



Animal Defense League of Arizona

ARIZONA 2009 LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The 2009 Arizona Legislative session brought the usual slew of bad bills targeting animals, habitat, and voting rights. Thankfully few of these measures passed. It was a very unusual session. The Senate did not start hearing bills until after it addressed the state budget, leaving little time to hear scores of bills. Fortunately the Legislature did pass two important animal protection bills, both of which were signed into law by Governor Brewer.

The Good Bills

Animal Protection Omnibus Bill

For the first time in the Arizona Legislature, a bill addressing one animal issue was successfully expanded to include a range of other animal protection provisions.

SB 1115: animals; fighting, sponsored by Sen. Paton and Rep. Young Wright, expands dog fighting to include all animal fighting. In a welcome move, the bill was amended to add language from three separate animal protection measures.

In addition to the animal fighting provision, the final bill bans the cruel sport of horse tripping; gives county officials authority to inspect private dog kennels upon written complaints; and requires the Arizona Department of Agriculture to establish a registry of equine rescue facilities.

SB 1115 as amended passed the Legislature with only two “no” votes (Sen. Jack Harper and Rep. Andy Biggs), and was signed by Governor Brewer.



Sterilization of Impounded Animals

HB 2458: dogs; cats; release from pound, sponsored by Rep. Court, requires that impounded unlicensed dogs and cats be spayed or neutered and microchipped before being released to owners. The bill passed the House 51-8-1 and the Senate 18-9-3 and was signed by Governor Brewer.

Procedures for Animal Shelters

SB 1466: animal shelters; procedures; requirements, sponsored by Sen. Melvin, referred to as the No Kill Animal Shelter Act, provides guidelines and procedures for handling animals in the care of pounds and animal shelters. The bill passed the Senate but was held in the House.

The Bad Bills

The Game & Fish Commission Bill

One of the worst bills introduced was HB 2235: game & fish commissioners; appointment, sponsored by Reps Jerry Weiers and Gowan, which would have

required appointees to the Game and Fish Commission to have a hunting license or a combined hunting and fishing license for five years immediately prior to being appointed to the Commission. It also would have required that they be registered with the same political party for five years and a resident of Arizona for 10 years.

Arizona's wildlife is owned by the state of Arizona in Public Trust for *all* citizens, and



yet this bill would have disqualified about 90% of the public from the opportunity to serve on the Commission. According to the Arizona Game and Fish Department, in 2006, 1.5 million Arizonans said they were involved in wildlife recreation, and only 200,000 were hunters or fishers. The rest were wildlife watchers.

HB 2235 was opposed by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, past commissioners (hunters and non-hunters), ADLA, the Sierra Club, and many others. Bill sponsors tried to revive and amend the bill but it died in committee.

Threats to Citizen Initiatives

Another example of cooperation within broad coalitions is The Voters of Arizona, of which ADLA is a member. The group has remained active following the landslide defeat of Prop 105 last November. Prop 105 would have destroyed Arizona's citizen initiative process - our best and sometimes only tool for protecting animals.

The latest threat to the Voter Protection Act (VPA) was SCR 1009: voter-protection; temporary budgetary suspension, sponsored by Senators Pearce and Harper. The bill, if passed by voters, would have suspended the VPA purportedly so legislators could access voter-protected funds during budget deficits. Lawmakers could potentially use this tactic to weaken or overturn any citizen initiatives they do not like. SCR 1009 passed the Senate but was not brought to a House vote.

As introduced, HCR 2030: initiative and referendum; voter approval, sponsored by Reps Stevens and Gowan, was a Constitutional amendment that would require a state, county, city or town initiative or referendum that would raise revenue to be approved by a 2/3 majority vote. The bill was replaced by a strike-all amendment 'postcard to Congress' measure to weaken protection for Arizona's rivers and streams.

There were other potential threats to voting rights. In her original budget plan Governor Brewer had proposed a 2010 referendum requiring a re-vote on all previously approved voter initiatives that impact the General Fund. Had that measure have passed, all of those initiatives would be on the 2012 ballot for re-voting. This could have a devastating impact on Arizona's citizen initiative process. We anticipate another round of attacks on voters' rights in the 2010 legislative session.

Slot machines at dog tracks

ADLA and Greyhound Network News (GNN) tracked a proposal to allow slot machines at racetracks (racinos). Though no bill was introduced, track lobbyists launched a media campaign to gain support from business groups and politicians.

In 2002, Arizona voters defeated a referendum to allow slots at tracks by an 80% - 20% margin. That fact hasn't deterred track lobbyists, who are promising legislators high revenue returns to appease the budget deficit. However, the tracks' revenue numbers have not been verified and a preliminary review by the Arizona Joint Legislative Budget Committee called their projections "highly unlikely." Moreover racinos would jeopardize tribal gaming revenue which has contributed over \$530 million to Arizona since 2004. In contrast, dog tracks have paid no pari-mutuel taxes since being granted large tax breaks in 1995.

And there are more than economic concerns. Because state law would require racinos to include live racing, the needless over-breeding of racing animals would continue. And despite rescue efforts, thousands of greyhounds are still being killed each year on a nationwide basis.

After its failed attempt to convince the Arizona Legislature to pass a racino bill, Phoenix Greyhound Park (PGP) announced it will shut down in December. Since hundreds of dogs will be displaced, track officials and staff are reportedly working with kennel operators and rescue groups to find homes for the greyhounds. However, PGP will retain its racetrack license in hopes that lawmakers pass a racino bill. We anticipate such a measure to be introduced next session.

Factory Farms

SB 1225 NOW: Dust control; best management practices , sponsored by Sen. Steve



Pierce, pre-empts local government's ability to develop ordinances to regulate air quality for large industrial agricultural operations, and shifts regulation to the Agricultural Best Management Committee, a group composed entirely of industry representatives.

It's already too easy for industrial agricultural facilities to obtain permits to operate. An example was the proposed industrial hog operation to be built on pristine desert near Yuma. The project is on hold thanks to efforts by local farmers and landowners. For more information visit the [ADLA Fall 2007 newsletter](#). SB 1225 passed the Legislature and was signed by Governor Brewer.

Other Bad Bills

SCM 1001: equine resources: opposing federal legislation , sponsored by Sen. Steve Pierce and Rep. Nelson, is a 'postcard to Congress' opposing a federal ban on horse slaughter. In 2009 ten states have introduced similar resolutions urging Congress to oppose legislation banning the slaughter of horses.

Super Stars

The Animal Defense League of Arizona wishes to thank those special legislators that expended extraordinary efforts to protect animals and our public initiative process.

Rep. Nancy Young Wright and Sen. Jonathan Paton were prime sponsors of several animal protection measures including the Animal Omnibus Bill. Rep. Young Wright also formed a bipartisan animal protection caucus.

Rep. Kyrsten Sinema sponsored bills banning animal fighting and horse tripping, whose language was incorporated into the Animal Omnibus Bill. Representatives Ed Ableser, Steve Farley, and David Lujan also sponsored both bills.

Representatives Chad Campbell and Daniel Patterson sponsored and supported wildlife protection measures.

Senator Al Melvin sponsored the No Kill Animal Shelter Act to provide animal-handling guidelines for animal shelters.

Additional lawmakers that voted favorably on animal-related measures and were present for all or most key bill votes include:

Representatives Cajero Bedford, Cloves Campbell, Chabin, Fleming, Garcia, Heinz, Lopes, Meyer, B. Miranda, Schapira, and Tovar.

Senators Aboud, Burton Cahill, Garcia, Hale, Landrum Taylor, Miranda, and Rios.

ADLA thanks Yvonne Anderson, Kathleen Mayer, Dr. Rodrigo Silva, Arizona Humane Society, Humane Society of Southern Arizona, Humane Society of the United States, Yavapai Humane Society, and Sierra Club Director Sandy Bahr. Also, ADLA greatly appreciates all the volunteers who have contacted their lawmakers through each session. For more information on legislation visit the ADLA website at www.adlaz.org.

Unfriendly Lawmakers

Rep. Andrew Tobin promoted legislation to permit slots at racetracks.

Rep. Jerry Weiers sponsored the AZ Game & Fish Commission Appointments bill.

Sen. Sylvia Allen sponsored the Factory Farm bill.

Sen. John Nelson sponsored the Factory Farm bill and the Resolution opposing a federal horse slaughter ban.

The following legislators voted against every good bill with the exception of the Animal Omnibus Bill (which received only two opposing votes):

Representatives Crump, Murphy, and Seel.

Senators Burns, Gorman, Gould, Chuck Gray, Verschoor, and Waring.

Even Worse

Rep. David Gowan sponsored the AZ Game & Fish Commission Appointment bill and the Anti-Initiative bill and voted against every pro-animal measure except for the Animal Omnibus Bill.

Representatives Judy Burges, David Stevens and Senator Russell Pearce sponsored anti-initiative bill SCR 1009 and voted against every pro-animal bill except for the Animal Omnibus Bill.

Rep. Andy Biggs voted against every pro-animal bill and was the only House member to vote No on the Animal Omnibus Bill.

Sen. Steve Pierce sponsored the Factory Farm bill and the Resolution opposing a federal horse slaughter ban and voted against every pro-animal measure except for the Animal Omnibus Bill.

Sen. Jack Harper sponsored the anti-initiative bill and SB 1005: rabies vaccination certificate; county enforcement, which would have significantly impeded animal control agencies. Fortunately the bill died. Harper voted against every pro-animal bill and was the only Senate member to vote No on the Animal Omnibus Bill.

Legislative Scorecard

Voting records are provided on key bills there are no actual points or grades assigned.

A checkmark indicates a pro-animal vote, while an “x” represents an anti-animal vote.

A blank column under a bill indicates that the legislator did not have the opportunity to vote on that measure.

Bill voting records represent one public aspect of the legislative process. However, many factors that affect measures are not subject to public scrutiny. The efforts of lawmakers, lobbyists, and others to influence legislation largely take place within the “hidden” political process. That is why additional actions by lawmakers were also taken into consideration, such as sponsoring bills or influencing the passage or defeat of animal-related measures. Those actions are represented in the OTHER column by a positive icon ☺ or negative icon ☹. In the COMMENTS column, PS means that the legislator was the primary sponsor of a bill.

Although animal protection and initiative bills provide a gauge for reviewing lawmakers, other bills that impact animals are those that affect wildlife habitat. For legislative information on conservation measures, including voting records and scorecards visit the Arizona Sierra Club at http://arizona.sierraclub.org/political_action/index.asp

For more information on this legislative report or on candidates, please email adla@adlaz.org

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ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SCORECARD 2009

Name	District	Party	Animal Omnibus	Spay Neuter of Impounded Pets	Anti-Initiative	Factory Farms	Other	Comments
Andrew M. Tobin	1	R	✓	✓	✘	✘	☹	Sponsored campaign for slots at racetracks
Lucy Mason	1	R	NV	NV		✘		
Christopher Deschene	2	D	✓	NV		NV		
Tom Chabin	2	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	😊	PS kennel inspection bill
Doris Goodale	3	R	✓	✓		✘		
Nancy McLain	3	R	✓	✓		✘		
Judy M. Burges	4	R	✓	✘		✘	☹	PS anti-initiative bill
Tom Boone	4	R	✓	✓		✘		
Jack A. Brown	5	D	✓	NV	✓	✘	😊	PS horse tripping ban bill
Bill Konopnicki	5	R	✓	NV		✘	☹☹	PS equine registry bill; PS factory farm bill
Carl Seel	6	R	✓	✘		✘		
Sam Crump	6	R	✓	✘	✘	✘		
Nancy K. Barto	7	R	✓	NV		✘		
Ray Barnes	7	R	✓	✓		✘		
John Kavanagh	8	R	✓	✘		✘	☹😊	PS SCR 1009 anti-initiative bill; PS horse tripping ban bill
Michele Reagan	8	R	✓	✓		✘		
Debbie Lesko	9	R	✓	✓		✘		
Rick Murphy	9	R	✓	✘		✘		
Doug Quelland	10	R	NV	NV		NV		
Jim Weiers	10	R	✓	✓		✘		
Eric Meyer	11	D	✓	NV		✓	😊	PS horse tripping ban bill
Adam Driggs	11	R	✓	NV	✘	✘		
Jerry Weiers	12	R	✓	✓		✘	☹	PS Game & Fish Commission appt
Steve B. Montenegro	12	R	✓	✓		✘		
Anna Tovar	13	D	✓	✓	NV	✓		
Martha Garcia	13	D	✓	NV	✓	✓		
Chad Campbell	14	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	😊	PS wildlife protection bills
Robert Meza	14	D	NV	NV		NV		
David Lujan	15	D	✓	✓		✓	😊😊😊	PS numerous animal protection bills
Kyrsten Sinema	15	D	NV	✓		✓	😊😊😊😊	PS numerous animal protection bills
Ben R. Miranda	16	D	✓	NV	✓	✓		
Cloves C. Campbell, Jr.	16	D	✓	NV		✓		
David Schapira	17	D	✓	✓		✓		
Edward Ableser	17	D	✓	NV		✓	😊😊😊	PS numerous animal protection bills
Cecil P. Ash	18	R	✓	✓		✘		

Name	District	Party	Animal Omnibus	Spay Neuter of Impounded Pets	Anti-Initiative	Factory Farms	Other	Comments
Steve Court	18	R	✓	✓		✘	☹☹	PS HB 2458 S/N impounded pets; PS anti-initiative bill
Kirk Adams	19	R	✓	✓	✘	✘		
Rich Crandall	19	R	✓	NV		NV		
Rae Waters	20	D	✓	NV		✓		
John McComish	20	R	✓	✓	✘	✘		
Steven B. Yarbrough	21	R	✓	✓	✘	✘		
Warde V. Nichols	21	R	✓	✓	✘	✘		
Andy Biggs	22	R	✘	✘		✘		
Laurin Hendrix	22	R	✓	✓		✘		
Barbara McGuire	23	D	✓	✓		✘		
Frank Pratt	23	R	✓	✓		✘		
Lynne Pancrazi	24	D	✓	NV		✘	☹☹	PS horse tripping ban bill; PS equine registry bill
Russell L. Jones	24	R	✓	✓		✘	☹☹	PS equine registry bill; PS factory farm bill
Patricia V. Fleming	25	D	✓	✓		✓		
David W. Stevens	25	R	✓	✘		✘	☹	PS anti-initiative bill
Nancy Young Wright	26	D	✓	NV		✓	☺☺☺☺	PS numerous animal protection bills
Vic Williams	26	R	✓	✓		✘		
Olivia Cajero Bedford	27	D	✓	NV		✓		
Phil Lopes	27	D	✓	NV		✓		
David Bradley	28	D	✓	✓		✓		
Steve Farley	28	D	NV	✓		NV	☺☺☺	PS numerous animal protection bills
Daniel Patterson	29	D	✓	NV		✓	☺☺☺	PS numerous animal protection bills
Matt Heinz	29	D	NV	✓		✓		
David Gowan	30	R	✓	✘	✘	✘	☹☹	PS Game & Fish Commission appt; PS anti-initiative bill
Frank Antenori	30	R	✓	✘	✘	✘	☺	Assisted with animal omnibus bill

Representatives

Click on name for more information

Bills

Animal Omnibus Bill refers to SB 1115 (Young Wright, Paton)

Spay Neuter of Impounded Pets refers to HB 2458 (Court)

Anti-Initiative Bill refers to SCR 1009 (R. Pearce, Harper)

Factory Farms Bill refers to SB 1225 (S. Pierce)

Vote Symbols

Vote supporting animal protection or initiative rights ✓

Vote opposing animal protection or initiative rights ✘

Other

Action taken supporting animal protection or initiative rights ☺

Action taken opposing animal protection or initiative rights ☹

Comments

PS: Primary sponsor of a bill

ARIZONA SENATE SCORECARD 2009

Name	District	Party	Animal Omnibus	Spay Neuter of Impounded Pets	Anti-Initiative	Factory Farms	Other	Comments
Steve Pierce	1	R	✓	✗	✗	✗	☹☹	PS factory farm bill; PS memorial opposing horse slaughter ban
Albert Hale	2	D	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Ron Gould	3	R	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Jack W. Harper	4	R	✗	✗	✗	✗	☹☹	PS SB 1005 animal control; PS anti-initiative bill
Sylvia Allen	5	R	✓	✓	✗	✗	☹	PS factory farm bill
Pamela Gorman	6	R	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Jim Waring	7	R	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Carolyn S. Allen	8	R	✓	✓	✗	✗		
Robert "Bob" Burns	9	R	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Linda Gray	10	R	✓	✓	✗	✗		
Barbara Leff	11	R	✓	✓	✗	✗		
John Nelson	12	R	✓	✓	✗	✗	☹☹	PS factory farm bill; PS memorial opposing horse slaughter ban
Richard Miranda	13	D	✓	NV	✓	✓		
Debbie McCune Davis	14	D	NV	✓	NV	NV		
Ken Chevront	15	D	✓	NV	✓	✗		
Leah Landrum Taylor	16	D	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Meg Burton Cahill	17	D	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Russell Pearce	18	R	✓	✗	✗	✗	☹	PS SCR 1009 anti-initiative bill
Chuck Gray	19	R	✓	✗	✗	✗		
John Huppenthal	20	R	✓	✓	✗	✗		
Jay Tibshraeny	21	R	✓	✓	✓	✗		
Thayer Verschoor	22	R	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Rebecca Rios	23	D	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Amanda Aguirre	24	D	✓	✓	✓	✗		
Manny Alvarez	25	D	✓	✓	✓	✗		
Al Melvin	26	R	✓	✓	✗	✗	☺	PS SB 1446 animal shelter requirements bill
Jorge Luis Garcia	27	D	✓	NV	✓	✓		
Paula Aboud	28	D	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Linda Lopez	29	D	✓	✓	✓	✗		
Jonathan Paton	30	R	✓	✓	✗	✗	☺☺☺	PS numerous animal protection bills

Senators

Click on name for more information

Bills

Animal Omnibus Bill refers to SB 1115 (Young Wright, Paton)

Spay Neuter of Impounded Pets refers to HB 2458 (Court)

Anti-Initiative Bill refers to SCR 1009 (R. Pearce, Harper)

Factory Farms Bill refers to SB 1225 (S. Pierce)

Vote Symbols

Vote supporting animal protection or initiative rights ✓

Vote opposing animal protection or initiative rights ✗

Other

Action taken supporting animal protection or initiative rights ☺

Action taken opposing animal protection or initiative rights ☹

Comments

PS: Primary sponsor of a bill