Lobbying for Animals:
State & Federal
Legislative Update
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LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

- LOCAL: town, city, and county
- STATE: state legislature
- FEDERAL: Congress

FIND YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS:
aldf.org/find-your-elected-officials
WHY LOBBY FOR ANIMALS?

• To pass laws that protect animals and advance their interests in the legal system
• To stop laws that harm animals from passing into law
• To ensure that the best interests of animals are part of the legislative discussion
FEDERAL LEGISLATION
117TH CONGRESS

Big Cat Public Safety Act (S. 1210/H.R 263)

Captive Primate Safety Act (S. 1588/H.R. 3135)

Farm System Reform Act (HR 4421/S 2332)

Animal Welfare Enforcement Improvement Act (HR 2377)

Goldie’s Act (HR 6100)

OPPOSE: Livestock Regulatory Protection Act (S 1475)
STATE LEGISLATION

Is your state in its legislative session right now?

Map credit: StateScape 2021-09-28
STATE LEGISLATION
Victories

Law
CA Dog Transportation
CA Pet Incentives
MA Wildlife Compact/Poaching Penalties
MA Wildlife Crossings/Connectivity
MA Adoption of Retired Research Animals
STATE LEGISLATION
Potential Victories

Passed Legislature
CA Animal Evacuations in Disasters
CA Dog Toxicity Testing
CA Plant Based Meals
CA Puppy Mill Finance Ban
CA Wildlife Crossings/Connectivity
NY Puppy Mill Ban
STATE LEGISLATION
Pending Issues

COMPANION ANIMALS

Courtroom Animal Advocate Programs
Possession bans
Retail pet store sales
STATE LEGISLATION
Pending Issues

WILDLIFE

• Circuses and traveling shows
• Fur sales bans
STATE LEGISLATION
Pending Issues

FARMED ANIMALS

Confinement bans

Minimum standards of care

Rodeos
STATE LEGISLATION
Pending Issues

ANIMALS IN RESEARCH

Adopt Retired Research Dogs and Cats

Alternatives to Product Testing on Animals

Cosmetic Sales Ban
LOCAL LEGISLATION
HOW YOU CAN HELP: PART I

• Find your local, state, and federal electeds and their staff via aldf.org/findmyrep
  o Add as contacts in phone and email
  o Review their bios and look for connections
  o Follow social and subscribe to newsletters
  o Call and email about pending legislation
  o Make a personal connection and develop a relationship
Know your sphere of influence!

- Have celebrity connections?
- Know of anyone with connections to a corporation within the state?
- Have connections with the Governor, state or local legislators, or their staff?
- Have friends or family in key legislative districts?
- Know of other organizations that may support this issue?
- Know influential community members?
HOW YOU CAN HELP: PART II

• Explore aldf.org/legislation
• Find your state ranking at aldf.org/staterankings
• Sign up for state, national, and local email and text action alerts at aldf.org/signup
• Watch webinars: Lobby 101 and How to Advocate for Animals
• Review our Model Animal Protection Laws
Thank you!

For more information:

aldf.org
Facebook.com/AnimalLegalDefenseFund
Twitter: @ALDF
Instagram: @AnimalLegalDefenseFund

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