

I strongly support this bill. Mink are susceptible to Covid-19 and have the ability to transmit the virus back to humans, potentially in a form that will render vaccines less effective. The virus may also spillover into nature and be impossible to track and control and could infect our native wild species. SB 832 would shut down this cruel and dangerous industry.

Confining thousands of animals in small wire cages for fur production not only causes terrible suffering, but for as long as this exploitation is tolerated, and these wild species are crowded together in close proximity in low-welfare conditions, the potential for reservoirs of animal to human pathogens will persist. In December last year, the Humane Society International published a white paper highlighting the link between fur farming, poor animal welfare and infectious zoonotic disease.