

Public Comments on H.411

March 26-28, 2019

Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 1:57 PM

To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject: Re: H.411

I don't know if it's too late to add something to the email I sent earlier regarding H.411 but, on the chance that there's still time, here's what I'd like to say. I've always thought trapping animals is cruel. They usually don't die quickly and the ways in which they are killed seem inhumane, (bludgeoning, stomping on them and now, we've learned, drowning in dunk tanks). Maybe "back in the day" trapping made sense in some cases. People used furs to keep warm because waterproof fabrics and thermo-fillings hadn't been invented but those excuses are long-gone. When animals became "a nuisance" people trapped them because we didn't understand that there are ways for people and animals to co-exist. Also we hadn't invented humane removal methods yet. Those days are long gone too. We now know there are many ways for people to live in close proximity to animals in ways that benefit both. We also know how to remove and relocate animals who are truly nuisances. In most cases, with a little knowledge and planning, there is no need to kill wildlife. Trapping has continued as a "thing" because "it's tradition". In my opinion, it's a tradition whose time has passed and I hope that H.411 will, at the very least, end things like the "dunk tanks" I've read about. At best it may make people think about how archaic trapping is and maybe limit it more or even end it.

Here's one last thought about wildlife that you may have read about in recent weeks as it's been in many news reports. According to the World Wildlife Fund's Living Planet Report since 1970 humans have been responsible for the deaths of 60% of Earth's animals, birds, reptiles and fish. (Even though there are variations in the numbers killed depending on species, the report calls this finding alarming). I don't know how many animals are trapped and killed in Vermont every year but the fact that they are being killed for questionable reasons when there are very good alternatives available seems unconscionable in the light of these findings from WWF. Please pass H.411. It won't end this enormous problem but it will be one step in the right direction.

Thank you for considering this.

Dottie Nelson

Middlebury

Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 5:00 PM

To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject: Stop drowning Raccoons caught in Pest control traps.

Dear House Natural Resources Fish & Wildlife Committee,

Please do not allow the drowning of these innocent animals. There is a humane way to redirect them. I live in Brattleboro, Vermont and want better for our state's wildlife.

Thank you,

Starr M. Wolfe

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 9:11 PM

To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject: Bill H.411

Please hold a hearing on Bill H.411. I live in Greensboro, VT and am a native Vermonter who grew up in a family that hunted with integrity. The drowning of any animal is cruel and inhumane and must be stopped NOW.

Kelly Robinson, NBCT

From: Katie Narey

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 5:47 PM

To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject:

I am a Vermont resident and am writing to ask that you hold a hearing for Bill H.411.

This is animal cruelty!

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 3:54 PM

To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject: House Natural Resources Fish & Wildlife Committe

Bill H.411 seeks to ban the drowning of animals in cages.

This is animal cruelty!

We should not allow this. There are quite a few issues regarding animals in Vermont. Right now the focus is on this issue rightfully so.

Please stop this needless practice. There are other options.

Nancy Diaferio

Manchester Ctr

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 2:57 PM
To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: Bill H.411

To the House Natural Resources Fish & Wildlife Committee,

I am writing in support of bill H.411 to ban the drowning of animals in Vermont, and encourage holding hearings on this bill. This is a horrific and barbaric type of animal cruelty, and needs to be made illegal with stiff penalties.

Similarly, I encourage passage of a bill banning the use of leg-hold traps in Vermont, another extraordinarily barbaric and unspeakably cruel abuse of both wild and domestic animals.

It boggles my mind that a state that supposedly celebrates nature and depends on it for economic gain can condone such actions as drowning, leg-hold trapping, and an open season on coyotes. We should be ashamed of ourselves - I know that I am.

Thank you,

Dianna Noyes

Marlboro VT

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:48 PM
To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: Bill H.411

Dear House Natural Resources Fish & Wildlife Committee:

I am writing to ask you hold a hearing for Bill H.411, banning drowning of animals in Vermont.

I live in Burlington, Vermont. 05401

Thank you,

July Sanders

From: Marjorie Tudor <ensingm@gmail.com>
Subject: Bill H411
Date: March 26, 2019 at 11:33:53 AM EDT
To: lbozarth@leg.state.vt.us

Vermont legislators and to those it may concern!

I am writing in support of Bill H 411.

I am pleased to know this situation is being addressed.

There is no moral justification to subject any living creature to unnecessary and cruel torture and suffering which leads to death.

In the first place, wild animals will not become "nuisances" if food sources are unavailable to them...be it unsecured trash, carelessly housed chickens and other fowl, accessible gardens. This is an open invitation to come in and dine. Also, beavers are trapped underwater in cages and left to drown. Such barbaric measures are awful! How unthinkable to inflict such suffering. There are always alternatives.

I urge support of Bill H411. I applaud those responsible for it.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Tudor

Tasha Tudor and Family

Marlboro, Vermont

From: Kate Casa <kate_casa@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 11:42 AM

To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject: H. 411

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to urge you to hold a hearing on H. 411, which seeks to ban the extremely cruel practice of drowning of animals in Vermont. This inhumane practice merits no legal protection. To keep it on the books perpetuates an ugly disregard for the suffering it causes.

Thank you for your consideration

Kathryn Casa

Brattleboro, Vermont

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 11:08 AM

To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject: Are wildlife drowned in VT?

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing to discern the accuracy of a Facebook article I just read about the drowning of wildlife in VT and how this is legal. Is it, in fact, legal for wildlife to be drowned? If so, I strongly support any bill that would ban this practice.

Sincerely,

Meghan Houlihan

Putney VT

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:40 AM

To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject: Bill H.411

Greetings,

Please hold a hearing for Bill H.411. I want to see an end to drowning animals alive. I am a local Vermonter and very shocked to learn that pest control companies drown these animals alive where it takes over 6 minutes for them to die. This is animal cruelty. Aren't we better than this?

Thank you,

Joyce Holsten

Bolton, Vermont