Lobbying for Animals

State & Federal Legislative Update

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WHY WORK ON LEGISLATION?

To protect the lives and advance the interests of animals through the legal system.
STRONGER LAWS
AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

LOCAL: City and County councils/commissions

STATE: State legislatures
• 1 Senator & 1 Representative/Assemblymember

FEDERAL: Congress
• 2 Senators & 1 Congressperson

FIND YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS:
https://aldf.org/article/find-your-elected-officials/
STATE LEGISLATION

Is your state in its legislative session right now?

Map credit: StateScape 12/7/21
FEDERAL LEGISLATION
117TH CONGRESS (2021 – 2022)

SUPPORT
• Big Cat Public Safety Act (S. 1210, H.R. 263)
• Captive Primate Safety Act (S. 1588)
• Traveling Exotic Animal and Public Safety Protection (TEAPSA) Act (S. 3220, H.R. 5999)
• Refuge from Cruel Trapping Act (H.R. 4716)
• Preventing Future Pandemics Act (S. 37, H.R. 151)
• Puppy Protection Act (H.R. 2840, S. 1385)
• Farm System Reform Act (H.R. 4421, S. 2332)
• Safe Line Speeds in COVID-19 Act (H.R. 1815)
• Animal Welfare Enforcement Improvement Act (H.R. 3277)
• Horse Transportation Safety Act (H.R. 921)
• Safeguard American Food Exports (SAFE) Act (S. 2732)
• Healthy Future Students and Earth Act (H.R. 4108)

OPPOSE
• Exposing Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act (S. 2619, H.R. 4999)
STATE LEGISLATION
Victories since Oct. 1

• CA
  • Rodenticides Moratorium Clean-up
  • Dog Blood Banks
• NJ – Cosmetics Testing Ban
• NY
  • Breed Discrimination in Insurance Underwriting
  • Vet Reporting
  • Pet Custody in Divorce
• TX – Dog Tethering/Shelter
STATE LEGISLATION
Victories since Jan. 1, 2021

36 WINS
YTD

ANIMAL STATUS: 22
WILDLIFE: 10
FARMED ANIMALS: 4
STATE LEGISLATION
Ongoing Legislation

COMPANION ANIMALS

• Courtroom Animal Advocate Program (CAAP): FL, NJ, NV, NY
• Possession Ban: MA
• Puppy Mills/Retail Pet Sales Ban: FL, MA, NJ, NY
• Puppies and Kittens Protections, Housing/Breed Discrimination: MA
• Retired Law Enforcement Canines Fund: FL
• Animal Cruelty Code Enhancements: FL
STATE LEGISLATION
Ongoing Legislation

WILDLIFE

• Killing Contest Ban: NJ, NV, NY
• Circuses and Traveling Shows: MA
• Poaching/Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact: MA
• Fur Sales: MA
• Rodenticides: MA
• Trapping & Endangered Species Protections: FL
FARMED ANIMALS

- Confinement
  - Hen Welfare: MA
  - Gestation/Veal Crates: NJ
- Rodeos: NY
- Citations Authority for Keeping Animals in Cruel Conditions: MA
STATE LEGISLATION
Ongoing Legislation

ANIMALS IN RESEARCH

“Beagle Bill” Adopt Retired Research Dogs and Cats: MA
Alternatives to Product Testing on Animals: MA
Cosmetics Sales Ban: NY
LOCAL LEGISLATION
How You Can Help:
Your Role As An Advocate & Citizen Lobbyist

• Get to know your LOCAL, STATE, and FEDERAL legislators and their staff
  • Create contacts for them for in your phone and email platform
  • Review their bios & look for similarities/interests to build a relationship
  • Offer yourself up as a resource if you have deep subject matter expertise
  • Follow their social media and subscribe to their newsletters
  • Call & write to express your opinion on legislation
• Familiarize yourself with the ALDF legislative affairs web page
• See where your state falls on ALDF’s annual State Rankings Report
• Participate in action alerts & share with your online network
• Submit a letter-to-the-editor (LTE) or Op-ed
• Review your contacts and see who you know…and who THEY know!
• Reach out to the ALDF Legislative Affairs professional who covers your state
• Watch our Lobby 101 and How To Advocate For Animals webinars

Advocate Handbook!
Thank you!

For more information:

- Website: aldf.org
- Facebook: @AnimalLegalDefenseFund
- Twitter: @ALDF
- Instagram: @AnimalLegalDefenseFund

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