

STATE LEGISLATION ENACTED OR VETOED DURING 2006 SESSIONS

The following list is a compilation of laws and resolutions that were passed by state legislatures in 2006 and then signed into law or vetoed. The list includes legislation that had a positive, negative, or neutral impact on animals. Please email legislation@hsus.org , to obtain a copy of these laws or resolutions or if you have any questions, additions, or corrections to the list.

ALABAMA

S.B. 157 - Hunting

Bans internet hunting and the canned hunting of all exotic animals.

Signed into law: 2/23/06

HJR 271 - Antifreeze

Resolution supporting federal antifreeze legislation.

Signed into law: 2/16/06

H.B. 86 – Hog Dog Fighting

Makes it illegal to organize, conduct, or financially or materially support a hog dog fighting event; makes it illegal to advertise fights, sell or purchase tickets to fights, and breed, supply, or train dogs for the purpose of hog dog fighting.

Signed into law: 4/13/06

H.B. 252 – Spay and Neuter

Requires dogs and cats in shelters to be spayed or neutered.

Signed into law: 4/25/06

ALASKA

NONE

ARIZONA

S.B. 1160 – Sexual Abuse of Animals

Makes the sexual abuse of animals a misdemeanor crime and a felony if a minor is present.

Signed into law: 5/24/06

ARKANSAS

NONE

CALIFORNIA

ACR 113 – Spay Day USA

Declares February 28, 2006, to be Spay Day USA 2006, and requests that Californians observe that day by having their dogs or cats spayed or neutered and by contributing to organizations that provide spay and neuter services.

Adopted:3/15/06

A.B. 450 – Disaster Planning

Requires the Office of Emergency Services to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the California Department of Agriculture to incorporate the California Animal Response Emergency System program into their emergency planning.

Signed into law: 9/29/06

A.B. 2485 – Sea Otter Fund

Establishes the California Sea Otter Fund, which would be funded through a voluntary tax check-off, to provide funds for increased enforcement and research to protect sea otters. Also increases the penalties for illegal taking of sea otters, and requires disclosures on cat litter sold in California related to water quality.

Signed into law: 9/18/06

A.B. 2862 – Companion Animals

Requires the Department of Consumer Affairs to adopt regulations for the care and handling of companion animals sold to the general public.

Vetoed

S.B. 1349 - Cockfighting

Provides that a second or subsequent violation of cockfighting is a wobbler.

Signed into law: 9/22/06

S.B. 1485 – Import of Animals

Removed alligators and crocodiles from the list of species to import for commercial purposes, to possess with intent to sell, or to sell within the state, the dead body, or any part or product thereof, of any of a list of specified animals.

Signed into law: 9/29/06

S.B. 1578 - Tethering

Prohibits a person from tethering, fastening, chaining, tying, or restraining a dog to a dog house, tree, fence, or other stationary object.

Signed into law: 9/28/06

S.B. 1806 – Animal Cruelty

Makes it illegal to leave or confine an animal in any unattended motor vehicle under conditions that endanger the health or well-being of an animal due to heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, or lack of food or water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be expected to cause suffering, disability, or death; Expands the prohibition on driving with an animal in the back of a pick-up truck to all roads (not just highways).

Signed into law: 9/22/06

COLORADO

S.B. 24 – Dangerous Dog

Modifies the definition of "dangerous dog" to allow prosecution for a first incident. Requires a person convicted of owning a dangerous dog to post a conspicuous sign on the building or enclosure in which the dog is kept warning others of the dangerous dog. Requires a court to order a convicted dangerous dog owner to disclose in writing to certain providers that a dog is dangerous before the dog receives services or treatment from the providers.

Signed into law: 4/24/06

H.B. 1132 – Animal Cruelty

Concerns the disposition of animals impounded under animal cruelty laws.

Signed into law: 5/11/06

H.B. 1057 – Dog Bites

Expands the reporting requirement for doctors who treat injuries involving criminal acts to report dog bite injuries to law enforcement under certain circumstances, makes a 5-year statutory appropriation.

Signed into law: 5/26/06

CONNECTICUT

H.B. 5795 – Spay and Neuter

Requires the agriculture commissioner to and make recommendations for legislation concerning (1) the expansion of the animal population control program to include spaying, neutering, and vaccinating companion animals (domesticated cats and dogs) owned or adopted by low-income individuals and (2) the needs of nonprofit organizations that assist caretakers of feral cats.

Signed into law: 6/2/06

S.B. 411 – Rabies

Allows individual animals to be exempted from the rabies vaccination law only if a licensed veterinarian has consulted with the State Veterinarian or the Commissioner of Agriculture, or the commissioner's designee.

Signed into law: 6/2/06

DELAWARE

H.B. 260 – Rabies

Includes ferrets as a species approved for rabies vaccination and quarantine procedures in Delaware; amends the post-rabies booster observation period for a dog, cat or ferret that is currently vaccinated, after exposure to a source of rabies to 45 days; allows the observation quarantine of any ferret exposing a human to rabies; removes the requirement for euthanasia and rabies testing of any ferret that bites a human.

Signed into law: 6/27/06

H.B. 425 – Spay and Neuter

Requires all dogs and cats adopted from a private animal welfare or rescue agency/group or organization, an adoption clinic, or an animal shelter to be sterilized and inoculated against rabies prior to adoption unless an animal is found by a licensed veterinarian to be in a state of health which would preclude the safe and humane implementation of a spay/neuter procedure or rabies inoculation.

Signed into law: 6/29/06

S.B. 312 – Pet Trusts

Establishes pet trusts.

Signed into law: 6/27/06

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NONE

FLORIDA

S.R. 230 - Greyhounds

A resolution recognizing October 2006 as "Greyhound Adoption Month."

Adopted: 4/06/06

S.R. 2802 – Humane Society

Resolution making June 18 – 24, 2006 Humane Society Appreciation Week.

Adopted: 4/27/06

H.B. 265 - Hunting

Requires certain lands owned, managed, or leased by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to be used for the purposes of hunting; requires the commission to support, promote, and enhance hunting opportunities; requires the commission to provide comparable acreage for any loss of existing hunting lands.

Signed into law: 6/6/06

H.B. 7121 – Disaster Planning

Requires the state to address "strategies for the evacuation of persons with pets in the shelter component of the state comprehensive emergency management plan" and it requires that people with special needs be allowed to evacuate with their service animals into special need shelters.

Signed into law: 6/5/06

H.B. 125 – Hunting

Requires that voter registration applications to be displayed at each location where hunting, fishing, or trapping licenses or permits are sold and that applicants for hunting, fishing, or trapping licenses or permits be asked if they would like a voter registration application.

Signed into law: 6/5/06

H.B. 1029 – Hunting

Regulations that prohibits hunting, trapping, and carrying a firearm on park property.

Signed into law: 6/5/06

GEORGIA

H.B. 1497 – Dangerous Dogs

Outlines provisions and procedures for owners with dogs deemed vicious.

Signed into law: 4/7/06

H.B. 1213 - Slaughter

Prohibits dealers, brokers, and poultry market operators from slaughtering animals other than for humane reasons or disease control.

Signed into law: 4/19/06

HAWAII

H.B. 3121 – Disaster Planning

Requires the governor to prescribe rules to establish the criteria for requirements, conditions, and limitations for providing suitable arrangements and accommodations for the sheltering of pet animals in public shelter.

Signed into law: 5/22/06

H.C.R. 98 – Feral Pigs

Requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources to prepare a plan to identify areas where feral pigs are a problem and reduce the feral pig population by considering, but not being limited to, the following: expanding game management areas; expanding public hunting areas; lengthening the hunting season for feral pigs; eliminating the bag limit on feral pigs; and contracting with private hunters for the removal of feral pigs by the use of snares and traps, particularly near residential areas.

Adopted: 4/27/06

S.B. 2924 – Animal Cruelty

Gives law enforcement officers authority to enter premises and impound a pet animal when there is probable cause to believe the animal is being subjected to cruel treatment; Allows any humane society or society for the prevention of cruelty to animals to file a petition requesting that the court issue an order for forfeiture of the pet animal to the county or to the humane society or society for the prevention of cruelty to animals prior to final disposition of the criminal charge. If cause is shown, the owner must forfeit the animal or post a bond to cover the cost of caring for the animal until the criminal case has ended.

Signed into law: 6/23/06

S.B. 2930 – Animal Cruelty

Clarifies that animal care costs incurred for abused or neglected animals will be the responsibility of the abuser.

Signed into law: 6/23/06

IDAHO

H.B. 411 – Tuberculosis

Amends existing law relating to tuberculosis to revise provisions relating to compensation for destroyed cattle or other animals.

Signed into law: 3/15/06

H.B. 492 – Animal Cruelty

Provides that requests by boards of county commissioners for suitability determinations by site advisory teams shall include the actual animal capacity of the facility.

Signed into law: 3/30/06

H.B. 596 – Fur Farming

Revises provisions relating to the possession, sale, trade, barter, exchange and importation of certain animals in Idaho; and revises the definition of domestic fur-bearing animals, to revise provisions relating to those premises deemed farms, fur farms or fur ranches and to make a technical correction; and revising provisions relating to the definitions of domestic furbearing animals and domestic cervidae.

Signed into law: 3/30/06

HJM 10 - Wildlife

Stating findings of the Legislature and urging the Secretary of the Interior, Gale Norton, to meet with representatives from the State and Montana to consider and agree upon alternative strategies to immediately delist the gray wolf within the State and Montana as requested in the 10/07/05, letter from Montana Governor Schweitzer and State Governor Kempthorne to Secretary Norton.

Adopted: 2/27/06

HJM 11 - Wildlife

Urging that the U.S. Forest Service enter a decision as soon as possible granting a special use permit allowing the Id Department of Fish and Game to land helicopters in the wilderness areas for the purpose of monitoring gray wolves in those areas.

Adopted: 2/27/06

S.B. 1396 – Animal Cruelty

Creates a bonding law to provide for the possession and care of cruelly treated animals by law enforcement officers and animal care and control officers.

Signed into law: 3/22/06

ILLINOIS

H.B. 2946 – Spay and Neuter

Makes it illegal for a person convicted of certain felonies, including a felony violation of the humane care for animals act, to knowingly own, possess, have custody of, or reside in a residence with an unsterilized dog or puppy older than 12 weeks of age or any dog determines to be vicious for ten years after release from incarceration. Any dog owned, possessed by, or in the custody of a person convicted of these certain felonies must be microchipped for permanent identification.

Signed into law: 5/31/06

H.B. 4238 – Dangerous Dogs

Increases penalties against owners of dangerous dogs if the owner fails to maintain or keep the dog in an enclosure or fails to spay or neuter the dog within the time period prescribed and the dog inflicts serious physical injury upon any other person or causes the death of another person and the attack is unprovoked in a place where such person is peaceably conducting himself or herself and where such person may lawfully be

Signed into law: 5/31/06

H.B. 4711 – Dog Fighting

Increases the penalty for soliciting a minor to violate the dogfighting law; Increases the penalty for attending a dog fight; Provides that a violation may be inferred from evidence that the offender possessed any treadmill wheel, hot walker, or other paraphernalia, together with evidence that the paraphernalia is being used or intended for use in the unlawful training of a dog to fight with another dog, along with the possession of any such dog.

Signed into law: 5/31/06

H.B. 5407 - Hunting

Establishes an apprentice hunter program that authorizes a resident parent, guardian, or grandparent of a youth who is at least 10 years old and not more than 15 years old to apply to the Department for an Apprentice Hunter Permit when that resident applicant applies for any permit or hunting license under this Code.

Signed into law: 7/14/06

H.R. 866 – Dangerous Dogs

Urges hearings during the Spring session of this General Assembly concerning dangerous and vicious dogs, and matters related to the Animal Control Act and creates an Animal Control Task Force to examine the Animal Control Act and make comprehensive written recommendations for change.

Adopted: 4/18/06

H.R. 1026 – Breed Specific Bans

Urges the State to encourage municipalities not to enact breed-specific dog bans and to encourage municipalities to establish programs that educate residents and to pass laws targeting irresponsible dog owners.

Adopted: 5/4/06

H.R. 1235 – Spay and Neuter

Endorses non-lethal Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), when accompanied by ongoing feral cat management, as the most effective, humane method of reducing feral cat populations in Illinois; and recognizes October 16, 2006, National Feral Cat Day, and encourages all citizens to support Trap-Neuter-Return for feral cats throughout the State of Illinois.

Adopted: 5/3/06

S.B. 2334 - Hunting

Provides that it is unlawful to *intentionally or wantonly* allow a dog to hunt, within or upon the land of another, or upon waters flowing over or standing on the land of another, without first obtaining permission from the owner or tenant; provides that it is unlawful to intentionally or wantonly allow a dog to hunt within 300 yards of an inhabited dwelling, without first obtaining permission from the owner or tenant.

Signed into law: 5/12/06

INDIANA

H.R. 10 – Dog Training

Endorses American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen Program and encourages dog training programs and kennel clubs to provide training and education for community pet owners that result in dogs being "Canine Good Citizens."

Adopted: 2/2/06

H.B. 1418 – Dog Kennels

Requires inspection of a major or minor kennel before a township assessor issues a license.

Signed into law: 3/20/06

IOWA

S.F. 2377 - CAFO

Strips the director of the Department of Natural Resource's of his or her ability to deny construction permits to livestock confinement systems that meet state requirements but may pose environmental risks.

Vetoed

S.F. 2076 - CAFO

Relates to confinement feeding operations by providing for manure management plans.

Vetoed

KANSAS

S.B. 408 – Animal Cruelty

Creates felony level animal cruelty and harming or killing certain dogs

Signed into law: 4/17/06

S.B. 578 – Exotic Pets

Prohibits keeping big cats and other wild animals as pets.

Signed into law: 4/17/06

KENTUCKY

H.B. 289 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits any person from hunting or harvesting wildlife in Kentucky by means of computer-assisted remote hunting or providing or operating a facility that allows others to engage in computer-assisted remote hunting.

Signed into law: 4/21/06

H.R. 139 – Dog Training

Endorses the AKC's Canine Good Citizen Program. Encourages dog training programs and kennel clubs to provide training and education for community pet owners that result in dogs being "Canine Good Citizens."

Adopted: 2/2/06

S.B. 230 – Captive Deer

Creates a captive cervid holding permit; requires Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources to promulgate administrative regulations relating to the permit within sixty days that are no more restrictive than the regulation currently in place other than the modifications required by this act.

Signed into law: 4/4/06

LOUISIANA

H.B. 52 – Internet Hunting

Makes it unlawful for a person to engage in computer assisted remote hunting or to operate a facility that provides computer assisted remote hunting services.

Signed into law: 6/30/06

H.B. 772 – Disaster Planning

Creates a pet disaster operation plan and registration system.

Signed into law: 6/30/06

H.B. 795 – Exotic Pets

Requires Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to control importation and ownership of big exotic cats including sales over the internet.

Signed into law: 6/29/06

H.B. 808 – Animal Cruelty

Allows animal control agencies to appoint animal control officers with P.O.S.T. certification to enforce animal related laws.

Signed into law: 6/30/06

H.B. 1146 – Animal Cruelty

Adds swans, ratites, emus, ostriches, rheas, cassowaries, kiwis, and peafowl to the cruelty code.

Signed into law: 6/2/06

H.C.R 93 – Dog Fighting

Recognizes the Louisiana State Police for its efforts in combating dog fighting.

Signed into law: 6/13/06

S.B. 607

Provides a disaster operation plan for service animals and household pets.

Signed into law: 6/23/06

MAINE

L.D. 1832 (HP 1272)

Authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt rules to prohibit or regulate the transportation of a fish or wildlife species or any part of a fish or wildlife species into or within the State in order to protect Maine's deer and moose population from chronic wasting disease.

Signed into law: 2/17/06

L.D. 1881 (HP 1321) – Pet Protection

Amends the definition sections in the animal welfare laws to enact definitions for 'council' as being the Animal Welfare Advisory Council; to amend definitions for 'animal shelter,' 'breeding kennel,,'; Repeals the surcharge currently assessed for unneutered cats and dogs sold by a breeding kennel (now only applies to pet stores); Amends the domestic relations laws providing relief from abuse to allow judges to write protection from abuse orders to protect companion animals.

Signed into law: 3/27/06

MARYLAND

H.B. 11 – Animal Cruelty

Clarifies under the misdemeanor animal cruelty law that a person does not have to own, possess or have custody or charge of an animal to be guilty of the crime of inflicting unnecessary suffering or pain on an animal.

Signed into law: 5/16/06

H.B. 66 (SB 40) – Dog Kennels

Excludes Talbot County from certain provisions of law relating to dog licenses and kennel licenses; requires that the fees, terms, and form of dog and kennel licenses in Talbot County be determined by the County Council of Talbot County; provides that the requirement for a dog tag in Talbot County may be satisfied by either a metal tag or a surgically implanted microchip; excludes Talbot County from a provision of law specifying requirements for dog tags.

Signed into law: 5/2/06

H.B. 205 – Sunday Hunting

Removes Anne Arundel County from the list of counties in which deer hunting on private lands on Sundays is prohibited.

Signed into law: 5/2/06

H.B. 396 - CAFO

Requires a person filing a nuisance action against an agricultural operation in any court to first file a complaint with a specified local agency or refer a complaint to the State agricultural mediation program in the Department of Agriculture and to obtain a decision or recommendation from the local agency or a specified certification from the Department on the nuisance complaint; excepting government agencies from specified requirements; etc.

Signed into law: 4/25/06

H.B. 465 - Trapping

Reduces the use of steel jawed leghold traps by adding Howard county to the current list of four counties that ban their use in all places except for farm land and underwater.

Signed into law: 5/16/06

H.B. 495 - Horses

Prohibits unsafe transport of horses.

Signed into law: 4/26/06

H.B. 704 – Exotic Pets

Prohibits the private possession of big cats, caimans and primates.

Signed into law: 5/16/06

H.B. 980 - Terrapin

Allows commercial killing of terrapin while a study is being conducted.

Signed into law: 5/16/06

H.B. 939 – Sunday Hunting

Removes Montgomery County from the list of counties in which deer hunting on private lands on Sundays is prohibited.

Signed into law: 5/2/06

S.B. 521 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits Internet hunting

Signed into law: 4/6/06

S.B. 766 – Hunting

Alters the list of persons eligible for exemptions from the requirement to obtain a hunting license and stamp; includes bow and arrow and black powder stamps in the exemption.

Signed into law: 5/2/06

MASSACHUSETTS

NONE

MICHIGAN

H.B. 4271 - Deer

Amends the General Property Tax Act to include farming operations that harvest cervidae onsite in the definition of “agricultural operations”, for the purpose of classifying agricultural real property.

Signed into law: 6/21/06

H.B. 4468 – Game Birds

Amends the General Property Tax Act to include operating a game bird hunting preserve within the definition of “agricultural operations”, for the purpose of classifying agricultural real property.

Signed into law: 7/12/06

H.B. 5192 – Youth Hunting

By Hummell, reduces the minimum age from 14 to 12 and for a minor to hunt deer, bear, or elk with a firearm from 12 to 10.

Signed into law: 7/7/06

MINNESOTA

S.F. 2374 – Animal Rescue

Repeals a law that prohibits rescue groups from rescuing unlicensed stray dogs from animal control facilities.

Signed into law: 5/24/06

H.F. 2656 – Dangerous Dogs

Adds a definition for bodily harm; Adds the word "dangerous" to signs that are posted where such animals are housed; Provides local animal control with certain discretion; Makes it a violation if a person negligently fails to control or properly confine a regulated animal if that animal causes harm to a human; Increases penalties for not registering a regulated animal. Also increases the penalties for certain assaults on animal control officers.

Signed into law: 6/1/06

MISSISSIPPI

S.C.R. 560 – Dog Training

Endorses AKC's Canine Good Citizen Program and encourages dog training programs and kennel clubs to provide training and education for community pet owners that result in dogs being "Canine Good Citizens."

Adopted: 2/21/06

S.B. 2041 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits a person from engaging in computer-assisted remote hunting.

Signed into law: 3/7/06

H.B. 1109 - Slaughter

Requires inspection of slaughterhouses covered under the state Humane Slaughter Act.

Signed into law: 3/13/06

S.B. 2210 – Hog Dog Fighting

Bans Hog Dog and makes it illegal to maliciously kill or wound a cat (only dogs prior).

Signed into law: 3/27/06

MISSOURI

NONE

MONTANA

NONE

NEBRASKA

L.B. 855 – Exotic pets

Requires notification of and records for exotic animal auctions or swap meets as prescribed.

Signed into law: 4/17/06

NEVADA

NONE

NEW HAMPSHIRE

H.B. 1420 – Internet Hunting

Makes the offering for sale or assisting in the taking of game by use of remote control or Internet hunting a misdemeanor.

Signed into law: 5/2/06

H.B. 1435 – Disaster Planning

Authorizes the director of the division of emergency services, communications, and management to prepare a plan for service animals to be evacuated in the event of an emergency. This bill also establishes a commission to and livestock in cases of emergency.

Signed into law: 6/1/06

H.B. 1612 – Lottery

Removes the authority of the lottery commission to use lottery revenue as purses for horse and dog racing.

Signed into law: 6/1/06

H.B. 1646 – Hunting

Allows hunters to use a leashed tracking dog, after notice to a conservation officer, for the recovery of a wounded deer, moose, or bear.

Signed into law: 4/24/06

NEW JERSEY

A. 764/S. 574 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits computer-assisted remote hunting.

Signed into law: 4/12/06

A. 2233 /S. 1739 – Dissection Choice

Provide that public school pupils may choose not to participate in certain experiments involving animals and requires schools to provide alternative education projects.

Signed into law: 1/5/06

A. 4714 - Fur

Imposes a six percent gross receipts tax on the retail sale of fur clothing in this State and a six percent use tax on the use of certain fur clothing in this State for which a tax has not been paid.

Signed into law: 7/8/06

A. 1929 – Disaster Planning

Requires coordination of emergency operations plans and creation of emergency plan for certain animals.

Signed into law: 8/21/06

NEW MEXICO

S.B. 157 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits internet hunting.

Signed into law: 2/6/06

S.M. 2 - Horses

A resolution to encourage the Federal Government to improve management of wild horse herds including suggestions to use contraception programs instead of the sale of wild horses and to end helicopter round ups of horses.

Adopted: 2/1/06

H.M. 2 – Disaster Planning

Requests that The Department of Public Safety develop guidelines for the evacuation of domestic pets, as well as individuals, during disasters.

Adopted: 2/1/06

NEW YORK

S.B. 7691/ H.B. 10767 – Pet Protection

Allows animals to be included in domestic protection orders.

Signed into law: 7/26/06

A.9292/ S.B. 6913 – Disaster Planning

Provides for state and local disaster preparedness plans to address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a disaster emergency.

Signed into law: 9/13/06

NORTH CAROLINA

H.B. 2098 – Hog Dog Fighting

Makes hog dog fighting illegal.

Signed into law: 7/13/06

H.B. 2653 - Trapping

Establishes a trapping season for foxes in Alamance County.

Signed into law: 7/18/06

NORTH DAKOTA

NONE

OHIO

H.B. 296 – Youth Hunting

Creates an Apprentice Hunting License which is designed to recruit children into hunting. Under an Apprentice Hunting License, a person who has not completed the required hunter safety course would be allowed to hunt so long as they are accompanied by a licensed adult hunter.

Signed into law: 2/14/06

H.B. 416 – Pet Trusts

Establishes pet trusts.

Signed into law: 6/28/06

S.B. 9 - Eco-Terrorism

Adds a definition for “Animal or ecological terrorism” to the Ohio code for acts that are already covered by existing law.

Signed into law: 2/14/06

OKLAHOMA

S.B. 1296 - Trapping

Legalizes river otter trapping and authorize the trophy hunting of mountain lions and black bears.

Signed into law: 5/9/06

H.B. 1672 - Bonding

Adds bonding provisions to cruelty cases.

Signed into law: 5/26/06

H.B. 2813 – Dangerous Dogs

Increases liability insurance and fines for dangerous dogs.

Signed into law: 6/7/06

OREGON

NONE

PENNSYLVANIA

H.B. 213 – Eco-Terrorism

Creates the crime of eco-terrorism. A person is guilty of ecoterrorism if the person commits an a specified offense against property intending to do any of the following: Intimidate or coerce an individual lawfully: (i) participating in an activity involving animals, plants or an activity involving natural resources; or (ii) using an animal, plant or natural resource facility. (2) Prevent or obstruct an individual from lawfully: (i) participating in an activity involving animals, plants or an activity involving natural resources; or (ii) using an animal, plants or natural resource facility.

Signed into law: 4/14/06

H.B. 1320 – Exotic Pets

Restricts the possession, sale, importation or release of snakehead fish.

Signed into law: 7/7/06

H.B. 1580 - Deer

Changes the definition of cervidae livestock operation; creates a definition for "harvesting" to include any lethal or non lethal means of "collecting" cervidae or parts of cervidae; clearly spells out that cervidae operations are to be classified as agriculture and gives them all rights of an agricultural facility.

Signed into law: 6/29/06

H.R. 613 – Animal Cruelty

Designates the week of April 23 through 30, 2006, as "Animal Abuse Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

Adopted: 3/15/06

H.R. 649 – Animal Cruelty

Honors the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for 140 years of service to the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and their animals.

Adopted: 3/15/06

S.B. 660 – Pet Trusts

Creates pet trusts. Trust terminates when the animal dies.

Signed into law: 7/7/06

RHODE ISLAND

H. 7906 & S. 2014 – Spay and Neuter

Prohibits a person from owning a cat over 6 months that has not been spayed or neutered unless the person holds license to keep an unaltered cat, or a license and permit for breeding cats, or unless a licensed veterinarian provides a letter stating that the cat cannot be spayed or neutered due to age, health or illness.

Signed into law: 6/9/06

H. 7982 & S. 3026 – Animal Shelter

Authorizes the City of Pawtucket to provide for the construction and equipping of an animal shelter and provides funds for the project

Became law without the Governor's signature: 6/2/06 & 6/8/06

H. 8105 – Animal Cruelty

Allows the East Providence city council to enact an ordinance permitting the animal control officer or any police officer in the city to issue citations to persons in violation of any animal ordinances.

Became law without the Governor's signature: 7/7/06

H. 8171 – Internet Hunting

Makes it illegal to shoot or kill any bird or animal via an Internet connection in the state of Rhode Island or to import, export, or possess any bird or animal which has been killed by the use of an internet connection.

Became law without the Governor's signature: 7/14/06

H.J.R. 8078 – Endangered Species

Proclaims May 11, 2006 as “Endangered Species Day” in the State of Rhode Island; and expresses the General Assembly’s support for upholding the Endangered Species Act so it may continue to protect our plants and animals, and the special places they live, from the finality of extinction.

Adopted: 5/11/06

SOUTH CAROLINA

H.B. 4296 - Terrapins

Takes away authority of DNR to grant permits to harvest and market the diamond backed terrapin. Makes it illegal to use a diamond-backed terrapin for commercial use.

Signed into law: 3/15/06

H.B. 3879 – Internet Hunting

Makes internet hunting illegal.

Became law without the Governor’s signature: 4/13/06

S.B. 1205 – Factory Farming

Does not allow county or local ordinances to enact factory farming nuisance regulations that are more strict than what state law requires.

Became law without the Governor’s signature: 5/30/06

S.B. 229 – Animal Fighting

Makes Hog Dog fighting a felony and increases penalties for cockfighting.

Signed into law: 6/12/06

SOUTH DAKOTA

H.B. 1178 – Pet Trusts

Provides for the establishment of certain honorary trusts and of certain trusts for animals.

Signed into law: 2/22/06

H.B. 1181 – Animal Control

Allows the board or county commissioners in each county to grant authority to provide animal control to a qualified nonprofit for up to three years.

Signed into law: 3/6/06

S.B. 122 – Factory Farming

Exempts certain breeding stock animals, products, and facilities from corporate farming restrictions. Do not apply to agricultural land, animals, or facilities owned or operated primarily for the purpose of producing animal breeding stock or reproductive products from animals. Prohibition of corporate or limited liability company for purpose of agricultural business.

Signed into law: 2/23/06

H.C.R. 1002 – Dog Training

Endorses the AKC's Canine Good Citizen Program and supporting its efforts to promote responsible dog ownership in the state of South Dakota.

Signed into law: 1/27/06

TENNESSEE

H.R. 181 – Dog Training

Endorses AKC's Canine Good Citizen Program. Encourages dog training programs and kennel clubs to provide training and education for community pet owners that result in dogs being "Canine Good Citizens."

Adopted: 2/23/06

S.B. 2714 – Cross Reporting

Requires cross reporting of cruelty cases.

Signed into law: 5/23/06

TEXAS

NONE

UTAH

H.B. 95 – Spay and Neuter

Creates the Cat and Dog Community Spay and Neuter Program Restricted Account; provides that the restricted account shall earn interest, and provides that the interest shall be deposited into the restricted account; describes organizations to which the Department of Health shall distribute contributions made to the Cat and Dog Community Spay and Neuter Program Restricted Account.

Signed into law: 3/17/06

H.B. 287 - Wildlife

Allows a livestock owner to receive compensation for livestock damaged by an eagle

Signed into law: 3/13/06

H.B. 328 - Youth Hunting

Eliminates the age requirement for hunting small game.

Signed into law: 3/17/06

VERMONT

H. 373 – Pet Protection

Allows judges to issue protective orders for pets of people seeking to leave abusive relationships.

Signed into law: 5/26/06

H. 890 – Disaster Planning

Removes civil liability for those who voluntarily and without compensation provide space for sheltering animals during emergencies or practice drills; Establishes that local emergency planning committees should include representatives from an animal rescue organization; and Requires a representative of the Vermont Humane Federation and The Humane Society of the United States be included in the state emergency response commission.

Signed into law: 5/31/06

VIRGINIA

H.B. 172 – Wildlife

Allows the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries to promulgate regulations necessary to protect wildlife populations, domestic animals, and public health if a wildlife disease outbreak is identified. The regulations shall include, but not be limited to, (i) measures to be implemented to eradicate or prevent the spread of such diseases and (ii) procedures for the condemnation and indemnification of captive wildlife.

Signed into law: 2/23/06

H.B. 339 - Rabies

Requires licensed veterinarians to send a copy of rabies certificates to the county treasurer's office which will then remit to the animal's owner, an application and a bill for a license.

Signed into law: 4/19/06

H.B. 340, H.B. 1039, & S.B. 200 – Dangerous Dogs

Requires the control of dangerous dogs within a statewide mandated framework. The bill imposes criminal penalties ranging from a Class 2 misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony for violations that result in injury to a person or death to a cat or dog. The bill expands the authority to petition a court to find a dog dangerous to any law-enforcement officer and makes that petition mandatory. A Virginia Dangerous Dog Registry is created to be maintained by the State Veterinarian; any change in the status of a dangerous dog is to be promptly submitted in writing. Surrender of a dog that is subject of a pending action to animal control shall not be in lieu of prosecution. The bill also (i) narrows the definition of "dangerous dogs" to include dogs that inflict injury to another cat or dog requiring the animal to be euthanized while also broadening safe harbor provisions; (ii) requires that a dog that has been found to be dangerous or vicious shall be spayed or neutered; and (iii) requires liability insurance in the amount of \$100,000 to be purchased by the owner of a dangerous dog, or in lieu of the insurance policy, the owner may obtain a surety bond.

Signed into law: 4/19/06

H.B. 574 – Youth Trapping

By Nixon, establishes a state youth resident trapping license, which may be obtained by any resident under 16, to trap in all counties and cities for a fee of \$10. (HSUS Opposed)

Signed into law: 3/7/06

H.B. 575 - Trapping

Exempts trappers using body grip traps that are completely underwater from having to visit these traps once each day. Instead they will have to inspect these traps once every 72 hours.

Signed into law: 2/23/06

H.B. 906 – Pet Trusts

Amends the pet trust law.

Signed into law: 4/5/06

H.J.R. 116 – Animal Control

Directs the Virginia State Crime Commission to study the need for regulation, training, and funding of animal control officers in the Commonwealth.

Adopted: 2/28/06

H.J.R. 124 – Animal Control

Encourages the Virginia Association of Counties and the Virginia Municipal League to advise and advocate to their respective members to adopt a public nuisance animal ordinance.

Adopted: 3/2/06

S.B. 83 - Trapping

Exempts trappers who use a submerged conibear type trap from having to comply with the current law, which requires a trapper to visit his trap every day. These trappers will have to visit the trap once every 72 hours.

Signed into law: 4/3/06

S.B. 574 - Pets

Prohibits the giving away as pets or novelties any living chicks, ducklings, or other fowl under 2 months old in quantities of less than 6 or any unweaned mammalian companion animal, dog or any cat. HSUS Supported

Signed into law: 4/6/06

S.J.R. 12 – Dogs

Designates the last full week of September each year as Virginia Responsible Dog Ownership Week.

Adopted: 2/24/06

WASHINGTON

H.B. 2381 – Wildlife

Authorizes a beaver relocation permit.

Vetoed

S.B. 6417 – Animal Cruelty

Felony to commit an act of sexual abuse on an animal.

Signed into law: 3/26/06

S.B. 6568 – Animal Fighting

Makes being a spectator at an animal fight a felony.

Signed into law: 3/26/06

H.B. 2776 – Wildlife

Modifying Wildlife and wild animal-- added meat from game farms inspected by USDA.

Signed into law: 3/14/06

WEST VIRGINIA

S.B. 13 – Animal Cruelty

Requires that when law enforcement officers investigating domestic violence suspect animal cruelty, that they report this to humane officers.

Signed into law: 3/23/06

WISCONSIN

A.B. 26 – Wildlife

Allows Wisconsin to become a member of the wildlife violator compact, which is currently in effect in 18 states. Under the compact, if a person is arrested for violating a law that protects wildlife while he or she is in a state other than his or her state of residence, the person is given the same procedures to follow to comply with the citation as a resident of the issuing state is afforded.

Signed into law: 4/8/06

A.B. 131 - Trapping

Allows the DNR to issue nonresident trapping licenses.

Signed into law: 4/11/06

A.B. 217 – Rabies

By Hines, allows a certified veterinary technician to administer a rabies vaccination to a dog under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

Signed into law: 3/29/06

A.B. 218 – Castration

Requires a person to obtain a veterinary license before he or she may castrate a dog or cat.

Signed into law: 3/29/06

A.B. 345 - Deer

Creates an exemption to the minimum acreage requirement for hunting on deer farms.

Signed into law: 4/19/06

A.B. 539 – Pet Protection

Includes mistreatment of a vulnerable adult's animal as a cause for seeking protective orders.

Signed into law: 5/11/06

A.B. 486 – Wildlife

Requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to, in cooperation with federal agencies, administer a program to control and manage double-crested cormorants.

Signed into law: 4/8/06

A.B. 527 – Rabies

Authorizes a city, village, or town to exempt the owner of a dog from the requirement to have the dog vaccinated against rabies if the owner provides a letter from a veterinarian stating that vaccination is inadvisable for reasons related to the dog's health. The owner may obtain a dog license for a dog that is exempt from the vaccination requirement, but the owner must provide a new letter for each year that the owner seeks an exemption.

Signed into law: 3/29/06

S.B. 181 – Service Dogs

Creates penalties for crimes against service dogs that are consistent with those already in place for law enforcement dogs and fire agency dogs.

Signed into law: 4/19/06

WYOMING

H.B. 24 – Wildlife

The bill approves a \$6 million, two-year program to fund local predator control districts in Wyoming's 23 counties, to be administered by the state Animal Damage Management Board.

Signed into law: 3/22/06

H.B. 25 – Animal Cruelty

Requires the owner of a seized animal to post a bond with the circuit court in the county where the animal was impounded.

Signed into law: 3/22/06