Animal Legal Defense Fund

Legislative Affairs Program Spring Update

March 2021





WHY WORK ON LEGISLATION?

To protect the lives and advance the interests of animals through the legal system.















Legislative Affairs Program

- ➤ Kim Kelly, Director Legislative Affairs kkelly@aldf.org
- ➤ Stephanie Harris, Senior Legislative Affairs Manager sharris@aldf.org
- Alicia Prygoski, Legislative Affairs Manager aprygoski@aldf.org
- ➤ Kathleen Schatzmann, Senior Legislative Affairs Manager kschatzmann@aldf.org
- > Jennifer Hauge, Legislative Affairs Manager jhauge@aldf.org

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS PROGRAM (LAP)

MAP OF STAFF COVERAGE BY STATE







Levels of Government

Find out who represents you at the federal, state and local levels?

<u>Visit the Animal Legal Defense Fund website</u>

Federal

Senate Two US Senators per state

House of Representatives Minimum of one per state (435 members)

State

Senate Upper Chamber Senator

House Lower Chamber Assembly Member

Local

Municipal Level Town, City, Borough or County Councils





Federal Bills 117th Congress

Big Cat Public Safety Act

H.R. 263

Bans the private ownership of big cats and makes it illegal for exhibitors to allow direct contact with cubs. *Sponsors: Rep Quigley (D-IL)*

Preventing Future Pandemics Act S. 37 / H.R. 151

Addresses the public health risks posed by wildlife markets, and other purposes. Sponsors: Sen Cornyn (R-TX) and Sen Rep Quigley (D-IL)

Safe Line Speeds Act

H.R. 1815

Directs the Secretary of Agriculture to temporarily suspend increased line speeds at animal processing facilities. Sponsors: Rep DeLauro (D-CT)

Additional Efforts:

- Signed on to numerous support letters to endorse legislation and regulations
- Discussions regarding risk mink farms pose in spread of Covid-19
- Plans to draft language regarding line speeds and depopulation for FY 2022





2021 State Bills Companion Animals

Courtroom Animal Advocate Program:

CO, FL, IL, NJ, NY

Possession Ban: AZ, MA, NJ, TX

Housing: IL, NV

Dogs in Hot Cars: NJ, TX

Cross Reporting: FL, TX

Puppy Mills: CT, NY

Pet Custody: ME

Tethering: FL





2021 State Bills Farmed Animals

Hen Welfare: AZ, HI, MA, NM

Fur: CT, HI, MA RI

CAFO: OR

Plant Based Initiatives: CA, CT, OR

Foie Gras: RI

Gestation/Veal Crate Ban: NJ





2021 State Bills Wildlife

Killing Contest Ban: NJ, NY, OR

Trapping: NM, VT

Predator Management: MT, WA

Wildlife Racketeering and Trafficking: FL

Oppose Grazing Expansion: CA

Rodenticides: CA

Circus: CO

Gray Wolf Reintroduction: CO

Poaching: MA

Conflict Reduction: OR





Local Legislation Massachusetts

Retail Pet Store Ordinances:
North Adams
Plymouth
Sherborn
Springfield

Fur – Free Efforts: Sherborn





Presentations

FL: Co-Hosted Humane Lobby Day

MA: Summit on Municipal Laws for Animals, PAW Caucus

NY: Town Hall, Puppy Mill Pipeline Reintroduction

NJ: Town Hall

Federal: Big Cat Webinars





How You Can Help Your Role As An Advocate

As a constituent who cares about animal protection issues, it's important to participate in the legislative process.

Get to know your STATE and FEDERAL legislators and their staff.

If you would like tips on how best to advocate for animals, please view the Lobby 101 and How To Advocate For Animals Webinars





Use Social Media... and Your Connections!

If you are part of an online community such as Facebook or Twitter — be sure to share action alerts with friends and family.

Connect with your elected officials:
Sign-up for legislator's newsletters
Join their Facebook page
Follow them on Twitter





Animals can't vote, but that doesn't mean they shouldn't have a voice in the political process.

You can give animals that voice!

Take action on federal/state/local legislation and regulation.

aldf.org/legislation/

Animal Legal Defense Fund's annual State Rankings Report.

aldf.org/stateranking

Visit our website —<u>aldf.org</u> to sign up for action alerts, read the latest news, and join us on Facebook and Twitter!





Thank you

Kathleen Schatzmann
Senior Legislative Affairs Manager
kschatzmann@aldf.org



