

I wish to record my objection to SB 832 as i believe it runs contrary to the democratic principles which the United States holds so dear and in particular the principle of 'freedom of choice'.

Fur farming both in the United States and Europe is performed under strict veterinary regulation and according to the highest welfare standards. It is a sustainable industry which produces a renewable product and provides gainful employment for many hard working families. The proposed legislation is in my opinion a mistaken overreaction to the aggressive tactics employed by those who wish to destroy the fur industry. I appreciate there is concern about the way in which COVID 19 attacks mink on fur farms but it has by now been demonstrated that this problem can be dealt with effectively by introducing local measures and not resorting to the ultimate extreme of culling all animals throughout the State. Scientists are also in the process of introducing a mink vaccine to protect animals against COVID.

I respectfully hope you will consider the above arguments before you make a final decision regarding SB 832.

Thank you.