

THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

9 WEST MAIN STREET
NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428
PHONE: (814) 725-8684

9 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
CORY, PENNSYLVANIA 16407
PHONE: (814) 864-9126

HOUSE POST OFFICE BOX 98
25B, EAST WING
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-0028
PHONE: (717) 787-9475



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGING AND YOUTH
INSURANCE
FEDERAL-STATE RELATIONS

April 13, 1994

Mr. Harry Beil
Principal
Corry Area High School
534 E. Pleasant Street
Corry, PA 16407

Dear Mr. Beil:

I want to thank you for your recent correspondence to my office in which you asked me to support educational concepts which are designed to offer alternative school programs to students who cause disruption in schools.

I will be glad to lend my support to the concepts embracing these proposals because far too often we are reading more stories about increasing numbers of disruptive youths who seek to tyrannize and victimize peers, schools and entire communities whenever there are insufficient alternative educational programs and pro social organizations which can serve to check their disruptive behavior and encroachments.

You can count on my support because, I too, realize that there are many good and productive students who want very much to be able to attend school and learn in an environment which is free of fear, violence and intimidation.

I want to thank you also for making me aware of the booklet: Alternative Educational Programs which is available from your State Association. I understand that my legislative assistant called and will have a copy delivered to the House Research Office for our referral.

I invite your continued correspondence with my office on this matter or with any other issue you care to amplify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Scrimenti".

Thomas J. Scrimenti
State Representative

THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

□ 9 WEST MAIN STREET
NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428
PHONE: (814) 725-8664

□ 9 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
CORRY, PENNSYLVANIA 16407
PHONE: (814) 664-9126

□ 25B, EAST WING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 787-9475



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

AGING AND YOUTH
DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGING
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

February 23, 1995

Mr. Robert Rhodes, Principal
North East High School
1901 Freeport Road
North East, Pa. 16428

Dear Mr. Rhodes:

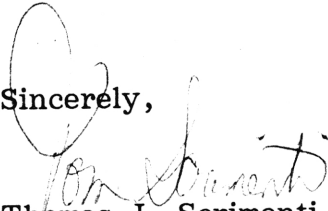
I want to thank you for your recent letter to my attention in which you ask my assistance to support proposals which will adequately fund school district educational programs for disruptive youths.

As you are probably aware House Bill 8 prime sponsored by Representative Stairs passed the House on February 6, 1995 and was referred to the Senate Education Committee.

Please be advised that I voted in the affirmative for that proposal and look forward to the Senate providing as expeditious a passage so that it will become law this session.

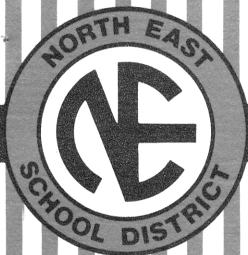
I thank you for your interest in this matter and trust that you will continue to communicate with my office on this issue.

Sincerely,


Thomas J. Scrimenti
State Representative

TJS/lj

FEB - 6 1995



NORTH EAST HIGH SCHOOL

1901 FREEPORT ROAD • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428 • TELEPHONE (814) 725-8671

ROBERT D. RHODES
PRINCIPAL

January 31, 1995

Representative Tom Scrimenti
House Post Office
Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Representative Scrimenti:

You can't teach anything, reform anything or even maintain anything if school discipline is less than effective. And in today's society where some students are willing to make physical threats, use weapons and show total disregard for authority, detention, suspension and even expulsion do not meet the needs of these students. These students may comprise only about one percent of the student population, but they disrupt the education of all students and pose a danger to all of us.

In a survey of my colleagues across the state, one of the top items of concern was funding for alternative education programs for disruptive students. Where such programs exist, students, who have shown an unwillingness to learn through parental conferences and suspensions and are placed in alternative programs, gain two important goals 1) continuation of their education; and 2) learning of alternative methods to deal with their anger and frustration which resulted in their inappropriate conduct.

If we expel these students, we create two problems: 1) a student free from any structured environment; and 2) the home school, after 30 days if the parent cannot find an appropriate education program for the students, is obligated to provide a program. Often that results in home instruction by a certified teacher 3 to 5 hours a week. That doesn't resolve the problem; the student may be getting subject matter but is not learning how to appropriately behave.

Why then don't all schools offer alternative programs? The answer is simple - money. An alternative program is usually operated at an alternate site from the regular school; teachers require specific in-service training to meet the needs of these students; and the student-teacher ratio is small so that students get the added attention and time they need from adults.

"Serving Students in The



Heart of The Grape Country"

Representative Scrimenti

(2)

January 31, 1995

My colleagues at the Principals' Associations and I ask your help in this area. As you review and debate ways to curb crime, deal with criminals, especially the growing number of youthful offenders, we encourage you to add to the array of programs and options funding for alternative education programs for disruptive students so that all of us get a chance to prevent disruptive students from turning into criminals.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this issue. If you need further information, please call upon me or my colleagues at the Pennsylvania Associations of Elementary and Secondary School Principals, 801 N. Second Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102. (717) 233-3001.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert D. Rhodes".

Robert D. Rhodes
Principal

RDR/kw

THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

□ 9 WEST MAIN STREET
NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428
PHONE: (814) 725-8664

□ 202 NORTH CENTER STREET
CORRY, PENNSYLVANIA 16407
PHONE: (814) 664-9126

□ 25B, EAST WING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 787-9475



COMMITTEES

AGING AND OLDER ADULT SERVICES
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS
DEMOCRATIC VICE CHAIRMAN

House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

mailed 9/3

September 2, 2003

John Kloss

████████████████████
North East, PA 16428-5606

Dear Mr. Kloss:

John

Thank you for your recent letter to my office regarding amusement taxes in Pennsylvania. As a state representative, I value any input about the issues that are important to the residents of our community, and I appreciate you taking the time to bring this issue to my personal attention.

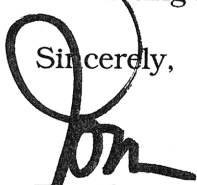
As you know, exorbitant property taxes continue to propel serious debate on tax reform. In previous sessions, as well as in recent months, numerous tax reform proposals have surfaced. These legislative measures include proposals to raise the rate of the state's sales tax, expanding the base of what is applicable to the state's sales tax, increasing personal income taxes, and reducing and eliminating certain nuisance taxes, including the amusement tax. While some proposals seek to eliminate amusement taxes in general, other plans seek to provide certain exemptions. For example, House Bill 41 would repeal the authority of school districts to levy an amusement tax, while House Bill 1206 would exempt any form of performing arts for which the net proceeds benefit an institution of purely public charity from the tax. Additionally, it is my understanding that a bipartisan group of legislators will be introducing a comprehensive tax reform plan which includes a proposal to eliminate amusement taxes across the board. However, this plan has not yet been formally drafted.

Working to relieve our senior citizens and working class, of the heavy financial tax burdens placed upon them, should remain a top priority issue of state and local lawmakers alike. Nonetheless, I believe that we must take a long hard look at each and every aspect of tax reform, before making dramatic changes to our local and state-level tax infrastructures. As such, and in recognizing the highly complicated nature of this issue, please remain assured that I will continue to give each and every proposal my thoughtful considering, weighing them in light of their potential cost savings and ability to insure an equitable solution to the extraordinary tax burdens placed upon our community.

September 2, 2003
Page 2

Again, thank you for contacting my office. Should you have any questions or concerns, or if I can provide further assistance, please do not hesitate in contacting my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Scrimenti', with a large, stylized initial 'T' that loops back.

Tom Scrimenti
State Representative

Ehrhart, Donna

From: Scrimenti, Tom
Sent: Tuesday, August 05, 2003 9:38 AM
To: Ehrhart, Donna
Subject: FW: Amusement Tax

-----Original Message-----

From: John [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, August 03, 2003 7:05 PM
To: Scrimenti, Tom
Subject: Amusement Tax

I heard from my township supervisors that there is a bill to repeal any amusement taxes. If such a bill exists or is pending, could you mail a copy to me? If no such bill exists please send me a letter stating such. I would like to know this because amusement taxes have been on my townships agenda, when brought up, approximately 2 years and the supervisors have said they are not looking into one because of this bill. Please let me know about this. I have sent a question about this via e-mail before and your office said they have no record of it. John Kloss
Greenfield Township
John Kloss
[REDACTED]
North East Pa. 16428-5606

THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

9 WEST MAIN STREET
NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428
PHONE: (814) 725-8664

9 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
CORRY, PENNSYLVANIA 16407
PHONE: (814) 664-9126

HOUSE POST OFFICE BOX 96
25B, EAST WING
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-0028
PHONE: (717) 787-9475



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGING AND YOUTH
INSURANCE
FEDERAL-STATE RELATIONS

April 28, 1994

Ms. Geraldine Schultz

[REDACTED]
Erie, PA 16509

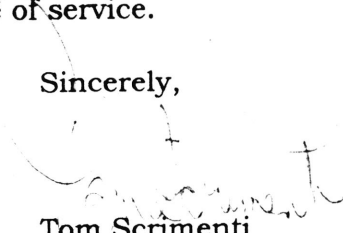
Dear Ms. Schultz:

I received and read your letter. The points you raise against the Hegins' Pigeon Shoot were well made and appreciated. As you may know, an effort was undertaken last year to pass legislation to ban the activity in Hegins, citing the practice's treatment of animals. The bill did not receive the constitutional majority it needed to pass the House, so it failed and the Hegins' Pigeon Shoot survived.

The overall questions of sports of this activity and the general ethical treatment of animals will most likely arise again. I want you to know that if this question ever comes before the House for a vote, your letter and its sentiments will be remembered and respected. I am proud of my past stance against the Hegins' Pigeon Shoot and look forward to joining in your efforts to ban the peculiar and cruel tradition.

Again, I appreciate your welcomed addition to the ongoing debate. If I can ever be of any more assistance to you on this matter or any other of interest, please let me know. It would be my pleasure to be of service.

Sincerely,


Tom Scrimenti
State Representative



BIRCHWOOD WHITETAIL DEER FARM

Thomas E. Morgan
Located 5.7 Miles South of
Union City on Rt. 8
Mail to: 75 N. Main St.
Union City, PA 16438
Phone (814) 694-2577
Fax (814)694-2572

DEC 13 1997

December 12, 1997

Rep. Tom Scrimenti
9 W. Main St.
North East, PA 16428

Dear Tom:

As you may or may not know, one of my breed sire bucks, "Smokey", was shot and killed inside his pen, then dragged away on October 18, 1997. We are anxiously awaiting the arraignment of Shawn Cranston, Rockdale Acres, Cambridge Springs, PA next Wednesday.

The Crawford County DA has a host of charges against Cranston including felony charges due to the value of the animal, but has opted to "throw out" charges of *Cruelty to Animals* because of the definition set forth in the Criminal Code. It seems that our farm raised deer are not categorized as "domestic" and therefore do not fit within the guidelines for the *Cruelty to Animals* offense.

We would like your assistance in presenting legislation that would correct the terminology for victims of future offenses. We will have the support of the PA Dept. of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Husbandry for clarification of the definition and further input from the international organization known as the North American Deer Farmer's Association, (NADeFA), and many Pennsylvania Game Commission Licensed Deer Propagators who seek to protect their livestock.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience so that we may discuss the accurate definition of farm raised whitetails and the possibilities of amending legislation to protect the rights of the many constituents who raise, own and propagate deer.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. We look for something positive to come from our loss, and hope that this may be billed as "Smokey's Law" when it comes to fruition.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Morgan
Chairman: Tri-State Branch (PA,MD,DE) NADeFA

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□ 202 NORTH CENTER STREET
CORRY, PENNSYLVANIA 16407
PHONE: (814) 664-9126

□ 25B, EAST WING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 787-9475



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

AGING AND YOUTH
DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGING
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

February 5, 1998

Donald C. Madl, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Game Commission
2001 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

Dear Mr. Madl:

Enclosed you will find the letter I received from Thomas Morgan regarding the brutal killing and theft of his family's captive whitetail deer, Smokey. Also enclosed is the newspaper article pertaining to the incident, in which a man was charged. The charges against the man did not include cruelty to animals.

According to Section 2303 of Title 3 (Agriculture), a domestic animal is defined as an animal maintained in captivity, including the germ plasm, embryos and fertile ova of such animals. However, Section 5511(3)(q) of Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) defines a domestic animal as any dog, cat, equine animal (horse), bovine animal (cow), sheep, goat or porcine animal (pig). A cervid animal (deer) is not considered a domestic animal in Title 18. Under Title 18 (Section 5511(a)(1)), it is a second-degree misdemeanor if a person willfully or maliciously kills, maims, or disfigures a domestic animal. I have also enclosed the aforementioned title sections for your convenience.

I am strongly considering amending Section 5511(3)(q) of Title 18 to include cervid animals in the definition of a domestic animal or change the entire definition to reflect the provision set forth in Section 2303 of Title 3. I would appreciate any input from your office regarding this matter.

Thank you for your cooperation. I will be looking forward from hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Scrimenti
State Representative

TJS/mtf
enclosures
cc: Samuel E. Hayes, Jr.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

2001 ELMERTON AVENUE
HARRISBURG, PA 17110-9797

ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAUS:	
ADMINISTRATION	717-787-5670
AUTOMOTIVE AND PROCUREMENT DIVISION	717-787-6594
LICENSE DIVISION	717-787-2084
PERSONNEL DIVISION	717-787-7836
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT	717-787-5529
INFORMATION & EDUCATION	717-787-6286
LAW ENFORCEMENT	717-787-5740
LAND MANAGEMENT	717-787-6818
REAL ESTATE DIVISION	717-787-6568
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS	717-787-4076

February 12, 1998

FEB 17 1998

The Honorable Thomas J. Scrimenti
State Representative
9 West Main Street
North East, PA 16428

Dear Representative Scrimenti:

Your letter of February 5, 1998 to Executive Director Madl has been forwarded to me for response.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission would be opposed to amending Title 18 to include whitetail deer as domestic animals for the following reasons:

Any person that raises whitetail deer in Pennsylvania must first obtain a permit from the Commission to propagate wildlife. The same law applies to all species of wildlife that is indigenous to the Commonwealth. This is to assure that native wildlife is not captured in the wild and used in a commercial venture. Having whitetail deer be considered wildlife in one situation and domestic animals in another would certainly muddy the water. Additionally, wildlife was intentionally omitted from the cruelty laws to prevent a conflict with the laws pertaining to lawful hunting. With the active anti-hunting movement doing their best to stop hunting in the Commonwealth, amending the cruelty laws to include wildlife species would give them new avenues to pursue their attempt to derail sport hunting. I would not want to be the one to explain how it is cruel to shoot a deer under one circumstance and not cruel under another. I am not saying that is isn't improper in the one circumstance, it most certainly is. However, is one circumstance any more cruel than the other?

We hope that after you review our reasons for opposing this amendment that you will reconsider introducing legislation to include whitetail deer as a domestic animal under Title 18. When you consider that the incident that let to your constituent's concern is an isolated incident and after reading the charges that were filed against the offender, adding the charge of cruelty to animals could be overkill.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide you with input on this matter.

Sincerely,

John A. Shutter, Jr.
Assistant Director
Bureau of Law Enforcement

JAS:jd

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH OFFICE
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

SCOTT CASPER, DIRECTOR
620 MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2250



MAILING ADDRESS:

MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
HOUSE BOX 202250
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2250
(717) 787-9516
(717) 783-1588

House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 12, 1998

TO: Rep. Thomas J. Scrimenti

FROM: Mark T. Fedorco
Research Analyst

RE: Cruelty to Animals

I informed Rose from your district office that I contacted Thomas E. Morgan's wife, Thelma, to gather more information about how their white tailed deer, Smokey, was killed. The Dept. of Agriculture (7-8744) requested that I obtain more information about the killing.

According to the department, a whitetail deer is considered a domestic animal if it is maintained in captivity. According to Section 2303 of Title 3 (Agriculture), a domestic animal is defined as an animal maintained in captivity, including the germ plasm, embryos and fertile ova of such animals. According to the department, it is not cruel to shoot (i.e. bow, gun) an animal if it is necessary and done in a humane way. A deer is classified as a cervid animal.

However, Section 5511(3)(q) of Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) defines a domestic animal as any dog, cat, equine animal (horse), bovine animal (cow), sheep, goat or porcine animal (pig). The reason that a cruelty to animal charge was not brought against the defendant is because a cervid animal (deer) is not considered a domestic animal in Title 18. Law enforcement agencies only adhere to provisions set forth in Title 18. Under Title 18 (Section 5511(a)(1)), it is a second degree misdemeanor if a person willfully or maliciously kills, maims, or disfigures a domestic animal. You may want to amend Section 5511(3)(q) of Title 18 to include cervid animals in the definition of a domestic animal or change the entire definition to reflect the provision set forth in Section 2303 of Title 3.

According to Mrs. Morgan, the defendant shot the deer with a bow. The deer did not die instantly. It seems as though the deer ran around the pen for some time. Apparently, there were "blood circles" on the ground. This information was conveyed to the State Trooper.

Also attached is the article that Mrs. Morgan faxed me regarding the killing, an excerpt from Section 2303 of Title 3, and Section 5511 of Title 18. Please pay particular attention to the highlighted areas. If you have questions or comments, please contact me at 7-1912.

THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

□ 9 WEST MAIN STREET
NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428
PHONE: (814) 725-8664

□ 202 NORTH CENTER STREET
CORY, PENNSYLVANIA 16407
PHONE: (814) 664-9126

□ 25B, EAST WING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 787-9475



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

AGING AND YOUTH
DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGING
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

January 12, 1998

Thomas and Thelma Morgan
Birchwood Whitetail Deer Farm
75 N. Main Street
Union City, PA 16438

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Morgan:

I am truly sorry to hear about the loss of your whitetail deer, Smokey. In my opinion, the brutal killing and theft of Smokey is reprehensible. I have always supported legislation prohibiting animal cruelty in all forms and will continue to do so in the future.

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, a whitetail deer is considered a domestic animal if it is maintained in captivity. According to Section 2303 of Title 3 (Agriculture), a domestic animal is defined as an animal maintained in captivity, including the germ plasm, embryos and fertile ova of such animals. According to the department, it is not cruel to shoot (i.e. bow, gun) a animal if it is necessary and done in a humane way.

However, Section 5511(3)(q) of Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) defines a domestic animal as any dog, cat, equine animal (horse), bovine animal (cow), sheep, goat or porcine animal (pig). The reason that a cruelty to animal charge was not brought against the defendant is because a cervid animal (deer) is not considered a domestic animal in Title 18. Law enforcement agencies only adhere to provisions set forth in Title 18. Under Title 18 (Section 5511(a)(1)), it is a second degree misdemeanor if a person willfully or maliciously kills, maims, or disfigures a domestic animal. I will explore the possibility of amending Section 5511(3)(q) of Title 18 to include cervid animals in the definition of a domestic animal or change the entire definition to reflect the provision set forth in Section 2303 of Title 3. I have enclosed the aforementioned title sections for your perusal.

Thank you for bringing this unfortunate matter to my attention. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Scrimenti
State Representative

TJS/mtf

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH OFFICE
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

SCOTT CASPER, DIRECTOR
620 MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2250



MAILING ADDRESS:

MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
HOUSE BOX 202250
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2250
(717) 787-9516
(717) 783-1588

House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 9, 1998
TO: Rep. Thomas J. Scrimenti
FROM: Mark T. Fedorco
Research Analyst
RE: Cruelty to Animals

Rep. Hess' proposed legislation, which would provide penalties for abuse of fish, game, wildlife, farm animals and research facilities does not address Mr. Morgan's concerns. This legislation does not amend the definition of a domestic animal in Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) to match the Dept. of Agriculture's definition.

According to Section 2303 of Title 3 (Agriculture), a domestic animal is defined as an animal maintained in captivity, including the germ plasm, embryos and fertile ova of such animals. However, Section 5511(3)(q) of Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) defines a domestic animal as any dog, cat, equine animal (horse), bovine animal (cow), sheep, goat or porcine animal (pig). A cervid animal (deer) is not considered a domestic animal in Title 18. Under Title 18 (Section 5511(a)(1)), it is a second-degree misdemeanor if a person willfully or maliciously kills, maims, or disfigures a domestic animal. Mr. Morgan would like the Title 18 definition amended to match the Title 3 definition.

If you have questions or comments, please contact me at 7-1912.

File
Told Tom
3-10-98

COPY

THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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AGING AND YOUTH
DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGING
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

June 17, 1998

Linda Wheeler, Secretary
Hooved Animal Welfare Council
P.P. Box 7154
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Ms. Wheeler:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding House Bill 2127, which would prohibit a person from transporting an equine animal, for slaughter, in a cruel or inhumane manner. I have always supported legislation prohibiting animal cruelty and will continue to do so in the future. Please note that I am a co-sponsor of the bill.

House Bill 2127 was referred to the House Judiciary Committee on January 22, 1998. The bill must be reported out of committee before any legislation action can be initiated by the House. I will take your legislative suggestions into account and explore the possibility of offering amendments to the bill reflecting your views.

Again, thank you for sharing your thoughts with me. If you have questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Scrimenti
State Representative

TJS/mtf

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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CORRY, PENNSYLVANIA 16407
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COMMITTEES

AGING AND YOUTH
DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGING
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

December 1, 2000

Mr. John Kelton

North East, PA 16428

Dear Mr. Kelton:

I am writing in regards to a letter forwarded to me by the Honorable Phil English. Congressman English received correspondence from you regarding House Bill 590, which is a state matter. As your state representative, I appreciate reading about those issues that concern my constituents.

As you know, House Bill 590 would further provide for the transportation of equine animals for slaughter in order to ensure they are not treated cruel or inhumane. House Bill 590 was passed in the House of Representatives and referred to the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee where no further action took place to advance the bill. I hope that upon reintroducing House Bill 590 next session that hearings and investigations will continue in order to make sure the bill is both accurate and fair.

Once again, I appreciate reading about your views on this delicate issue. Please be assured that your thoughts will be remembered and respected. If I can be of further assistance with this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Scrimenti".

Thomas J. Scrimenti
State Representative

cc: Congressman Phil English

FEB 12 2001

661 Benson Rd.
Waterford, PA 16441
February 8, 2001

The Honorable Tom Scrimenti
House Post Office, Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020

Dear Mr. Scrimenti:

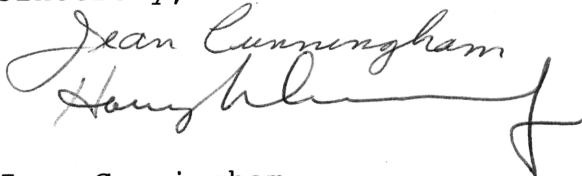
Please vote to support Representative Cawley's bill to place a moratorium on the hunting of bobcats in Pennsylvania.

The opening of a season on this species is a blatant effort to accede to the wishes of hunters who are simply looking for a trophy. The bobcat is a predator that exists in low population density and is a threat to no one. It is, however, important for itself after making a long comeback from near extirpation, and to be valued by anyone lucky enough to see one in the wild.

Bobcats should be appreciated, not blown away or worse (and perhaps more likely) be subject to the agony of a leghold trap.

Your support for this bill is needed. Please respond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jean Cunningham". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Jean Cunningham
Harry N. Cunningham, Ph.D, Associate Professor of Biology
Emeritus, Penn State-Behrend

THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

□ 9 WEST MAIN STREET
NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428
PHONE: (814) 725-8664

□ 202 NORTH CENTER STREET
CORRY, PENNSYLVANIA 16407
PHONE: (814) 664-9126

□ 25B, EAST WING
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 787-9475



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

AGING AND OLDER ADULT SERVICES
DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CARE AND SERVICES
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

February 21, 2001

Ms. Jean Cunningham
Dr. Harry N. Cunningham

Waterford, PA 16441

Dear Dr. & Ms. Cunningham:

Thank you for writing to me regarding the prohibition on bobcat hunting. I appreciate you taking the time to contact my office and include me in your thoughts.

As you may know, House Bill 560 has been introduced in the House of Representatives and is currently in the House Game and Fisheries Committee for review. The bill, in its current form, would prohibit the hunting or trapping of bobcats.

Legislators must be mindful of the potential benefits and consequences of this issue, including the population of bobcats in Pennsylvania, the interest of the hunters, and the interest of the animals. While I am not a member of the House Game and Fisheries Committee, I will keep your comments in mind if and when the bill is brought before the entire House of Representatives for a vote.

Once again, thank you for alerting me of your interest in this bill. If I may be of further assistance with this or any other issue, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "T. Scrimenti".

Thomas J. Scrimenti
State Representative

THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

Mailed from
N.E. office

August 15, 2001

Ms. Linda Wheeler

Wattsburg, PA 16442

Dear Ms. Wheeler:

Thank you for your recent e-mail regarding your support of legislation prohibiting circuses that use elephants from performing in the Commonwealth. I appreciate the time and effort you have taken to contact my office and include me in your thoughts.

I understand the concerns you state in your letter. I, too, share your concern for the health and safety of these beautiful animals. I admire the effort you have put forth to shape public policy. Our democracy is best served when citizens like you choose to speak out on matters that are important to them. I commend you for your involvement in such a noble cause.

As you may know, there are several pieces of legislation in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives pertaining to the issue of animal cruelty, including House Bills 373, 541, and 1731. However, at this time, there is no legislation that specifically addresses the use of elephants in circuses. Nevertheless, please know if any legislation addressing this issue comes before the full House of Representatives for a vote, I will keep your thoughts in mind.

Once again, thank you for contacting me and sharing your views on this important issue. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Scrimenti".

Thomas J. Scrimenti
State Representative