

# HUMANE ACTIVIST

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**Standing in a stall** one late winter day in 2005, John Henry the Tennessee walking horse captured his future owner's heart with his kind eye. But otherwise, he sure was a mess.

Another horse had chewed off most of his tail. The heels of his hooves had been cut out, leaving him to walk awkwardly. And there were three lines of scars across his ankles, a telltale sign he'd been a victim of soring—a practice whereby trainers cause intense pain to a walking horse's legs or hooves in an effort to exaggerate his high-stepping gait, simply to gain an unfair competitive edge in shows.

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# PRESIDENT'S LETTER



**HUMANE SOCIETY**  
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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](http://hslf.org).

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Dear Friends,

In August, a 24-year-old man was fatally mauled by a captive black bear at the private residence of a notorious exotic animal dealer and exhibitor in Columbia Township, Ohio. When the dealer, Sam Mazzola, filed for bankruptcy in May, he owned four tigers, one lion, eight bears, and a dozen wolves, according to news reports. The death of Brent Kandra, a caretaker on the property, has highlighted Ohio's lack of any restrictions on the private possession of dangerous wildlife. Most states prohibit the keeping of animals such as lions and bears as pets, but Ohio has lagged far behind in addressing this important animal welfare and public safety issue.

Gov. Ted Strickland has been working to correct this problem, and he has pledged to ban the private ownership of dangerous wild animals as part of an agreement reached in June with The HSUS, the Ohio Farm Bureau, and other groups. Other animal welfare reforms included in the agreement address factory farming, puppy mills, and cockfighting. The urgency of the exotic animal component of this major animal welfare package is more clear than ever, and in recent weeks *The Columbus Dispatch*, *Lorain's Morning Journal*, and Kandra's mother, Deirdre Herbert, have called on state policymakers to swiftly implement regulations before another life is lost.

U.S. Rep. Betty Sutton, who represents Ohio's 13th district where Kandra was killed, and who is a leading advocate for animal protection in Congress, has also written to Gov. Strickland and asked him "to move forward expeditiously to ban wild animals being kept as pets." (Read her letter at [hslf.org/sutton](http://hslf.org/sutton).) We are grateful to Rep. Sutton and to Gov. Strickland for calling attention to Ohio's lack of any statewide rules on this matter, and for working to advance critical animal welfare policies.

The problem of exotic pet ownership has been getting national attention, not just in Ohio. A new documentary film, *The Elephant in the Living Room*, shines a spotlight on the controversial American subculture of raising the most dangerous animals in the world as common household pets. The 2008 winner of The HSUS's Animal Content in Entertainment grant, the film by Michael Webber recently was awarded the "Founders Prize for Best Non-Fiction Film" by Academy Award winning director Michael Moore, who called it "one of the most scary, entertaining and technically perfect films." The movie is due to be in wide release early next year.

Sincerely,

Michael Markarian  
President  
Humane Society Legislative Fund

P.S. Was your representative one of the 323 to vote in favor of the Captive Primate Safety Act? Is your senator a sponsor of the Pet Safety and Protection Act? Launched in July, HSLF's new Humane Scoreboard offers a real-time snapshot of where federal lawmakers stand on animal protection legislation. To check out your legislators' records, go to [hslf.org](http://hslf.org).

In the case of John Henry, there were other scars that took much longer to surface. Three years after purchasing the abused, underweight animal, Hal Bowden took him to a show in Asheville, N.C., to see how the rehabbing horse would react to the setting. A few hours after dropping him off, Bowden returned to find him cowering in his stall, covered in a cold sweat.

“To tell you the honest truth, I just cried. And I just went and held him for awhile,” Bowden says, adding that he’ll never forget the encounter.

It was a tragic sight for many reasons, not the least of which was that nearly four decades earlier, Congress had passed the Horse Protection Act with the hopes of saving animals like John Henry from the tortures of soring.

Yet, the illegal practice persists today. Just last year, inspectors observed more than 400 violations of the Horse Protection Act at the 71st Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration in Shelbyville, Tenn. Another 243 were recorded at this year’s event—translating to 9 percent of the inspections conducted.

Trainers have found a variety of ways to inflict pain in preparation for the “big lick” competition at shows. Their goal is to make stepping down particularly painful, so that horses will quickly lift their front legs in an unnaturally animated gait.

Some trainers spread caustic chemicals like mustard oil or diesel fuel just above the hooves, then wrap the legs in plastic so the chemicals cook into the skin for days. During practice and competition, a metal chain slides up and down the blistered skin, exacerbating the pain.

Other trainers use a method called pressure shoeing, in which the hooves are cut down to the sensitive quick before shoes are nailed on tightly. Sometimes, hard or sharp metal objects like marbles or nails are inserted between the hooves and the heavy stacks of pads the horse is forced to wear. The abuse can lead to chronic health problems, even fatal cases of colic, says Keith Dane, HSUS director of equine protection.

“Because of the intensity of the suffering that’s inflicted, and the longevity of the time that it’s inflicted on them—which is essentially their entire show ring careers—it’s one of the most egregious forms of equine cruelty that we’ve identified,” says Dane, noting that cash



To determine whether soring has produced a Tennessee walking horse’s pronounced gait, inspectors look for scars. Because signs of soring can be well hidden, they also use several methods to peer below the surface: swabs for foreign substances, thermography devices to detect heat and thus pain, and digital radiography machines to check under the shoe.

prizes are the primary motivators.

The practice continues in part because of a shortage of funding for the USDA to enforce anti-soring measures, meaning the agency can afford to send inspectors to only about 5 percent of shows. Advocates have serious concerns about what happens at the other 95 percent, for which the USDA relies on horse industry organizations to train and license their own inspectors. From 2003 to 2008, for example, the violation rate was 25 times higher when USDA inspectors were present versus when they weren’t.

Former U.S. senator Joseph Tydings of Maryland sponsored the 1970 legislation against soring. He recently rejoined the fight, seeking to educate Congress and the public about the issue. “These are beautiful animals,” he says, “and to have them beat up, and the things that they’ve done to them, is despicable.”

In August, Tydings joined The HSUS and several other organizations in petitioning the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to adopt new regulations against soring, including the permanent disqualification of repeat violators and scarred horses from competitions. And on Capitol Hill, HSLF has helped mobilize a bipartisan group of 40 senators and 131 representatives in support of President Obama’s request for an additional \$400,000 to enforce the Horse Protection Act

during fiscal 2011, bringing the total to \$900,000. Legislators leading the charge include Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., and Reps. Steve Cohen, D-Tenn., Phil Roe, R-Tenn., Ed Whitfield, R-Ky., and Frank Kratovil, D-Md.

The allocation has already received preliminary approval in the House and Senate. If enacted when the budget is finalized, it would mark the first significant increase in enforcement funding in more than 30 years. The money would pay for additional inspectors, training, security to address threats of violence against inspectors, and advanced detection equipment.

In Tennessee, John Henry’s hooves have almost grown back to normal. He’s become more trusting of people, and he’s befriended an old show horse named Boo. A year ago, he returned to competition in the National Walking Horse Association, which his new owner helped found in 1998 in an effort to move away from soring and instead celebrate a walking horse’s naturally smooth gait.

As someone once taught in the ways of soring—Bowden can remember horses getting upset by the mere smell of mustard oil—he believes trainers have begun to favor less visible, harder-to-detect methods like pressure shoeing.

“I was in a walking horse barn about six months ago, and they said, ‘Look at how clean our horses are. Look at what a good job we’re doing,’” Bowden says. “... And I just looked at him, [and] said, ‘Uh-huh, and how about underneath that shoe?’ And of course, I got just a stare.”



# LEGISLATIVE LINEUP

**The following** is a sample of HSLF-supported animal protection bills before the U.S. Congress. It's vital that you call, e-mail, or write your 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](http://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 (if available) 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 e-mails are the best ways to contact your legislators about pending bills.

## ANIMALS IN RESEARCH



### Great Ape Protection Act

H.R. 1326 / S. 3694

To phase out the use of chimpanzees in invasive research, retire all federally owned chimpanzees to sanctuary, and codify the NIH moratorium on breeding of these animals for invasive research.  
Sponsors: Reps. Towns, D-N.Y.; Reichert, R-Wash.; Langevin, D-R.I.; Bartlett, R-Md. / Sens. Cantwell, D-Wash.; Collins, R-Maine; Sanders, I-Vt.

### Pet Safety and Protection Act

H.R. 3907 / S. 1834

To end the Class B dealer system for dogs and cats used by research facilities, ensuring that the animals are obtained legally.  
Sponsors: Rep. Doyle, D-Pa. / Sen. Akaka, D-Hawaii

## FARM ANIMALS



### Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act

H.R. 4733

To require federal agencies to buy pork, veal, and egg products only from those who raise animals without intensive confinement.  
Sponsors: Reps. Watson, D-Calif.; Gallegly, R-Calif.

### Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act

H.R. 1549: Committee hearings held  
S. 619

To phase out routine nontherapeutic use of antibiotics in farm animals, which supports overcrowded, unsanitary factory farming conditions.  
Sponsors: Rep. Slaughter, D-N.Y. / Sens. Kennedy, D-Mass.; Feinstein, D-Calif.; Snowe, R-Maine

## COMPANION ANIMALS



### Prevention of Interstate Commerce in Animal Crush Videos Act

H.R. 5566: Passed 416-3; passed Senate unanimously with amendment  
S. 3841

To end the intentional crushing, burning, drowning, suffocating, and impaling of puppies, kittens, and other animals for the purpose of peddling obscene videos of extreme animal cruelty.  
Sponsors: Reps. Gallegly, R-Calif.; Peters, D-Mich. / Sens. Kyl, R-Ariz.; Merkley, D-Ore.; Burr, R-N.C.

### Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act

H.R. 503 / S. 727

To prohibit knowing possession, shipment, transport, purchase, sale, delivery, or receipt of a horse for slaughter for human consumption.  
Sponsors: Reps. Conyers, D-Mich.; Burton, R-Ind.  
Sens. Landrieu, D-La.; Ensign, R-Nev.



### Puppy Uniform Protection and Safety Act

H.R. 5434 / S. 3424

To establish licensing and inspection requirements for breeders who sell 50 or more puppies a year directly to consumers via the Internet or other means, and to require that breeding dogs at commercial breeding facilities be allowed to exercise daily.  
Sponsors: Reps. Farr, D-Calif.; Gerlach, R-Pa.; Capps, D-Calif.; Young, R-Fla.  
Sens. Durbin, D-Ill.; Vitter, R-La.

# WILDLIFE



## Captive Primate Safety Act

H.R. 80: Passed 323-95; passed Senate committee / S. 462

To prohibit interstate and foreign commerce in nonhuman primates for the pet trade.

Sponsors: Reps. Blumenauer, D-Ore.; Kirk, R-Ill. Sens. Boxer, D-Calif.; Vitter, R-La.

## Crane Conservation Act

H.R. 388: Passed 288-116; passed Senate committee / S. 197

To support and fund conservation programs for cranes.

Sponsors: Reps. Baldwin, D-Wis.; Brown-Waite, R-Fla. Sens. Feingold, D-Wis.; Crapo, R-Idaho

## Great Cats and Rare Canids Act

H.R. 411: Passed 290-118 S. 529: Passed committee

To support and fund conservation of rare felids and canids in the animals' natural ranges.

Sponsors: Rep. Inslee, D-Wash. / Sen. Lieberman, I-Conn.

## Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Amendments

H.R. 844: Passed by voice vote S. 859: Passed committee

To provide grants for marine mammal rescue and disentanglement efforts.

Sponsors: Rep. Young, R-Alaska / Sen. Cantwell, D-Wash.

## Marine Turtle Conservation Reauthorization Act

H.R. 509: Passed House 354-72; passed Senate committee

To authorize an additional five years of grants for marine turtle conservation projects in foreign countries, expand eligibility to include projects in the U.S., and increase authorized funding levels.

Sponsors: Reps. Brown, R-S.C.; Bordallo, D-Guam

## Migratory Bird Treaty Act Penalties

H.R. 2062: Passed by voice vote; passed Senate committee / S. 2811

To strengthen penalties for intentionally killing or wounding protected migratory birds in an aggravated manner.

Sponsors: Rep. DeFazio, D-Ore. / Sen. Merkley, D-Ore.

## Protect America's Wildlife Act

H.R. 3381 / S. 1535

To ban the shooting of wolves, bears, and other predators from aircraft except in limited cases involving a designated biological emergency.

Sponsors: Rep. Miller, D-Calif. / Sen. Feinstein, D-Calif.

## Python Importation

H.R. 2811: Passed committee with amendment S. 373: Passed committee

To ban interstate commerce in and importation of pythons.

Sponsors: Reps. Meek, D-Fla.; Rooney, R-Fla. / Sen. Nelson, D-Fla.

## Restore Our American Mustangs Act

H.R. 1018: Passed 239-185 / S. 1579

To restore the prohibition on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild free-roaming horses and burros and to provide for more humane and effective management on the range.

Sponsors: Reps. Rahall, D-W.Va.; Grijalva, D-Ariz.; Whitfield, R-Ky. / Sen. Byrd, D-W.Va.

## Shark Conservation Act

H.R. 81: Passed by voice vote S. 850: Passed committee

To end the cruel practice of shark finning (cutting off sharks' fins and throwing the sharks back in the water, often while still alive).

Sponsors: Rep. Bordallo, D-Guam / Sen. Kerry, D-Mass.

## Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act

H.R. 556: Passed 316-107 S. 1748: Passed committee

To establish a recovery program for the Southern sea otter, whose population is in steep decline, jeopardizing an entire ecosystem.

Sponsors: Rep. Farr, D-Calif. / Sen. Boxer, D-Calif.

## Truth in Fur Labeling Act

H.R. 2480: Passed House by voice vote S. 1076

To require species labeling on any fur product regardless of value.

Sponsors: Reps. Moran, D-Va.; Bono Mack, R-Calif. / Sen. Menendez, D-N.J.; Collins, R-Maine.



OPPOSITE PAGE, FROM TOP: ANKE VAN WYK/ISTOCK; JASON MANN/ISTOCK; NGO THYE AIN/SHUTTERSTOCK; ZUZULLE/SHUTTERSTOCK; THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: ERIC GERVAERT/ISTOCK; HAL BERGMAN/ISTOCK; FLORIDASTOCK/ISTOCK; RICARDOZOURVISTOCK; RUSAM/ISTOCK

# Steps to Facebook Success

A Facebook presence can bring your cause to a wide audience and take the place of phone trees and listservs for quick communications with your support base. The page can't run itself, however; good management is key to a successful campaign.

## Pick a page type.

A Facebook campaign can be set up as a fan page, a group, or a cause; research the differences to determine which will best meet your goals. For example, with a fan page, wall posts appear in all fans' news feeds, but administrators can't send messages to Facebook inboxes. With a group page, messages can be sent to inboxes, but wall posts appear only in the news feeds of those who are friends with the group member or administrator who is posting. Causes are a third-party application with a fundraising feature and can be added to a fan page.

## Present a polished image.

The page administrator should be well-versed in grammar, technology, and web etiquette. Almost nothing gets a cause discounted faster, says Phoenix, than all capital letters, misspellings, and excessive use of exclamation points.

## Keep it fresh.

Post frequently and provide members with the latest news. Even during the commission meeting, Phoenix updated the Facebook page, advising supporters that the roundup was the last item on the agenda and urging latecomers to make an appearance.

## Stay on topic.

Don't let your page be hijacked by detractors or posters with axes to grind. Phoenix and his two co-administrators checked their page regularly, deleting comments that were offensive, irrational, or too far off center. Extremism alienates potential supporters and galvanizes the opposition, Phoenix says, noting, "It's not an open forum; it's the face of an organized group."



Nathan Phoenix and son, Xavier

# Galvanized for Geese

Facebook campaign staves off lethal roundup

**While Nathan Phoenix** stays abreast of affairs in his hometown, he normally doesn't take a proactive role in local government. The car parts salesman works in a small town south of Madison, Wis., and keeps busy raising a young son with his wife. "I get home at 7:30 p.m.," he says, "and have about time to eat dinner and go to bed."

But earlier this year, when he learned of a death sentence handed down to geese in a local park, he felt compelled to do something. The city's Board of Park Commissioners had approved a plan to exterminate geese living near the Dane County Regional Airport. Officials claimed the roundup was necessary to avoid a situation like the one that earned national headlines in 2009, when a jetliner with engines disabled by goose strikes made an emergency landing in New York's Hudson River.

Phoenix knew little about the issue but sensed the plan was flawed. A discussion with a local avian control company that uses humane methods convinced him that roundups are expensive and ineffective, while figures gathered from the Federal Aviation Administration showed that goose strikes at the airport are few and far between and haven't caused significant damage.

To Phoenix, it seemed obvious that a lethal approach wasn't the answer. "Killing something for convenience [is] never a decision to be made lightly," he says. He had to move fast; the roundup was scheduled for June, when the geese would be shedding their outer wing feathers and unable to fly well. He set up a "No Madison Goose Kill" group on Facebook that quickly grew to more than 1,800 members, many of whom expressed their disapproval to city aldermen and

park commissioners.

The content was deliberately apolitical and focused on the roundup as costly, wasteful, and ineffective. Phoenix aimed to draw support from anyone with an interest in the issue, not just the usual animal advocates and environmentalists. This diversity helped show decision-makers "that it would be more than a few bleeding hearts, so to speak, that would be opposed to it—that it would be pilots and retired Air Force personnel and lifetime goose hunters."

At a May meeting attended by more than 100 people, the commissioners voted unanimously to suspend the goose kill and investigate humane alternatives. Egg addling was undertaken to prevent the births of new goslings, and the landscape around the Warner Park lake was made less enticing. The board continues to explore other deterrents and harassment methods, says page co-administrator Meagan Porter, adding that the group is staying closely involved.

HSUS Wisconsin state director Alyson Bodai, who testified at the meeting, credits the Facebook campaign as the driving force behind the victory. Phoenix is a "prime example of how effective people can be when they put their mind to something and get involved," she says.



# Speaking Up for the Scapegoat

Volunteers bear witness  
to government campaign  
against sea lions



**Julie Farris stood on the bank** of the lower Columbia River, watching sea lions cavort in the water. Each spring, troops of these charismatic pin-nipeds swim more than 140 miles inland from the Pacific coast to congregate at the river's Bonneville Dam, where they sun themselves and feast on salmon heading upriver to spawn.

A volunteer for the Sea Lion Defense Brigade, Farris also kept an eye on steel-barred traps set out by state wildlife officials, who claim the animals are taking too big a bite out of the salmon running the stretch of water between Oregon and Washington states.

Around 8 p.m. that March evening, four sea lions climbed out of the water to rest in the flat, comfortable space afforded by the traps. Ignoring Farris' air horn, they began murmuring and settling in for the night. Soon a vehicle slowly pulled up, headlights dimmed. A chorus of frantic barks soon followed, and Farris realized the traps had been slammed shut.

The next morning, she and fellow volunteer Bethanie O'Driscoll watched as men arrived on Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife boats and began piling onto the traps. One jabbed inside with a long pole or spear, O'Driscoll says, eliciting yelps and cries. "I had never heard them make that sound before—the way a dog sounds when it's injured."

There was no sign of two of the animals, while the other two were shoved into cages on a boat and driven away. The sea lions, whom volunteers had named Avatar and Ricky, were later killed, the seventh and eighth victims targeted this year for the crime of eating their natural diet.

The scene was O'Driscoll's worst nightmare—the reason she founded the Sea Lion Defense Brigade in 2007 after hearing of plans to kill sea lions caught eating salmon at the dam. Bowing to pressure from fishing interests that view the animals as competition for salmon stocks, the National Marine Fisheries Service in 2008 authorized Oregon, Washington, and Idaho to kill up to 425 California sea lions over five years.

When the killing started, O'Driscoll took to the Internet to educate the public about what was happening—one advocate against a chorus of angry voices. As she pointed out, sea lions consume a very small portion of the

total spring salmon run. The government's own estimates show that their take is just 0.4 to 4.2 percent, while experts have found that overfishing and habitat-disrupting dams exact a far greater toll.

Soon her campaign of one had grown to a dedicated group of wildlife lovers armed with knowledge and working to spread the truth any way they could. They set up a website, handed out fliers, gave presentations, attended press conferences, filmed for cable TV shows, and marched on the state capital. The team pored over government reports, and O'Driscoll testified on behalf of an HSUS lawsuit to halt the killing—litigation that is currently awaiting a decision by an appeals court.

With each demonstration, the number of volunteers grew. In 2010, a donated RV dubbed the Sea Wolf One Mobile Monitoring Station allowed them to keep vigil near the dam for longer periods of time. "We filled it with cameras and recording equipment ... and always [had] one or more monitors who stayed there watching," O'Driscoll says. They filmed officials hauling the animals off to their deaths or to captivity in zoos, and using noise aversion and rubber bullets to harass them

away from the base of the dam.

Though the battle is far from over, O'Driscoll believes the public is slowly coming around. Once the Sea Wolf was in place, they learned they had supporters in unexpected places. "A lot of people from the local communities are horrified by the killing and don't even like the hazing," she says. Farris, a mainstay at the dam this past spring, has talked to fishermen about the issue. "Once she starts giving them the real facts, even they have been coming around to see that killing sea lions is not any kind of solution," O'Driscoll says.

With the 2011 killing season fast approaching, O'Driscoll wants animal advocates to let the governors of Oregon, Idaho, and Washington know that they care about sea lions, who are integral to the ecosystem and also to tourism in their states. "People are going to have to see other living beings for who they are," she says, "... and stop seeing [killing as the] solution to every problem."





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## AYES & NAYS

✔ Attention employers looking to bolster your workforce: Perhaps the next addition to your staff should have four legs and a wagging tail. As author Liz Palika and The HSUS's Jennifer Fearing showed in their book *Dogs at Work* (Humane Society Press, 2009), allowing dogs in the workplace can build trust and improve collaboration among employees. A recent study by **Central Michigan University** has added further confirmation to these findings. In one experiment, researchers led by **Christopher Honts** instructed participants to break into groups of four and generate a 15-second advertisement for an imaginary product. Each group member was asked to chip in with an idea, but ultimately only one could be used. Some of the groups had a dog with them; others did not. As *The Economist* reported, "Mr. Honts found that those who had had a dog to slobber and pounce on them ranked their team-mates more highly on measures of trust, team cohesion and intimacy than those who had not." No word yet on whether employees should bring Fido to their next salary negotiations.



✘ The National Rifle Association claims to be the "premier firearms education organization in the world." If that's the case, then the NRA should re-evaluate what exactly we're all learning from board member **Ted Nugent**, who was recently charged by the California Department of Fish and Game with 11 counts of hunting violations. In a plea agreement, the rock and roller pleaded no contest to two of those counts—baiting a deer and not having a properly signed hunting tag—after killing an immature buck in 2009. He was fined \$1,750. The man known as "Uncle Ted" and the "Motor City Madman" reportedly lured the buck with a bait called C'mere Deer before killing the animal for his television program.

✔ Prou! That's the Catalan word for "enough"—and the name of a coalition of animal protection groups that campaigned to end bullfighting in the northeast Spanish region. The group's effort came to a successful end this summer when the **Catalan Parliament** voted to ban the blood sport, making Catalonia the country's first mainland region to do so.

"This is not an attack against Spain but evidence that we, Catalans, support and share more advanced values with the rest of Europe," lawmaker Josep Rull told *The New York Times*. "We can be proud to have demonstrated today that Catalonia has a more dignified and respectful society that believes in eliminating the torture and suffering of animals." Prou, indeed.

✘ The **New Jersey Fish and Game Council** has approved a black bear management policy that includes plans for a December trophy hunt. But hunting does not curtail conflicts between people and bears, and any reduction in population is soon followed by an increase. The policy also sets no prohibition on hunting mother bears with nursing young, killing cubs under a year old, or baiting with food—practices that were rampant in New Jersey's previous hunts in 2003 and 2005. Gov. Chris Christie is urged to stop the hunt and focus instead on more effective nonlethal solutions, such as ensuring that garbage and other human-provided food sources are inaccessible to bears.



FROM LEFT: MICHELLE RILEY/THE HSUS; WIRE IMAGE; ERIC FAULKNER/ISTOCK