

DEFENDERS OF ANIMALS, INC.

P. O. Box 8763, Cranston, RI 02920
www.defendersofanimals.org 401-461-1922
Email: defendersanimals@aol.com

In Favor of H-5214

February 2, 2025

**House Corporations Committee Members
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903**

Dear House Committee Members:

On behalf of the members and supporters of Defenders of Animals, I am respectfully requesting that you vote in favor of House Bill H-5214.

The bill introduced by Representative Cotter and cosponsored by Representatives Kazarian, McNamara, Kislak, Potter, Stewart, Casimiro, and Serpa would Ban the sale of parrots at pet stores from a breeder or broker. The pet store may sell parrots obtained from animal care facilities or animal rescue organizations. The sale would also be prohibited at any outdoor markets or retail parking lots.

We are in favor of H-5214 because many parrots that are captured from the wild involve illegal practices and contribute to habitat destruction; in addition, there is a serious impact on parrot populations: Parrot trafficking threatens parrot populations and contributes to the destruction of natural habitats. Furthermore, there are parrot rescue organizations that are overrun by parrots that have been discarded or turned over for adoptions. This includes Rhode Island. Our state should not be part of this destructive practice by allowing pet stores and others to engage in making a fast buck off the plight of parrots.

Please vote in favor of H-5214.

Very truly yours,

Dennis Tabella

**Dennis Tabella
Director**