

HUMANE ACTIVIST

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2018

SPECIAL PRE- ELECTION ISSUE

Agent for change
Pennsylvania congressman takes
on puppy mills and more

Midterms matter
November elections carry
high stakes for animals

RUNNING FOR THEIR LIVES

Ballot campaigns promise
history-making reforms



HUMANE SOCIETY
LEGISLATIVE FUND™

hslf.org



HUMANE SOCIETY LEGISLATIVE FUND™

The Humane Society Legislative Fund is a social welfare organization incorporated under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code and formed in 2004 as a separate lobbying affiliate of the Humane Society of the United States. HSLF works to pass animal protection laws at the state and federal levels, to educate the public about animal protection issues and to support humane candidates for office. On the web at hslf.org.

Contributions or gifts to HSLF are not tax deductible. Your donation may be used for lobbying to pass laws to protect animals, as well as for political purposes, such as supporting or opposing candidates.

STAFF: President, Sara Amundson; Vice President of Federal Affairs, Tracie Letterman; Federal Affairs Director, Mimi Brody; Senior Federal Legislative Specialist, Jocelyn Ziemian; Political Director, Hans Dunshee; Deputy Political Director, Brad Pyle; Director of Regulatory Affairs, Keisha Sedlacek; PAC and Compliance Manager, Faith Williams; Director of Philanthropy, David Balmer; Director of Online Communications, Kate Blocher; Coordinator, Jessica Simpson. HSUS Publications: Operations Manager, Elizabeth McNulty; Managing Editor, Rachel Querry; Senior Editor, Julie Falconer; Art Director, Shaina Lieberman; Contributing Editor, Beth JoJack.

Humane Activist (ISSN 1524-5233) is published five times a year by the Humane Society Legislative Fund. To subscribe to *Humane Activist* and to receive our annual *Humane Scorecard*, send a donation of \$10 or more to the Humane Society Legislative Fund at 1255 23rd St., NW, Suite 455, Washington, D.C. 20037, or contact us at 202-676-2314 or humaneactivist@hslf.org.

No permission is required for the reproduction of text from *Humane Activist*, provided that 1) it is not altered, 2) the context does not contradict its spirit and intent, and 3) credit is given as follows: Reprinted from *Humane Activist*/Humane Society Legislative Fund. For information on the reproduction of photos or other graphics, email humaneactivist@hslf.org.

Printed on recycled paper, elemental chlorine-free, with soy-based ink. ©2018 Humane Society Legislative Fund. All rights reserved.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear friends,

As this issue goes to press, we just had a banner day for animals in the House, with three important measures approved, following strong bipartisan statements of support for each: a bill to prohibit the dog and cat meat trade in the U.S., a resolution to urge other nations to end this cruel trade, and a bill to combat wildlife trafficking globally. The House resolution is now over the finish line, and we await final action in the Senate on the other two.

While we celebrate these milestones, much remains unresolved on the farm bill and its various elements that will impact animals for decades to come. Our team has been building opposition to the controversial amendment introduced by Rep. Steve King of Iowa, which could gut animal protections across the nation. At the same time, we're building support for several pro-animal measures that we hope will be included in the final version of the farm bill.

It remains to be seen whether Congress will meet its deadline for passing this massive piece of legislation by the end of September, when the current farm bill expires. For the latest developments, keep an eye on our blog and sign up for action alerts at hslf.org.

Early voting for the November midterms will begin soon in many states, and this special pre-election issue of *Humane Activist* brings you critical information that you will need when you go to the polls. The stakes are high, and the animals are counting on us to elect humane legislators and win reforms through two landmark state ballot initiatives.

I also wanted to report that we recently bid farewell to Mike Markarian, the first president of HSLF. Mike has spent the last three decades devoted to the animal protection cause, and he is taking a well-deserved break from this work while he pursues other interests. We are very grateful for Mike's leadership.

I hope that you will share the information in this issue. We each have the opportunity to amplify our voices for the well-being of animals. Please help us by reaching out to candidates by phone, email and in person at campaign events to ask them about their views on animal issues. This is a consequential election, and I'll leave you with one word: VOTE!

Sincerely,

Sara Amundson
President
Humane Society Legislative Fund



At track kennels, dogs are typically muzzled for long periods and spend 20 to 23 hours a day in small cages, with only short periods of exercise in turnout pens.

Compassion on the ballot

VOTERS IN CALIFORNIA AND FLORIDA PUSH FOR LANDMARK ANIMAL PROTECTION MEASURES

WHEN AMERICANS GET THE CHANCE to weigh in on issues impacting animal welfare, they tend to come down on the side of kindness. Animal advocates are counting on this humane instinct to prevail in November when Florida and California residents vote on two crucial measures.

In Florida, Amendment 13 would phase out greyhound dog racing entirely by the end of 2020. If passed, this initiative would be the nail in the coffin of an already dying industry: 11 of the 17 dog racing tracks in the U.S. are in Florida.

Since its inception, HSLF has fought to end this cruel “sport.” Greyhounds used for racing spend 20 to 23 hours a day in stacked metal cages barely large enough for the animals to stand up or turn around. Since 2013, more than 460 greyhounds have died during races on Florida tracks—averaging one dog every three days—and serious injuries are all too common.

To fight this cruelty, the Doris Day Animal League in late July made a \$1.5 million donation to the Committee to Protect Dogs, the group championing Amendment 13, which is using the money to buy ad time in Florida media markets.

“Right now our big challenge is getting the uninformed voter informed,” says Kate MacFall, Florida state director for the Humane Society of the United States and a co-chair of the Committee to Protect Dogs. While ballot measures in Florida require a supermajority (60 percent) of votes to pass, MacFall is optimistic. Amendment 13 has garnered a broad base of supporters, she notes, including state Attorney General Pam Bondi, state Rep. Carlos Guillermo Smith, D-Fla., Lara Trump, U.S. Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fla., and dozens of nonprofit organizations and local business leaders.

On the opposite coast, the California electorate will vote on Proposition 12, a historic farm animal welfare initiative. The measure would abolish the tiny cages used to confine baby veal calves, mother pigs and egg-laying hens, and it would mandate that eggs, veal and pork sold in the state meet the same standard.

HSLF is a leading coalition partner of the Yes on Prop 12 campaign, along with more than 500 veterinarians and veterinary clinics, 100 family farmers, national and local animal welfare groups, food safety organizations and even major labor organizations.

Available in about half of U.S. states, ballot measures are a form of direct democracy that enables citizens to bring issues to the electorate for a vote. Between 1990 and 2016, animal protection advocates squared off against factory farmers, trophy hunters and other industries in 56 statewide ballot measure campaigns, winning 38 campaigns. That’s a 68-percent success rate.

“We have achieved some of our most landmark victories through the initiative process,” says Crystal Moreland, HSUS California state director.

This year, HSLF, the HSUS and our coalition partners have mobilized tremendous grassroots support for the Florida and California measures. That doesn’t mean, though, that these reforms are a done deal.

“We’ve had a remarkable track record of success in qualifying and passing measures,” Moreland explains, “but that record of success should not obscure the degree of difficulty that we face. It will be important for us to pull out all the stops to win these campaigns.”

→ **LEARN MORE** and get involved at voteyeson13.org and preventcrueltyca.com.



LEGISLATIVE LINEUP

THE FOLLOWING is a sample of HSLF-supported animal protection bills before the U.S. Congress. It's vital that you call, email or write your federal legislators to let them know your views on these bills. To find out who your legislators are and how to reach them directly, go to hslf.org/leglookup or call 202-676-2314.

When you call a legislator's office, ask to speak with the staff person handling animal protection issues. Give the bill number and the name of the bill or issue. Be polite, brief and to the point. If you plan to visit

Washington, D.C., make an appointment to meet with your legislators or their staff to discuss animal issues. We can help you with background information and may be able to accompany you on your visits.

Please note: Due to security procedures on Capitol Hill, regular mail to members of Congress may be significantly delayed. Telephone calls and emails are the best ways to contact your legislators about pending bills.

For the latest information about all animal protection bills, visit legislation.hslf.org.

Equines



Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act
H.R. 1847 / S. 2957

To amend the Horse Protection Act to end the failed system of industry self-policing and use of devices integral to soring, strengthen penalties, and make illegal the actual soring of a horse for the purpose of showing or selling the animal.

Sponsors: Reps. Yoho, R-Fla.; Schrader, D-Ore.; Marino, R-Pa.; Cohen, D-Tenn.; Collins, R-N.Y.; Schakowsky, D-Ill. / Sens. Crapo, R-Idaho; Warner, D-Va.

Safeguard American Food Exports (SAFE) Act
H.R. 113 / S. 1706

To ban domestic horse slaughter, stop the export of horses for slaughter abroad and prevent human health threats posed by the consumption of equines raised in the U.S. Sponsors: Reps. Buchanan, R-Fla.; Schakowsky, D-Ill.; Royce, R-Calif.; Lujan Grisham, D-N.M. / Sens. Menendez, D-N.J.; Graham, R-S.C.; Whitehouse, D-R.I.; Collins, R-Maine

Horseracing Integrity Act
H.R. 2651

To end doping of all race horses, including same-day drugging, by putting a new nonprofit headed by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency in charge of setting national uniform rules, testing standards and enforcement processes for medication use in horse racing. Sponsors: Reps. Barr, R-Ky.; Tonko, D-N.Y.

Wildlife



Shark Fin Trade Elimination Act
H.R. 1456 / S. 793

To prohibit and establish penalties for possession, sale or purchase of shark fins or any product containing shark fins. (The House version is titled the **Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act**). Sponsors: Reps. Royce, R-Calif.; Sablan, D-N. Marianas / Sens. Booker, D-N.J.; Capito, R-W.Va. (Approved by Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee.)

Big Cat Public Safety Act
H.R. 1818 / S. 2990

To prohibit possession and breeding of lions, tigers, leopards and other big cat species by individuals and unqualified exhibitors. Sponsors: Reps. Denham, R-Calif.; Jones, R-N.C.; Tsongas, D-Mass. / Sen. Blumenthal, D-Conn.

Rescuing Animals with Rewards (RAWR) Act
H.R. 6197

To authorize the U.S. State Department to use its successful rewards program to target wildlife traffickers globally and combat international crime networks. Sponsors: Reps. Donovan, R-N.Y.; Castro, D-Texas. (Passed House by voice vote.)

Animal Research



Humane Cosmetics Act
H.R. 2790

To prohibit animal testing for cosmetic products manufactured or sold in the U.S. Sponsors: Reps. McCally, R-Ariz.; Beyer, D-Va.; Royce, R-Calif.; Cárdenas, D-Calif.; LoBiondo, R-N.J.; Tonko, D-N.Y.

Pets and Cruelty



Parity in Animal Cruelty Enforcement (PACE) Act
H.R. 4202 / S. 2971

To clarify that the federal prohibitions against animal fighting apply everywhere in the U.S., including in U.S. territories. Sponsors: Reps. Roskam, R-Ill.; Blumenauer, D-Ore.; Davis, R-Ill.; Nolan, D-Minn.; Yoder, R-Kan.; Cárdenas, D-Calif.; Knight, R-Calif.; Sherman, D-Calif.; Buchanan, R-Fla. / Sens. Booker, D-N.J.; Blumenthal, D-Conn. (Passed the House as an amendment to the farm bill by 359-51 vote. Sens. Wyden, D-Ore., and Collins, R-Maine, filed a parallel Senate amendment, but it did not get a floor vote.)

Dog and Cat Meat Prohibition Act
H.R. 1406

To prohibit the slaughter and trade of dogs and cats for human consumption and provide penalties for individuals involved in the dog or cat meat trade in the U.S. Sponsors: Reps. Hastings, D-Fla.; Buchanan, R-Fla.; Trott, R-Mich.; Boyle, D-Pa. (Versions passed the House and Senate as part of the farm bill and as a separate bill, H.R. 6720, approved by voice vote in the House.)



Pet and Women Safety (PAWS) Act
H.R. 909 / S. 322

To expand federal domestic violence protections to include safeguards and help arrange shelter for the pets of abuse victims. Sponsors: Reps. Clark, D-Mass.; Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla.; Nolan, D-Minn.; Denham, R-Calif.; Cohen, D-Tenn.; Walters, R-Calif. / Sens. Peters, D-Mich.; Heller, R-Nev. (Passed the Senate as part of the farm bill.)

Preventing Animal Cruelty and Torture (PACT) Act
H.R. 1494 / S. 654

To prohibit extreme acts of animal cruelty when they occur on federal property or in interstate or foreign commerce. Sponsors: Reps. Smith, R-Texas; Deutch, D-Fla. / Sens. Toomey, R-Pa.; Blumenthal, D-Conn. (Passed the Senate unanimously.)

Welfare of Our Friends (WOOF) Act
H.R. 4691

To prohibit commercial dog breeders whose licenses have been revoked from obtaining a new USDA breeding license and to close related loopholes. Sponsors: Reps. Fitzpatrick, R-Pa.; Crist, D-Fla.

Puppy Protection Act
H.R. 4693

To improve standards of care required of licensed breeders by prohibiting wire flooring and stacking of cages and by requiring larger enclosures, outdoor exercise runs, annual veterinary exams, regular feeding and access to clean water. Sponsors: Reps. Fitzpatrick, R-Pa.; Crist, D-Fla.

Government Transparency



Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act
H.R. 1368 / S. 503

To require the USDA to restore online searchable access to inspection reports and other vital records relating to enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act, and to establish an additional deterrent against animal abuse. Sponsors: Rep. Blumenauer, D-Ore. / Sen. Wyden, D-Ore. (Related directives included in explanatory statement accompanying FY18 omnibus spending package and in House committee report accompanying FY19 agriculture appropriations bill.)

Farm Animals



Opportunities for Fairness in Farming (OFF) Act
H.R. 1753 / S. 741

To reform agriculture checkoff programs funneling tens of millions of dollars to farm commodity groups that use the money to lobby against animal welfare and family farmers, engage in anti-competitive protection for large producers and block other reforms. Sponsors: Reps. Brat, R-Va.; Titus, D-Nev. / Sens. Lee, R-Utah; Booker, D-N.J.



Legislation would raise standards of care at USDA-licensed breeding mills.

Agent for change

Former G-Man takes on puppy mills and more

PENNSYLVANIA'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION includes an impressive number of members willing to stand up for animals.

Several incumbents from the Keystone State have earned HSLF endorsements for November's midterm elections: Republican Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick and Tom Marino and Democratic Reps. Brendan Boyle and Conor Lamb.

Fitzpatrick, now running to represent the 1st Congressional District, has been a standout champion for animals since he was elected to represent the 8th Congressional District in 2017. On his first day in Congress, he joined the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus, and he has made it his mission while in Washington to crack down on puppy mills.



Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick

The former FBI agent didn't know about inhumane, commercial dog-breeding facilities when he purchased an English bulldog online more than a decade ago.

In hindsight, Fitzpatrick believes his dog, Annabelle, came from a puppy mill. "She had a lot of health issues that came out of improper breeding," he says.

Fitzpatrick's love for Annabelle, who died about a year and a half ago,

inspired him to partner with Rep. Charlie Crist, D-Fla., to introduce the Puppy Protection Act (H.R. 4693) in January. If passed, the legislation would make much-needed improvements to the standards of care for dog breeders licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Under the Puppy Protection Act, breeders would be required to provide larger enclosures, outdoor exercise runs and annual veterinary exams and to make reasonable efforts to find humane placements for retired breeding dogs.

"This isn't rocket science," Fitzpatrick says. "It's pretty straightforward stuff. When you're breeding puppies, these dogs should be given spaces that are well-lit, they should be groomed properly, they shouldn't be put in quarters that are too small, and they should be allowed to exercise during the day."

Fitzpatrick and Crist previously teamed up in December 2017 to introduce the Welfare of Our Friends (WOOF) Act (H.R. 4691), which would prohibit breeders whose USDA licenses have been revoked from obtaining new licenses. "It's basically a way to prevent some of these breeders from circumventing law by creating shell companies," Fitzpatrick explains.

Soon after Fitzpatrick first decided to leave the FBI to run for Congress, he went to talk to the folks at HSLF.

"They're good people. I can't say that about all lobbyists," he says. "I've done my best to take a lead role on everything they've needed me to."

For Fitzpatrick, animal advocacy has served as a bridge for forging relationships with legislators from both parties. But he doesn't mince words when talking about legislators who vote against humane bills.

"The people who are opposed to the stuff we're working on are not very good people," he says. "You kind of scratch your head as to why certain provisions aren't included in bills that should be [and] why certain bills are coming to the floor for a vote that shouldn't be."

Midterms matter

SUPER-SIZED CONSEQUENCES FOR ANIMALS

NOVEMBER'S ELECTIONS could dramatically impact the current political landscape—and the lives of countless animals.

All 435 House seats and about a third of those in the Senate are up for grabs. The majority of states will choose governors, and voters will be picking hundreds of state legislators.

“The stakes are very high this year,” says Brad Pyle, HSLF deputy political director. “It’s just so critical we get animal-friendly candidates elected to office.”

With one party controlling the House, Senate and White House in Washington, we’ve lost many of the checks and balances that usually prevent the most extreme policies from becoming law, and animal advocates have watched in horror as progress for animals has been rolled back on a number of fronts. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reversed course and ended a blanket ban on the import of elephant trophies from Tanzania and Zimbabwe in March. The 115th Congress has launched over a hundred attacks on the Endangered Species Act, the bedrock law that protects endangered and threatened animal species and their habitats. While there are five significant animal protection bills with a majority of legislators (218 or more) co-sponsoring them in the House, as of press time, party leadership has not yet scheduled them for a vote despite their widespread public support.

Pyle and his colleagues at HSLF have been burning the midnight oil to ensure humane lawmakers from all parties get elected at federal and state levels. HSLF works to elect animal-friendly candidates by making financial contributions to campaigns and, more

importantly, rallying members to get involved with campaigns and to learn about candidates’ animal protection stances before they hit the polls.

Take Joe Neguse’s race for Colorado’s 2nd Congressional District. HSLF announced its endorsement of Neguse, the former head of the state’s consumer protection agency, on May 1, well ahead of the June 26 Democratic primary. HSLF also donated to Neguse’s campaign and sent thousands of text messages to voters in his district. Neguse received about 66 percent of the vote against challenger Mark Williams and is favored to win in November.

While we’re far from the largest or richest political action committee, HSLF endorsements do have an impact, and candidates actively seek our support.

In a video posted to Twitter, Dana Nessel, posing with her cats Gracie and Warfield, talked about her pride at being one of the first candidates endorsed by HSLF for the office of state attorney general. Nessel, the Michigan Democratic Party’s endorsed candidate for that office, explained she plans to go after puppy mills and work to protect the Endangered Species Act. “I want to be there for the animals, the way they’ve always been there for me,” she said.

More and more candidates understand that voters care about their stances on animal issues, Pyle points out. Many are devoting space on their campaign websites to animal protection issues and talking about these topics on the campaign trail. For instance, Jared Polis, HSLF’s endorsee for the governor’s race in Colorado, includes his stance on animal welfare along with 12 other issues on his campaign website.

“By making animal protection issues a focal point of a candidate’s campaign,” Pyle says, “we are laying the groundwork for them to prioritize these issues once elected.”

→ **LEARN MORE** about our endorsed candidates at elections.hslf.org and sign up to volunteer for humane candidates at act.hslf.org.





HUMANE SOCIETY
LEGISLATIVE FUND™

1255 23rd Street, NW
Suite 455
Washington, DC 20037

MIDTERM ENDORSEMENTS



HSLF picks for the midterms

Here are a few of the candidates HSLF has endorsed across the country. To see a full list, go to elections.hslf.org.



→ During his congressional career, Rep. **CARLOS CURBELO, R-FLA.**, has consistently championed animal protection legislation while representing Florida's 26th Congressional District. Curbelo, a member of the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus, has co-sponsored a number of key bills, including the Prevent Animal Cruelty and Torture (PACT) Act (H.R. 1494) and the Pet and Women Safety (PAWS) Act (H.R. 909). If re-elected for a third term, Curbelo and his office dog, Riggins, will continue greeting "bipawtisan" visitors on Capitol Hill.



→ Rep. **AMI BERA, D-CALIF.**, received a perfect score on our 2017 *Humane Scorecard*. While representing California's 7th Congressional District near Sacramento, Bera, a member of the Animal Protection Caucus, co-sponsored the Humane Cosmetics Act (H.R. 2790), the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act (H.R. 1456) and numerous other animal-friendly measures. Bera, who is seeking his fourth term, has a history of opposing attempts to weaken the Endangered Species Act, which makes him an especially critical voice at a time when the ESA is under heavy attack by the current administration.



→ Growing up in Ohio, Democrat **SUSIE LEE** and her family often cared for stray cats and dogs. If elected to represent Nevada's 3rd Congressional District in the House of Representatives, Lee, who has led several successful nonprofit organizations over the course of her career, has pledged to continue protecting vulnerable animals. She supports cracking down on animal fighting and wildlife poaching and developing new scientific approaches that will replace animal testing.



→ For 18 years, Rep. **CHRIS SMITH, R-N.J.**, has mobilized his colleagues to seek needed funds and provisions to enforce key animal welfare laws. In 2017, Smith, who represents New Jersey's 4th Congressional District, received HSLF's Humane Legislator of the Year award. Smith was one of 10 Republicans who bravely voted against their party on H.J. Resolution 69, which revoked a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rule that prohibited cruel and unsporting hunting methods on more than 76 million acres of National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska. He also voted against a harmful rider that sought to block regulations that prohibit scientifically unjustified and cruel methods of trophy hunting on over 20 million acres of National Park Service lands in Alaska, including killing hibernating black bear mothers and cubs and shooting caribou while they are swimming and defenseless.