment please. Would you please -- please take your conversations outside of the Chamber so that Gentlewoman can hear the questions that are presented before her.

Representative Gentile.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And through you, Madam Speaker. It is my understanding that this is something that the Department is actually doing already with regard to these properties. So this is just actually codifying existing practices.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative Shaban.

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I guess that's good news. You know it's interesting. I think we had a bill before us in front -- it was in front of the Environment Committee I believe. I forgot if it got passed or it got just discussed and incorporated in something else where occasionally DEEP will actually buy some property in order to you know just stick it

in the portfolio of State parks or whatnot.

And it's not -- for fiscal reasons they're not always able to follow the same standard that -- that we see listed here. But you know seemingly if this is standing practice I guess that the difference would be that you know one's being donated, the other's being purchased.

But I'm happy to hear that it -- there is some track record here. Last question I think if I have this right. Through you, Madam Speaker. I'm trying to figure out how this illegal potentially dangerous animal section works.

Through you, Madam Speaker. Is this also -- is this getting incorporated for a different -- different body of our statutes and just getting tacked on here? Because this kind of came in late to the equation. Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative Gentile.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Through you, Madam Speaker. Could the -- could my distinguished Ranking Member point to which line that -- that language is on please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative --

REP. SHABAN (135th):

Hold on, Madam Speaker. I'm working on it. I may actually have several versions of the -- of a different amendment. So you know what, I've got to -- I've got to A find out if I'm looking at the right amendment and B I'll resolve the answer to myself. But overall I think the Chairwoman of the Environment Committee has summarized the bill accurately.

It's -- it's a lot of the technical changes. Some of the -- the fine issues have been taken care of. You know different violations have been captured and redefined. We're using the appropriate language. I believe this bill got out of the Environment Committee on a unanimous vote.

My recollection is that it was -- there was a uniform testimony and support so all in all I think it's probably a good effort. So I -- I rise in support and I urge adoption. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Will you remark further on the bill as amended? Representative

Ziobron of the 34th.

REP. ZIOBRON (34th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And through you I'd like to follow up on a question that my good colleague, Representative asked to the Chairwoman of the Environment Committee. Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Please frame your question, Madam.

REP. ZIOBRON (34th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. And if the good Chairwoman could explain. I'm going to go back to that new section of the amendment which talks about donated property to DEEP and maintaining that DEEP keep it in a safe condition. I'm not sure now but is there any sort of similar provision for current property that DEEP owns? Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative Gentile.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Through you, Madam Speaker. No there is not.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative Ziobron of the 34th.

REP. ZIOBRON (34th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. So I guess my question would be when an owner of a property donates something to DEEP and say it has a structure on it that they may want to see there kept in perpetuity. What is the difference between donated property and property that DEEP owns and why is safety different for one property versus another? Through you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative Gentile.

REP. GENTILE (104th):

Through you, Madam Speaker. I don't see that addressed specifically in the bill but it just is simply to donated property so I'm assuming that -- I would make an assumption that again there is no fee exchanged, no money exchanged. It's donated property and that's all it speaks to.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Representative Ziobron.

REP. ZIOBRON (34th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I bring this forward because again as -- as my wonderful leader of the Environment Committee knows she's done a great job on that committee and I'm very proud to be a member of the Environment Committee, knows we do have a couple

of issues with some State parks in the State of Connecticut that have some significant safety issues. And I certainly agree that donated property or frankly any property that the State owns as a State park should be kept in a safe way.

And currently in my district we are in fact raising some buildings at a State park and it's caused my constituents to be quite alarmed and frankly upset. So while I understand that the difference with the amendment is simply on donated property I just wanted to bring it up for the record because it continues to be an issue especially at our State parks, especially in the climate that our Department of Environmental and Energy Protection find themselves in with dwindling resources.

And while I certainly understand the predicament that we find ourselves in I think safety is utmost paramount to the citizens of Connecticut and I certainly will be supporting this amendment. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Will you remark further? Will you remark further on the bill as amended? If not, will staff and guests please come to the well of the House. Will members

take their seat and the machine will be opened.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll.

The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Will members please return to the Chamber immediately.

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted? Please check the board to see that your vote has been properly cast. If all the members have voted the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally. The Clerk will announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

Madam Speaker, in concurrence with the Senate, substitute Senate Bill 1018 as amended by A and C.

Total Number Voting	135
Necessary for Adoption	68
Those voting aye	135
Those voting nay	0
Absent and not voting	15

DEPUTY SPEAKER SAYERS:

The bill as amended passes in concurrence with the Senate. Will the Clerk please call Calendar 290.

THE CLERK:

On page 11, Calendar 290 favorable -- joint

HB 5426

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Will you remark further? Will you remark further?

Seeing none, Senator Musto.

SENATOR MUSTO:

Without objection, Madam President, I'd ask this  
-- this item be moved to the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR MUSTO:

Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if the Clerk would call as the next item, Calendar page 9, Calendar 303, Senate Bill 1018.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On page 9, Calendar 303, substitute for Senate Bill Number 1018, AN ACT CONCERNING ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAWS, Favorable Report of the Committee on Environment.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

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SENATOR MEYER:

Madam President, I do move acceptance of the Committee's Joint and Favorable Report and move passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on passage.

Will you remark, sir?

SENATOR MEYER:

Yes. Colleagues, this is a bill that's requested by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. It -- it does several different things.

The first -- first of all, it reduces substantially a fine for importing certain kind of fish. And the reason why is that the -- the fine had been \$1,000 and there had been complaints. And the Attorney General was not happy at -- at having to give so much resources to -- to litigating those -- those smaller cases. And so the fine has been reduced to an infraction.

Secondly, the bill authorizes DEEP to suspend a marine waters fishing license for violation of marine sport fishing regulations.

And third, it -- it requires people to have a marine waters fishing license if they're using certain nets and traps for taking -- for taking fish. That makes sense.

And finally, the bill authorizes the commissioner, DEEP commissioner, to specify marking requirements for commercial fishing -- fishing vessels. The bill also has a -- a technical amendment. And I would ask, please, the Clerk to call LCO 6258.

THE CHAIR:

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Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 6258, Senate "A" -- that's Senate "A",  
offered by Senators Meyer and Stillman.

THE CHAIR:

That's Senate --

SENATOR MEYER:

I -- I move the amendment, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on -- on the amendment.

SENATOR MEYER:

Yep.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed.

SENATOR MEYER:

This actually -- I misspoke in calling this a  
technical amendment. This is the amendment that  
ensures that the new fine for certain fish  
violations will be an infraction. That was  
brought to my attention by Senator Stillman. I  
-- I appreciate her cooperation. And all it does  
is it ensures that the fine is a -- an infraction  
which will not have to go through the Attorney  
General's Office.

So that -- that is the amendment, and I urge its  
passage.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on passage.

Will you remark further? Will you remark

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further?

If not, all in favor of the amendment please say  
aye.

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed?

Amendment passes.

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

So that -- that, colleagues, is the bill and I --  
requested by DEEP. And I think each of the  
portions of it seem to be reasonable, and I urge  
its approval.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark?

Senator Chapin -- oops --

SENATOR MEYER:

Ooh, I apologize.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

I -- I apologize. There -- there is another --  
another amendment, that is the collaboration --  
to Amendment LCO 6935.

Madam President, would you call that.

THE CHAIR:

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Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

All right. Yes. It's on its way.

THE CHAIR:

The amendment is on its way. We'll just stand at ease until it's in the Clerk's hands.

(Chamber at ease.)

THE CLERK:

Yes.

THE CHAIR:

Is it coming now?

Okay. Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 6935, Senate Amendment Schedule "B"  
offered by Senators Chapin, Meyer and Witkos.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Madam President, I move it -- I move for passage  
of the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on passage.

Will you remark, sir?

SENATOR MEYER:

I will, Madam President.

This is an amendment which is a collaboration of Senator Chapin, Senator Witkos and I, and I'd like to yield to Senator Chapin, if I may.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Chapin, will you accept the yield, sir?

SENATOR CHAPIN:

Yes, Madam President. Thank you.

This amendment, it addresses a problem. Certain hybrid cats have been prohibited in the State of Connecticut, I think, since 1996. It recently came to my attention that there are at least -- there's at least one cat show per year in the State of Connecticut where these hybrid cats may be part of the exhibition.

And this amendment, after extensive discussions with both the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection as well as the Department of Ag, is a -- a collaboration to address that issue. It would basically allow hybrid cats to be allowed in the state as they have not been since 1996, and I support its passage.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Will you remark further? Will you remark further?

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

I -- we move -- we do move the amendment.

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THE CHAIR:

You already did, sir.

Since they -- if no one else will speak, I'll call for a voice vote.

All those in favor of Senate Amendment "B" please say aye.

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed?

Senate "B" is adopted.

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

So, colleagues, that's the bill and the two amendments. And if there's no objection, I'd ask to be put on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, additional items to mark at this time. First is Calendar page 25, Calendar 507, House Bill 5117; and then Calendar page 26, Calendar 510, House Bill 6007. And then under matters returned, Calendar page 48, Calendar 269, Senate Bill 1003, and Calendar page 48, Calendar 280, Senate Bill 929.

Thank you, Madam President.

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SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if as the first item we might call, as Order of the Day, an item that we had removed from the Consent Calendar last night for need of a correcting amendment. That amendment now has -- has arrived, so if you would have -- if the Clerk would call, as the first item, on Calendar Page 8, Calendar 303, Substitute for Senate Bill Number 1018. One amendment will need to be withdrawn and to be replaced with another.

I would yield to Senator Meyer to begin debate on the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Mr. Clerk, will you call -- call the bill, please.

THE CLERK:

On Page 8, Calendar 303, Substitute for Senate Bill Number 1018, AN ACT CONCERNING ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAWS, as amended by Senate Schedules "A" and "B," Favorable Report of the Committee on Environment.

THE CHAIR:

Good afternoon, Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Afternoon, Madam Chair.

Madam Chair and colleagues, you may recall that this bill passed yesterday afternoon by consent, and we then had to, we then had to withdraw the consent because there was a -- a mistake with respect to the reference of the wrong section of law.

And so I'm going to request that we withdraw the amendment, which was LCO 6258, and I'm going to ask

for the calling of a new amendment which makes a correction of the mistake.

THE CHAIR:

At this time, I'd ask if there's any objection to withdrawing Amendment Senate "B."

Seeing -- I'm sorry -- Senate -- I'm sorry.

A VOICE:

Senate Amendment "A."

THE CHAIR:

Senate "A"; I apologize.

Is there -- if there's no objection, so ordered.

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

And Madam Chair, I'd, I would now ask the Clerk to kindly call LCO 6959; I'd be given permission to summarize.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 6959, Senate "C," offered by Senators Chapin, Meyer, and Witkos.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

I move the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

The motion is on amend -- on adoption. Will you remark, sir?

SENATOR MEYER:

Okay. Colleagues, this amendment, as I said, is totally technical; it just changes a section of the law. The amendment was brought out yesterday by Senator Chapin, and, indeed, it was originated, the idea was originated by him and by Senator Witkos.

And so that's the story, and I'm going to --

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

SENATOR MEYER:

-- ask you to support the amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark? Will you remark?

Seeing none, I'll try your minds. All in favor, please say aye.

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed?

The amendment passes.

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

If there's no objection, in light of yesterday, I would ask this be added to our Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection -- oops; hold it. Hold on a minute. Hold on a minute.

SENATOR MEYER:

Yes.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Yes, Madam President; if we might stand at ease for just a moment?

THE CHAIR:

Senate will stand at ease.

(Chamber at ease.)

THE CHAIR:

Good afternoon, Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Oh, gosh. Madam Chair, this is beyond my pay grade here.

THE CHAIR:

You're doing fine, sir. We'll both get through this slowly.

SENATOR MEYER:

I'm going to respectfully request that -- that we withdraw Amendment Schedule "B" from -- from yesterday.

THE CHAIR:

Wait, Senator. Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

I'm sorry, but we would ask for reconsideration of Senate Amendment "B," which happened to be LCO 5 -- 6935, yesterday.

THE CHAIR:

Okay; now and the motion is to reconsider it or you have to ask the Clerk to please call that amendment, please.

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 6935, Senate "B," offered by Senators Chapin, Meyer, and Witkos.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Yes. Madam Chair, I understand that this amendment is now before us, and I urge its rejection.

THE CHAIR:

Because you are on the prevailing side, sir?

SENATOR MEYER:

And I'm on the prevailing side.

THE CHAIR:

Okay.

SENATOR MEYER:

Yes.

THE CHAIR:

At this time, I can go with a voice vote. All in favor of recommitting --

A VOICE:

Yeah.

THE CHAIR:

-- or --

A VOICE:

-- rejection.

SENATOR MEYER:

-- rejection.

THE CHAIR:

-- rejection of Senate "B," please say aye.

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed?

Senate "B" is rejected.

SENATOR MEYER:

And then --

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

And then, Madam Chair, I just request that, again, I request approval of new Schedule Amendment "C," which is LCO 6959. And I move, I move that -- that amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on -- on adoption.

But, Mr. Clerk, will you please call for the amendment.

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 6959, Senate "C," offered by Senators Chapin, Meyer, and Witkos.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

Madam Chair, I -- I move, I move the amendment and -- and ask permission to quickly summarize.

THE CHAIR:

Will you summarize, sir?

SENATOR MEYER:

Yes.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed.

SENATOR MEYER:

As I, as I mentioned before, Madam Chair and colleagues, this amendment is purely technical because it takes into account a mistake that was made in the citation of a wrong section of our statutes. And that is corrected by this amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Will you remark further? Will you remark further?

If not, I'll try your minds. All those in favor or Senate "C," please say aye.

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed?

Senate "C" is adopted.

Senator Meyer.

SENATOR MEYER:

And then, Madam Chair, if there's no comment or objection, I would request that this be placed on our Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR MEYER:

Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, as the next item, would ask the Clerk to call from Calendar Page 3, Calendar 165, Senate Bill Number 327, to be followed by Calendar Page 4, Calendar 170, Substitute for Senate Bill Number 922.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On Page 3, Calendar 165, Senate Bill Number 327, AN ACT CONCERNING ENGINEER LICENSES, Favorable Report of the Committee on General Law.

THE CHAIR:

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**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
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THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, if the Clerk would now proceed to read the items placed on the Consent Calendar today, before calling for a vote on that Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

Beginning on Calendar Page 3, Number 146, Senate Bill Number 959; also on Calendar Page 3, Number 165, Senate Bill 327.

On Calendar Page 8, Number 303, Senate Bill Number 1018.

On Page 22, Calendar Number 511, House Bill 6243.

On Page 23, Calendar Number 517, House Bill 6453.

On Page 24, Calendar Number 525, House Bill 6457; also on Page 24, Calendar Number 526, Senate Bill 1079.

On Page 25, Calendar Number 527, Senate Bill 1131; also on Page 25, Calendar Number 529, Senate Bill 965. Finally, on Page 25, Calendar Number 531, Senate Bill 986.

On Page 29, Calendar Number 562, House Bill 5387.

On Page 35, Calendar Number 39, Senate Bill 597.

On Page 40, Calendar 210, Senate Bill 817.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, on Page 35, have you also seen Calendar Number 44, Senate Bill 809?

A VOICE:

Yeah.

THE CHAIR:

(Inaudible) wrong. Okay. Okay; I apologize, sir.

Please proceed.

THE CLERK:

On Calendar Page 40, Number 210, Senate Bill 817.

On Page 41, Calendar 254, Senate Bill 1013.

On Calendar Page 42, Number 271, Senate Bill 1072;  
also on Page 42, Calendar Number 286, Senate Bill  
1113.

On Page 44, Calendar 364, Senate Bill 1014.

On Page 46, Calendar Number 397, Senate Bill 992; also  
on Page 46, Calendar 406, Senate Bill 1129. And  
finally, on Page 46, Calendar 407, Senate Bill 383.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk, I ask for a roll call vote. The machine  
will be open for the Consent Calendar.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call vote has been ordered in the  
Senate on the Consent Calendar. Immediate roll call  
vote has been ordered in the Senate; Senators please  
return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

All members have voted: all members voted? The  
machine will be closed.

Mr. Clerk, will you please call the tally.

THE CLERK:

On the Consent Calendar.

Total Voting	36
Voting Yea	36
Voting Nay	0
Absent, not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

The Consent Calendar passes.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, at this point, having concluding the day's business, would certainly yield the floor to any members for purposes of announcements or committee meeting or -- or other points of personal privilege.

THE CHAIR:

Are there any point -- points of personal privilege or announcements? Are there any personal privileges or announcement?

Senator McKinney.

SENATOR McKINNEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, as fate would have it, we came close yesterday to being able to celebrate the birthday of two of our members. Yesterday we celebrated the birthday of Senator Slossberg; today, we get to celebrate the birthday of Senator Len Fasano, so --

THE CHAIR:

All right.

SENATOR McKINNEY: