



Factsheet

STATE LEGISLATION ENACTED OR VETOED DURING 2007 SESSIONS

The following list is a compilation of laws and resolutions that were passed by state legislatures in 2007 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 the full text of laws or resolutions or if you have any questions, additions, or corrections to the list.

ALASKA

H.B. 220 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits engaging in “computer-assisted remote hunting” or operating an internet hunting facility in Alaska.

Signed into law: 7/3/07

ARIZONA

S.B. 1323 – Antifreeze

Requires the addition of a bittering agent in antifreeze to make it unpalatable.

Signed into law: 5/1/07

CALIFORNIA

A.B. 222 – Burros

Authorizes an officer or local animal control agency employee to remove an undomesticated burro that strays onto private land or a public roadway and to euthanize the animal if it is seriously ill or injured.

Signed into law: 7/27/07

A.B. 821 – Hunting

Enacts the Condor Preservation Act to prohibit the use of lead shot when hunting big game and coyote within specified areas and, as funding is available, to provide hunters in specified areas with free or reduced-cost non-lead ammunition.

Signed into law: 10/13/07

A.B. 1614 – Rodeos

Revises the definition of “rodeo” from four to three events, thereby ensuring that smaller rodeos will have (as required by existing law) a licensed veterinarian present or on call to treat injured animals. Requires a conveyance for the humane removal of injured animals and bans electric prods.

Signed into law: 10/1/07

S.B. 353 – Pet Protection Orders

Authorizes the court to include animals in protective orders.

Signed into law: 9/11/07

S.B. 880 – Kangaroos

Through January 1, 2011, allows the commercial trade of skin and meat from kangaroos harvested lawfully under Australian national and state law, the federal Endangered Species Act of 1971, and applicable international conventions.

Signed into law: 10/13/07

COLORADO

H.B. 1235 – Animal Welfare

Expands the definition of “domestic violence” to include crimes against animals when used as a method of coercion in a personal relationship; allows courts to issue pet protection orders in domestic abuse cases; specifies that a sexual act with an animal constitutes cruelty to animals; permits an impounded or forfeited animal that is injured, disabled, or diseased to be euthanized without a court order under certain circumstances; makes it a petty offense to own a “dangerous dog” who damages the property of another person; applies the mandatory requirement for genetic testing of convicted offenders to persons convicted of aggravated cruelty to animals.

Signed into law: 5/5/07

S.B. 187 – Suspected Cruelty or Fighting

Creates an academic veterinary license; requires veterinarians to report suspected cases of animal cruelty or fighting (and provides criminal and civil immunity to those who do so on good faith); and requires veterinarians to make veterinary records available in animal cruelty investigations.

Signed into law: 5/31/07

CONNECTICUT

H.B. 5186 – Disaster Planning

Requires the inclusion of pets and service animals in state and local emergency evacuation plans.

Signed into law: 5/9/07

H.B. 7194 – Spay and Neuter

Allows the Commissioner of Agriculture to create programs for the sterilization and vaccination of feral cats and for the sterilization and vaccination of dogs and cats owned by low-income individuals.

Signed into law: 6/11/07

H.B. 7392 – Seizure

Allows animal control officers to take physical custody of an animal when s/he has reasonable cause to believe that the animal faces imminent harm and is neglected or cruelly treated.

Signed into law: 7/11/07

S.B. 284 – Pet Protection Orders

Authorizes the court to include a prohibition on harming a pet when it issues a restraining or protective order in a domestic violence case.

Signed into law: 6/20/2007

S.B. 1079 – Dogs

Permits animal control officers to investigate and issue orders regarding dogs that attack domestic animals and livestock.

Signed into law: 5/30/07

DELAWARE

H.B. 69 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits operating, providing, selling, or using any computer software or service that allows a person not physically present at a hunt site to remotely control a weapon that could be used to shoot a live animal.

Signed into law: 6/13/07

H.B. 108 – Hunting

Lowers the age a person can hunt with a licensed hunter without one's own license, addresses fees for hunting licenses.

Signed into law: 6/27/07

FLORIDA

S.B. 2766 – Reptiles

Requires the Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission to establish a list of reptiles of concern, including venomous, nonvenomous, native, nonnative, or other reptiles which require additional regulation for capture, possession, transportation, or exhibition due to their nature, habits, status or potential to negatively impact the environment, ecology, or humans. Prohibits unlawful capturing, keeping, possessing, transporting, or exhibiting of venomous reptiles or reptiles of concern; authorizes Commission to inspect said reptiles held in captivity; authorizes Commission to revoke licenses and permits under certain circumstances.

Signed into law: 6/27/07

HAWAII

H.B. 249 – Hunting

Promotes hunting on private and commercial game preserves and increases ease of visitor access to hunting. Allows visitors to get a 3-day or 7-day license to hunt with a state-licensed hunting guide, replacing prior legislation requiring participation in a state-approved hunter education program before receiving a hunting license.

Signed into law: 6/5/07

S.B. 1665 – Felony Cruelty

Creates a felony offense for the intentional torture, mutilation, or poisoning of a pet animal, including domesticated pig.

Signed into law: 6/1/07

IDAHO

S.B. 1128 - Internet Hunting

Prohibits the use of a gun or other device accessed via the Internet to shoot at or kill any bird or animal.

Signed into law: 3/29/07

ILLINOIS

H.B. 9 – Pet Protection Orders

Allows courts to issue pet protection orders in cases of domestic violence.

Signed into law: 8/17/07

H.B. 201/S.B. 518 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits operating, providing, selling, or using any computer software or service that allows a person not present at the hunt site to remotely control a weapon to take wildlife.

Signed into law: 8/20/07

H.B. 297 – Hound Running Areas

Limits hound running areas to a fenced area that has at least 40 acres, that is used by dogs and people to chase foxes or coyotes without the intent to kill or capture the foxes or coyotes, and that has a dog-proof escape area for the chased animals. Requires the applicant for a hound running area permit to hold or apply for a fur-bearing mammal breeder permit.

Signed into law: 8/17/07

H.B. 822 – Animal Welfare Act/Dangerous Dogs

Amends certain components of the Animal Welfare Act. Allows an animal control warden or administrator to define a dog found running at large and unsupervised with three or more other dogs as a “potentially dangerous dog.” Requires potentially dangerous dogs to be spayed or neutered and microchipped within 14 days of reclaim.

Signed into law: 8/20/07

H.B. 1711 – Horse Slaughter

Provides that it is unlawful for any person to slaughter a horse if that person knows or should know that any of the horse meat will be used for human consumption. Provides that it is unlawful for any person to possess; to import into or export from the State; or to sell, buy, give away, hold, or accept any horse meat if that person knows or should know that any of the horse meat will be used for human consumption. Any person who knowingly does so shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor.

Signed into law: 5/24/07

H.B. 3614 – Animal Fighting

Increases the penalty for animal fighting from a Class A misdemeanor to a Class 4 felony for the first offense and from a Class 4 felony to a Class 3 felony for the second or subsequent offenses. Provides a significant upgrade to Illinois cockfighting law by including cockfighting in first-time felony conviction language. Strengthens the Humane Care of Animals Act. Allows courts to order forfeiture of animals to an animal control officer or an animal shelter if there is a conviction based on cruelty, aggravated cruelty or torture; makes it a felony to injure or kill a police dog, service animal, or dog used for rescue.

Signed into law: 8/30/07

INDIANA

H.B. 1115 – Dogs and Hybrids

Makes it a Class D infraction to allow one's dog to leave one's property unless the dog is under the reasonable control of an individual or engaged in lawful hunting and accompanied by the owner or a custodian. Makes the offense a Class C infraction if the owner has a prior judgment for a violation. The offense does not apply to a nonaggressive dog that goes beyond the owner's premises onto agricultural or forested land. Defines coydog (a coyote-dog hybrid) and wolf hybrid and makes it a Class B infraction if the owner of the coydog or wolf hybrid does not keep the animal in a secure enclosure or on a leash under the control of an individual. If the owner knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with the secure enclosure or leash requirements, it is: (1) a Class B misdemeanor if the wolf hybrid or coydog causes damage to livestock or personal property; (2) a Class A misdemeanor if the owner has one prior unrelated conviction for a violation of the secure enclosure or leash provision; (3) a Class D felony if the owner has more than one prior unrelated conviction for a violation of the secure enclosure or leash provision, or if the owner's failure to comply results in serious bodily injury to a person; and (4) a Class C felony if the failure to comply results in the death of a person. Permits a unit to prohibit the possession of a coydog or wolf hybrid, to impose more stringent conditions on the possession of a wolf hybrid or coydog, and to provide an increased (civil) penalty for a violation of the secure enclosure or leash provisions.

[Signed into law: 5/11/07](#)

H.B. 1387 – Pet Protection and Cruelty

Covers several animal cruelty and protection issues. Defines certain exemptions and terms used in the animal cruelty statute; adds animal cruelty to the State definition of domestic/family violence; permits a court to prohibit/regulate animal possession by a person convicted of certain animal cruelty offenses; specifies that animal cruelty based on abandonment or neglect may only be committed by the animal's owner, and creates a defense if the owner reasonably believed that the animal was capable of surviving on its own; requires a court to consider counseling for a person convicted of animal cruelty; requires the state veterinarian or designee to investigate the condition of a mistreated animal if the owner is criminally charged with an offense relating to the animal's mistreatment and make a recommendation concerning the animal's confiscation; makes it a Class D felony to 1) purchase an animal for animal fighting, 2) kill an animal to threaten a family/household member, 3) have sexual intercourse or deviate sexual conduct with an animal.

[Signed into law: 5/4/07](#)

S.B. 108 – Counseling on Cruelty Cases

Requires a court to consider counseling as part of the sentence imposed on an adult or juvenile who has committed animal cruelty. Permits a court to order the adult or juvenile to receive counseling.

[Signed into law: 3/30/07](#)

IOWA

H.F. 671 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits selling, taking, or assisting in the taking of a wild animal, game bird, or ungulate kept on a hunting preserve by use of remote control or Internet hunting.

Signed into law: 5/11/07

H.F. 740 – Administration of Drugs to Wildlife

Prohibits the administration of drugs to any non-captive vertebrate wildlife for any purpose, including but not limited to fertility control, disease prevention or treatment, immobilization, or growth stimulation, except with written authorization from the Department of Natural Resources or as otherwise provided by law. “Drug” is defined as any chemical substance, other than food, that affects the structure or biological function of any non-captive vertebrate wildlife species.

Signed into law: 4/10/07

S.F. 406 – Dogs

Prohibits killing a dog with a collar and rabies vaccination tag when the dog is caught in the act of worrying a domestic animal and provides that the owner of a dog is liable to an injured party for damages done by the dog when the dog is caught in the act of chasing a domestic animal.

Signed into law: 4/26/07

S.F. 564/H.F. 712 – Possession of Wild Animals

Regulates the private ownership and possession of dangerous wild animals.

Signed into law: 5/25/07

KANSAS

S.B. 66 – Gambling at Racetracks

Permits the state to own and operate lottery gaming facilities or casinos in certain areas of the state, and slot machines and other electronic gaming machines at racetrack facilities.

Signed into law by Governor: 4/12/07

S.B. 188 – Game Breeder Permits

Amends prior act regarding game breeder permits required to engage in the business of raising and selling game birds, game animals, and furbearing animals. Excludes domesticated deer from the list of animals requiring a game breeder permit to raise and sell.

Signed into law: 4/18/07

KENTUCKY

H.B. 287 – Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act

Amends prior legislation to permit veterinarians and veterinary technologists licensed or registered in other states to volunteer in Kentucky during an emergency; permits a host entity to restrict the veterinary services provided by a volunteer health practitioner; plus other provisions.

Signed into law: 3/23/07

S.B. 23 – Veterinary Care

Prohibits denial of emergency medical treatment to an assistance dog because of the handler's inability to pay prior to treatment; establishes penalties for persons who deny treatment.

Signed into law: 3/21/07

LOUISIANA

H.B. 108 – Cockfighting (Organizing/Conducting a Cockfight)

Broadens the scope of cruelty to animals to include cockfighting. Prohibits organizing or conducting a commercial or private cockfight, wherein there is a display of combat or fighting among one or more domestic or feral chickens and in which it is intended or reasonably foreseeable that the chickens would be injured, maimed, mutilated, or killed. Provides for penalties and exceptions and repeals provision of law providing that fowl are not considered animals for the purpose of the crime of cruelty to animals. Legislation further prohibits persons from possessing, training, purchasing, or selling any chicken with the intent that the chicken engage in an unlawful cockfight.

Signed into law: 7/11/07

S.B. 221 – Cockfighting (Gambling at a Cockfight)

Prohibits gambling or wagering at cockfights, defined as the aiding or abetting or participation in any game, contest, lottery or contrivance, in any location where a cockfight is being conducted and whereby a person risks the loss of anything of value in order to realize a profit. Provides for maximum penalties.

Signed into law: 7/2/07

MAINE

L.D. 57 – Humane Slaughter

Prohibits the slaughter of livestock in custom and commercial slaughterhouses in sight of other livestock, effective January 1, 2009. Directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to give priority in the next two grant cycles to applicants proposing to modify slaughterhouses to comply with the prohibition.

Signed into law: 4/30/07

L.D. 380 – Dangerous Dogs

Authorizes a court to order the owner or keeper of a dangerous dog to provide the animal control officer with identifying information for each dog kept by that person, to have dogs kept on that person's premises permanently identified, and to order dogs kept on the premises to be confined in a secure enclosure. It also specifies when a dog confined in a secure enclosure by a court order is allowed out of that enclosure and the restraints that must be used.

Signed into law: 5/25/07

L.D. 486 – Youth Hunting License

Creates an apprenticeship hunter license, patterned after the junior hunting license, which allows a person without a hunting license to hunt under the supervision of a person who holds a valid hunting license or has passed a qualified hunter safety course.

Signed into law: 6/4/07

L.D. 503 – Beagle Clubs

Clarifies the authority of the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue a permit to a beagle club to take live snowshoe hares for use by that beagle club.

Signed into law: 4/12/07

L.D. 583 – Cruelty Reporting

Permits medical and social service professionals under contract with the Department of Health and Human Services to disclose sufficient limited confidential information related to suspicion of animal cruelty, abuse, or neglect to begin an investigation into the treatment of the animal(s).

Signed into law: 5/18/07

L.D. 584 – Animal Control Officers

Adds animal control officers to the list of professionals who are mandated to report suspected cases of abuse of children and incapacitated or dependent adults.

Signed into law: 5/18/07

L.D. 728 – Wildlife Use

Prohibits a hunter or trapper from wasting a harvested or wounded game animal; removes the law that allows the holder of a big game license to take a bear during the regular open firearm season on deer without a bear hunting permit; provides that the revenue generated from the issuance of bear hunting permits in excess of the number issued in 2006 must be used to fund studies relating to the harvesting of black bears.

Signed into law: 5/24/07

L.D. 758 – Antifreeze and Engine Coolant

Requires that engine coolant or antifreeze containing more than 10% ethylene glycol or propylene glycol must include an aversive agent that makes it taste bitter so that it is rendered unpalatable.

Signed into law: 6/20/07

L.D. 1293 – Rabies Vaccination of Wolf Hybrids

Clarifies that municipal animal control officers have primary responsibility for enforcement of provisions governing rabies protection in wolf hybrids. Clarifies that it is the responsibility of the municipal animal control officer, a local health officer, or a law enforcement officer to euthanize for testing any wolf hybrid exposed to the rabies virus.

Signed into law: 5/18/07

L.D. 1387 – Nuisance Animals

Allows a person to kill up to two wild animals or wild turkeys or five deer annually on that person's property if a game warden issues a permit because of crop damage. If a person kills more than two wild animals or wild turkeys or five deer, the carcasses of deer, bear, moose or wild turkeys killed or taken must be distributed to recipients authorized through the Hunters for the Hungry Program, and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife must be notified within 24 hours that the meat is ready to be picked up.

Signed into law: 5/31/07

L.D. 1615 – Shelter Policies and Animal Cruelty

Amends multiple animal welfare laws. Creates mandatory advanced training for animal control officers; increases holding period for stray cats to 48 hours and feral cats to 24 hours; requires that animal shelters, sanctuaries and rescue groups spay or neuter any dog or cat prior to adoption or make formal arrangements for the altering of the animal within 30 days of adoption; clarifies law for rabies vaccinations for dogs; increases payments to shelters holding animals seized by the animal welfare program pending court hearings; amends animal sheltering requirements; prohibits a pet dealer to contractually or otherwise exempt itself from the remedies provided for deaths or health problems caused by disease; states that a person who kills, tortures, or causes extreme pain to an animal with a “depraved indifference” to animal life or suffering is guilty of aggravated cruelty; amends animal trespass laws to protect public safety; requires a security to be placed by the owner for seizure and impoundment of animals relating to cruelty to animals or animal fighting.

Signed into law: 6/27/07

L.D. 1673 – Animal Welfare Fund

Allocates part of the fees collected from the required registration of home-based pet food manufacture to the Animal Welfare Fund.

Signed into law: 6/28/07

MARYLAND

H.B. 601 – Sunday Deer Hunting in St. Mary’s County

Authorizing a person in St. Mary’s County to hunt deer on specified Sundays on private property with a bow and arrow during October and November.

Signed into law: 5/8/2007

S.B. 532 (H.B. 760) – Terrapins

Prohibits taking or possessing diamondback terrapins for commercial purposes; prohibits possession of more than three terrapins for noncommercial purposes.

Signed into law: 4/24/07

S.B. 696 (H.B. 673) – Tethering

Prohibits the use of any restraint that unreasonably limits the movement of a dog, restricts its access to food and water, has a primarily metal collar, has a collar that is less than the circumference of the dog’s neck plus one inch, causes injury to the dog, or places it in unsafe or unsanitary conditions.

Signed into law: 5/17/07

S.B. 717 – Deer Hunting

Removes Somerset County, Wicomico County, and Worcester County from the list of counties in which deer hunting on private lands on specified Sundays is prohibited; authorizes a person in Somerset County, Wicomico County, or Worcester County to hunt deer on specified Sundays on private property with a bow and arrow.

Signed into law: 5/8/07

MASSACHUSETTS

S.B. 2273 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits the use of a computer or any other device, equipment, software or technology to remotely control the aiming and discharge of any weapon capable of killing or capable of inflicting injury capable of killing any bird, mammal, reptile, or fish.

Signed into law: 8/2/07

MICHIGAN

H.B. 4550 & 4551 – Animal Cruelty

Enhance penalties for animal cruelty under certain circumstances.

Signed into law: 12/20/07

S.B. 350 – Animal Welfare Fund

Creates the Animal Welfare Fund to provide funds to promote sterilization and adoption of dogs and cats; to improve knowledge of the proper care of animals pursuant to state animal anticruelty laws by educating the public and training personnel authorized by law to enforce state animal anticruelty laws; to support and enhance programs that provide for the care and protection of animals pursuant to state anticruelty laws; and to allow the purchase of equipment and supplies for programs that receive grants.

[Signed into law: 11/1/07](#)

MISSISSIPPI

H.B. 911 – Nuisance Animals

Amends 1972 law to allow landowners to take nuisance animals on their leased or owned property with any weapon, with or without the aid of light with a permit issued by the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks. Authorizes hunting of nuisance animals with electronic calls and bait, subject to certain exceptions. Exempts landowners from the license requirements to hunt or trap nuisance animals on their property. Requires agents of landowners hunting or trapping nuisance animals to possess a hunting or trapping license unless otherwise exempt; requires the Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks to establish the rules and regulations of nuisance animals. Authorizes the sale of the meat and hide of nuisance animals. Prohibits the trapping and release of wild hogs in different locations. Amends 1972 code to add fox and skunks to the class of nuisance animals.

[Signed into law: 3/27/07](#)

S.B. 2342 – Animal Care Fund

Revises funding of the Animal Care Fund, created in the State Treasury and overseen by the Mississippi Board of Animal Health, to include qualified nonprofit organizations. Monies allocated, distributed, and received by the boards of supervisors, governing authorities, and qualified nonprofit organizations may go toward providing food, shelter and care for lost, abandoned, or unwanted pets; spaying and neutering of lost, abandoned, or unwanted pets; and expansion of agencies, with priority given to spay/neuter programs. No monies can go toward euthanasia. Authorizes the Mississippi Board of Animal Health to spend up to \$2,000 annually for administrative expenses.

[Signed into law: 3/15/07](#)

S.B. 2899 – Hunting Enclosures and Animal Importation

The Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks can prescribe regulations and require a permit for, but not prohibit, the operation of a hunting enclosure for hunting or pursuing rabbit, fox, or coyote. Temporarily prohibits importation of elk, red deer, mule deer, black-tailed deer, and other cervids designated as susceptible to chronic wasting disease, and revises penalties for violations.

[Signed into law: 4/10/07](#)

MONTANA

S.B. 44 – Big Game Licenses

Implements a 2006 recommendation of the private land/public wildlife advisory council by adding wild buffalo or bison, antelope, and mountain lion to the list of big game licenses that the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Commission may issue through an annual lottery.

Signed into law: 3/27/07

H.B. 503 – Euthanasia Certification

Makes permanent the provisions allowing certain agencies and technicians to be certified to perform euthanasia on animals.

Signed into law: 4/6/07

S.B. 372 – Wolf Hunting

Creates a resident wolf license and nonresident wolf license; provides for the annual auction or lottery of a wolf license and a grizzly bear license; establishes restitution for the illegal taking, killing, or possession of a wolf; provides that a person who is responsible for the death of a wolf may not waste the animal by abandoning the head or hide in the field, except a wolf that is killed while attacking, killing, or threatening to kill a person or livestock.

Signed into law: 5/3/07

NEBRASKA

L.B. 12 – Puppy Mills

Establishes annual inspections of commercial dog and cat breeders, dealers, or kennels; authorizes administrative fines of up to \$5,000; appropriates over \$500,000 to the Department of Agriculture to pay for four inspectors and one veterinarian to carry out the act.

Signed into law: 5/29/07

L.B. 25 – Rabies Vaccination of Hybrids

Requires that hybrid animals be vaccinated against rabies.

Signed into law: 4/5/07

L.B. 227 – Felony Abandonment

Redefines penalty provisions for abandoning or cruelly neglecting an animal. Creates a felony for intentional, knowing, negligent, or reckless abandonment of an animal under that person's custody or control which results in serious injury or illness or death of the animal.

Signed into law: 5/16/07

L.B. 504 – Internet Hunting

Prohibits internet hunting.

Signed into law: 5/24/07

NEVADA

A.B. 282 – Pet Protection Orders

Includes injuring or killing a domestic animal to the definition of domestic violence and authorizes a court to include certain protections for domestic animals in an order for protection against domestic violence.

Signed into law: 5/14/07

S.B. 81 – Emergency Disaster Planning

Requires that state and local plans for emergency management address the needs of persons with pets or service animals in an emergency or disaster.

Signed into law: 5/22/07

S.B. 329 – Animal Cruelty

Makes it a misdemeanor to leave an animal locked in a car when it is overly hot or cold outside.

Signed into law: 6/13/07

NEW HAMPSHIRE

H.B. 44 – Animal Control Officers

Allows persons authorized by the town to take custody of nuisance dogs.

Signed into law: 6/28/07

H.B. 142 – Pet Store License

Expands license requirements for sellers of domestic animals and requires that all out-of-state cats and dogs sold in New Hampshire be accompanied by an official health certificate.

Signed into law: 5/31/07

NEW JERSEY

A.B. 909 - Alternatives to Animal Testing

Prohibits product testing with traditional animal test methods if a federally recommended alternative test method exists, with certain exceptions; provides for injunctive relief for violations.

Signed into law: 12/20/07

S.B. 695 – Dog License Fee

Increases maximum municipal dog license fee from \$7 to \$21.

Signed into law: 1/24/07

S.B. 3000 (A.B. 5000) – Bear Management

Budget bill that includes \$850,000 for non-lethal bear management.

Signed into law: 6/28/07

NEW MEXICO

S.B. 10 – Cockfighting

Makes cockfighting illegal.

Signed into law: 3/12/07

S.B. 87 – Governor’s Game and Fish Authorizations

Permits the director of the Department of Game and Fish to provide to the governor up to 12 big game special authorizations and 12 game bird or trophy fish special authorizations. The authorizations are allocated by auction in conjunction with special events called by the governor to raise money for fish and wildlife conservation, with money collected going to the Game Protection Fund.

Signed into law: 3/30/07

S.B. 286 – Wildlife Enhancement Authorization Packages

Requires the State Game Commission to adopt rules for the Department of Game and Fish to issue enhancement authorization packages each license year for the taking of one each of elk, deer, oryx, ibex and pronghorn antelope. States that each enhancement authorization package be auctioned to the highest bidder by the Department of Game and Fish or by an incorporated nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation of wildlife, with money collected deposited in the Game Protection Fund and used exclusively for big game habitat enhancement, conservation and protection.

Signed into law: 4/3/07

S.B. 458 - Animal Sheltering Services Act

Enacts the Animal Sheltering Services Act; creates licensing procedures for euthanasia providers and euthanasia agencies; creates certification procedures for euthanasia instructors; promotes safe and humane conditions for animals in animal shelters; creates an animal care and facility fund.

Signed into law: 3/29/07

S.B. 655 – Spanish Colonial Horses

Requires that a wild horse captured on public land have its DNA, history and conformation tested to determine if it is a Spanish colonial horse. If it is a Spanish colonial horse, it shall be relocated to a state or private wild horse preserve created and maintained for the purpose of protecting Spanish colonial horses. If it is not a Spanish colonial horse, it shall be returned to the public land, relocated to a public or private wild horse preserve or put up for adoption by the agency on whose land the wild horse was captured. If it determined that a wild horse herd exceeds the number of animals necessary for preserving the genetic stock of the herd and preserving/maintaining the ranch, horse population may be controlled through the use of birth control, with excess horses: 1) humanely captured and relocated; adopted; or euthanized (if wild and determined by a veterinarian to be crippled or otherwise unhealthy).

Signed into law: 4/3/07

NEW YORK

A.B. 1839/S.B. 3167 – Companion Animals for Seniors

Relates to providing companion pets for seniors and instruction in the humane treatment of animals; provides for the office for the aging to operate programs to match seniors with companion pets to improve the lives of such seniors, and for the office for the aging to work with other entities to provide such programs.

Signed into law: 5/29/07

A.B. 5036/S.B. 255 – Service Animals

Relates to offenses against service animals and handlers; creates the crimes of: interference, harassment or intimidation of a service animal; harming a service animal in the second degree; and harming a service animal in the first degree; also includes provisions for the negligent causation of harm to a service animal, and includes a civil right of action to recover damages for such harm.

Signed into law: 8/15/07

A.B. 8966/S.B. 6209 – Fur Labeling

Requires all clothing for sale which includes fur to be correctly labeled as being "faux fur" or "real fur"; first offense brings maximum \$500 fine; subsequent offenses bring maximum \$1000 fine.

Signed into law: 08/15/07

S.B. 3529/A.B. 2613 – Electrocuting of fur-bearing animals

Prohibits the intentional killing or stunning of a fur-bearing animal through electrocution.

Signed into law: 8/28/07

NORTH CAROLINA

H.B. 571 – Fox and Coyote Trapping in Cumberland, Harnett, and Moore Counties

Permits the taking of foxes and coyotes by trapping in Cumberland, Harnett, and Moore Counties.

Signed into law: 4/10/07

H.B. 589 – Poultry Products Inspection Act

Provides for civil penalties (max. \$5000) for violations of the Poultry Products Inspection Act.

Signed into law: 8/17/07

H.B. 995 – Animal Starvation

Adds to Class I felony criteria killing an animal by intentional deprivation of necessary sustenance (intentional deprivation of necessary sustenance without death is a Class 1 misdemeanor).

Signed into law: 7/11/07

H.B. 1185 – Fox Hunting and Trapping in Johnston County

Establishes a season for taking foxes with weapons and by trapping in Johnston County.

Signed into law: 5/17/07

H.B. 1359 – Immunity for Reporting Animal Cruelty

Provides veterinarians with immunity from civil liability, criminal liability, and liability from professional disciplinary action for reporting animal cruelty, unless the veterinarian acted in bad faith or with a malicious purpose.

Signed into law: 7/18/07

S.B. 21 – Dog Fighting and Baiting

Clarifies that the statute prohibiting dog fighting and baiting does not apply to the use of herding dogs working with domesticated livestock.

Signed into law: 7/5/07

S.B. 34 – Killing of Law Enforcement or Service Animals

Makes it a Class H felony to willfully kill a law enforcement agency animal or assistance animal and makes it an aggravating circumstance for other criminal offenses that a law enforcement agency animal or assistance animal was seriously harmed or killed while the animal was engaged in performing official duties.

Signed into law: 6/14/07

S.B. 363 – Trapping of Raccoons

Authorizes the taking of raccoons by trapping in Ashe County.

Signed into law: 5/17/07

S.B. 364 – Trapping and Sale of Foxes

Authorizes the trapping and sale of foxes in Ashe County.

Signed into law: 5/17/07

S.B. 684 – Spay and Neuter

Provides for funding for the statewide spay and neuter program from the sale of rabies vaccination tags, and requires reporting on the program.

Signed into law: 8/30/07

S.B. 1246 – Bear Baiting

Prohibits placement of processed food products in areas where the Wildlife Resources Commission has set an open season for taking black bears. Prohibition does not apply to the release of dogs in the vicinity of any food source that is not a processed food product. Bill does not prohibit the lawful disposal of solid waste or the legitimate feeding of domestic animals, livestock, or birds.

Signed into law: 6/20/07

S.B. 1424 – Earthdog Trials

Adds exception to dog fighting and baiting law: dogs can be used in earthdog trials (events testing Dachshunds and small terriers for their working abilities and instincts) that are sanctioned or sponsored by entities approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture that meet standards that protect the health and safety of the dogs. Quarry (rat) at an earthdog trial shall at all times be kept separate from the dogs by a sturdy barrier and have access to food and water.

Signed into law: 07/5/07

S.B. 1464 – Wildlife Resources Management Laws

Amends wildlife resources management laws by authorizing the Wildlife Resources Commission to respond to disease threats; allowing the taking of beaver with bow and arrow; amending certain laws governing the taking of deer; providing for the safety of bow hunters during firearms season; prohibiting the feeding of alligators; allowing the use of electronic calling devices for snow geese; and studying the tracking of wounded wildlife after legal hunting hours.

Signed into law: 8/21/07

NORTH DAKOTA

H.B. 1034 – Pet Trusts

Adopts Uniform Trust Code and allows for the creation of trusts for an animal.

Signed into law: 3/13/07

H.B. 1289 – Bighorn Sheep

Amends and reenacts section of the North Dakota Century code relating to a bighorn sheep license raffle or auction.

Signed into law: 3/6/07

H.B. 1311 – Youth Pheasant Hunting Season

Amends and reenacts section of the North Dakota Century Code relating to the youth pheasant hunting season, provides for a game and fish department study, and provides for a report to the legislative council.

Signed into law: 4/26/07

H.B. 1402 – Special Hunting Licenses and Opportunities

Creates and enacts new subsection to North Dakota Century Code relating to the authority of the game and fish director to issue hunting licenses to a nonprofit organization and to establish once-in-a-lifetime hunting opportunities for terminally ill children.

Signed into law: 4/11/07

H.B. 1421 – Humane Treatment of Animals (Cruelty Exemptions)

Redefines “cruelty” or “torture” to mean “any act, omission, or neglect whereby unnecessary or unjustifiable pain, suffering, or death is caused or permitted.” The term does not include activities that are usual and customary practice in production agriculture; scientific research conducted at a public or private facility or laboratory by or under the direction of a qualified researcher; shows, fairs, competitions, performances, or parades; rodeos; wagon or buggy rides; trail or pleasure riding; activities involving the training or teaching of animals.

Signed into law: 4/10/07

S.B. 2147 – Goose Hunting

Amends and reenacts section of North Dakota Century Code relating to nonresidents hunting geese in Richland and Sargent Counties during the early goose season.

Signed into law: 3/5/07

S.B. 2201 – Antelope License Raffle

Creates and enacts a new section of the North Dakota Century Code relating to establishing a North Dakota hunter educators association antelope license raffle.

Signed into law: 4/26/07

S.B. 2250 – Youth Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Licenses

Amends and reenacts section of the North Dakota Century Code relating to youth spring wild turkey hunting licenses.

Signed into law: 3/13/07

S.B. 2251 – Wild Turkey Hunting License Raffle and Auction

Amends and reenacts section of the North Dakota Century Code relating to a wild turkey hunting license raffle and auction.

Signed into law: 4/11/07

S.B. 2293 – Hunter Education Requirements and Privileges for Military

Creates and enacts a new section to the North Dakota Century Code relating to hunter education requirements and to hunting, fishing, and trapping privileges for active duty military members.

Signed into law: 5/3/07

S.B. 2338 – Animal Tracking Database

Provides for development and maintenance of animal tracking database to assist with tracking animal movements for animal health purposes only.

Signed into law: 4/10/07

OKLAHOMA

H.B. 1042 – Hunter Safety Certification Requirements

Relates to hunter safety; namely, modifies age requirements; deletes certification requirement for certain persons hunting certain game; exempts a youth hunter from certification requirements if accompanied by a hunter meeting certain qualifications; allows a youth hunter with certification to hunt small game; allows certain persons without certification to receive an apprentice hunting license or permit; requires apprentice hunters to be accompanied by a hunter meeting certain qualifications; and allows a resident without certification to purchase an apprentice lifetime license.

Signed into law: 5/1/07

S.B. 161 – Protection of Livestock

Modifies authorization to kill certain animals for the protection of livestock under certain circumstances.

Signed into law: 4/23/07

S.B. 1049 – Forfeiture

Provides for procedure if a law enforcement officer has reason to believe an animal has been abandoned or neglected; for forfeiture of animals used in fighting ventures; for issuance of a warrant and a hearing.

Signed into law: 5/8/07

OREGON

H.B. 2971 – Hunting Dogs

Allows State Department of Fish and Wildlife to appoint person to act as agent for purpose of using one or more dogs to hunt or pursue black bear or cougar.

Signed into law: 6/27/07

S.B. 490/H.B. 2813 – Internet Hunting

Authorizes State Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt rules prohibiting use of Internet or closed circuit media to remotely control weapon for purpose of hunting or taking any game bird, wildlife, game mammal or other mammal.

Signed into law: 6/11/07

S.B. 570 – Disaster Planning

Requires the Office of Emergency Management, in cooperation with the State Department of Agriculture and county and local governments, to prepare a written emergency plan that provides for the evacuation, transport and temporary sheltering of companion animals, service animals, and livestock during a major disaster or an emergency.

Signed into law: 5/7/07

S.B. 694 – Gestation Crates

Prohibits confinement of pregnant pigs for more than 12 hours in a 24-hour period in a manner that prevents them from lying down, fully extending their limbs, or turning around freely (defined as the ability to turn in a complete circle in an enclosure without an impediment, including a tether, and without touching any side of the enclosure). Does not apply to the seven-day period before the pig farrows. Offense of restrictive confinement of a pregnant pig is a Class A violation.

Signed into law: 6/28/07

S.B. 1017 – Reporting of Crimes Involving Animals

Creates new provisions for reporting of animal cruelty; requires that certain public or private officials report suspected animal abuse or animal neglect in the first degree; defines “public or private official” to include state or county employees, psychologists, social worker, foster care provider, licensed counselor, and marriage or family therapist.

Signed into law: 6/28/07

PENNSYLVANIA

H.R. 185 – Animal Abuse Awareness Week

Designates April 22 through 28, 2007, as "Animal Abuse Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

Adopted: 4/17/07

H.R. 402 – National Feral Cat Day

Designates that the House of Representatives recognizes October 16, 2007 as “National Feral Cat Day” and calls upon the people of Pennsylvania to participate in the spaying and neutering of feral and stray cats in their neighborhoods.

Adopted: 10/15/07

S.B. 580 – Wild Turkey Hunting

Permits the use of dogs in hunting for wild turkeys.

Signed into law: 6/30/07

RHODE ISLAND

H.B. 5177 – Dog Warranties

Creates extensive rules concerning the sale of dogs, including requirements concerning warranties, remedies, and notices. Applies only to those who sell more than 20 dogs or 3 litters in a single calendar year, whichever is greater.

Effective as law without Governor’s signature: 7/7/07

S.B. 102/H.B. 5727 – Vicious Dogs

Amends various sections relative to the regulations of vicious dogs, including licensing and enclosure on property. Includes that a vicious dog that kills or seriously injures a domestic animal may be humanely euthanized, at the owner’s expense, upon a unanimous vote of the hearing panel.

Effective as law without Governor’s signature: 7/6/07

SOUTH CAROLINA

S.B. 448 – Elk

Makes it unlawful to take or attempt to take elk and provides penalties for violations.

Effective as law without Governor’s signature: 5/16/07

SOUTH DAKOTA

H.B. 1021 – Hunting

Permits a resident to hunt or take in a lawful manner fox squirrel, grey squirrel, red squirrel, cottontail rabbit, game birds, or fish during an open season on land or waters on land owned or leased by the resident without first securing a license to do so.

Signed into law: 2/23/07

H.B. 1023 – Big Game

Revises certain provisions concerning the definition of big game and the possession, transportation, and sale of big game meat and animal parts.

Signed into law: 2/15/07

H.B. 1024 – Hunting Age

Adds caveat to minimum age (12 years) that a person can receive a hunting license or preference point.

Signed into law: 2/23/07

H.B. 1026 – Unprotected Bird Species

Classifies certain bird species as unprotected and defines when certain species can be shot.

Signed into law: 3/26/07

H.B. 1112 – Transportation of Furbearing Animals

Revises certain provisions regarding the transportation of furbearing animals.

Signed into law: 2/15/07

H.B. 1179 – Hunting Violations

Revises penalties for certain big game hunting violations. Violating laws regarding taking, catching, killing, selling, offering, exposing for sale, possessing, possessing with intent to sell, shipping by common carrier, or transporting big game is a Class 1 misdemeanor. First conviction for hunting or taking big game, except wild turkey, during the nighttime, during a closed season, or without a license yield a minimum fine of \$250 per animal and revocation of hunting privileges pursuant to law. Second or subsequent conviction for hunting or taking big game, except wild turkey, during the nighttime, during a closed season, or without a license is a Class 6 felony with revocation of hunting privileges for five years.

Signed into law: 3/1/07

H.B. 1235 – Trapping and Hunting of Furbearing Animals

Authorizes trapping and hunting of certain furbearing animals by nonresidents.

Signed into law: 2/22/07

TENNESSEE

H.B. 1156 (S.B. 422) – Violations of Fish/Wildlife Transportation Laws

Prohibits possession of fish or wildlife knowing that such fish or wildlife was acquired, taken, or transported from the state or country of origin in violation of such state's or country's law; a violation is a Class A misdemeanor.

Signed into law: 5/3/07

H.B. 1161 (S.B. 196) – Definition of Animal Abuse

Expands definition of abuse to include inflicting, attempting, or threatening to inflict physical injury to a pet of an adult or minor and requires court to place an animal with the petitioner or in foster care in a protective order.

Signed into law: 6/5/07

H.B. 2174 (S.B. 2282) – Removing Dog ID

Creates misdemeanor offenses for removing from a dog an electronic or radio transmitting collar or microchip implant without the permission of the owner.

Signed into law: 4/30/07

S.B. 136 (H.B. 255) – Swine Fighting (Hog Dog Fighting)

Adds swine to the list of animals for which it is a Class E felony to own, train, or use for fighting for the purpose of amusement, sport, or gain.

Signed into law: 6/27/07

S.B. 172 (H.B. 35) – Service Animals

Expands the types of animals intentionally killed for which the court must consider the cost of training when determining the animal's value for purposes of imposing a penalty. Includes all service animals, instead of just guide dogs, plus fire dogs, search and rescue dogs, and police horses.

Signed into law: 6/21/07

S.B. 487 (H.B. 953) – Sexual Abuse of an Animal

Creates Class E felony for sexual conduct or sexual contact with an animal.

Signed into law: 6/25/07

S.B. 537 (H.B. 548) – Animal Fight Spectator Penalties

Increases penalties for being a spectator at an animal fight from a Class C to a Class A misdemeanor.

Signed into law: 5/24/07

S.B. 637 (H.B. 422) - Tethering

Defines knowingly tying, tethering, or restraining dog in manner that results in the dog's suffering bodily injury as elements of cruelty to animals.

Signed into law: 6/27/07

S.B. 726 (H.B. 1159) - Elk

Authorizes a 501(c)(3) non-profit wildlife conservation organization to sell or transfer an elk-take permit, with proceeds of sale to be used for the elk program.

Signed into law: 5/15/07

S.B. 1190 (H.B. 914) – Forfeiture

Provides that in animal cruelty prosecutions, if the defendant does not post court-ordered security to pay for expense of caring for the animal within 15 days, animal is forfeited and defendant loses all ownership rights; establishes provisions governing situations where person from whom animal was seized is not the owner and for situations where the owner is indigent.

Signed into law: 5/10/07

TEXAS

H.B. 88 – Disaster planning

Amends the Government Code to require the Division of Emergency Management in the Office of the Governor to assist political subdivisions in developing plans for the humane evacuation, transport, and temporary sheltering of service animals and household pets in a disaster.

Signed into law: 6/15/07

H.B. 916 – Dogfighting

Increases the penalty for causing a dog to fight with another dog from a Class A misdemeanor to a state jail felony; increases the penalty for attending an exhibition of dog fighting as a spectator from a Class C misdemeanor to a Class A misdemeanor. Removes causing a dog to fight with another dog for a monetary benefit as a separate offense under the offense of dog fighting.

Signed into law: 6/15/07

H.B. 1308 – Deer Breeders

Amends provisions of the Parks and Wildlife Code relating to a deer breeder's permit, formerly known as a scientific breeder's permit, including permit authorization and duration; permit privileges and regulations; records and reports; the transfer, purchase, or sale of live breeder deer; and the use of breeder deer. Repeals certain provisions relating to a deer breeder's permit and the shipment of white-tailed deer.

Signed into law: 5/14/07

H.B. 1355 – Dangerous Dogs

Amends the Health and Safety Code to create the offense of attack by a dog. Provides that a dog owner commits an offense if the person, with criminal negligence, fails to secure the dog and the dog makes an unprovoked attack against another person at a location other than the owner's real property or on or in the owner's motor vehicle or boat that causes serious bodily injury or death. Provides that an owner, knowing the dog is dangerous, commits an offense if the dog makes an unprovoked attack on another person at a location other than a secure enclosure where the dog is restrained that causes serious bodily injury or death. Provides that an unprovoked attack that causes serious bodily injury is a felony of the third degree and such an attack that causes death is a felony of the second degree. Allows the court to order a dog destroyed if the owner is found guilty of an offense under this law and sets out defenses against prosecution for the offense of attack by a dog.

Signed into law: 6/15/07

H.B. 1411 – Dog Tethering

Amends the Health and Safety Code to create the offense of unlawful restraint of a dog, under which an owner is prohibited from leaving a dog outside and unattended by use of restraint that unreasonably limits the dog's movement under certain conditions. Provides exceptions to the offense for certain types of restraint and requires a peace officer or animal control officer who has probable cause to believe that an owner is illegally restraining a dog to provide the owner with a written statement of that fact. Makes it an offense to fail to comply with the law within 24 hours of receiving the statement. A first offense is a Class C misdemeanor, and any subsequent offense is a Class B misdemeanor.

Signed into law: 6/15/07

H.B. 2328 – Animal Cruelty Definitions

Amends formal codes to modify the offense of cruelty to animals to apply only to livestock animals. Creates a new section for the offense of cruelty to nonlivestock animals with penalties ranging from a Class A misdemeanor to a third-degree felony; and provides that the law does not create a civil cause of action for damages or enforcement of either offense.

Signed into law: 6/15/07

UTAH

H.B. 67 – Youth Permits

Lowers the age for obtaining a big game permit from 14 to 12; prohibits a person under the age of 14 from obtaining certain permits.

Signed into law: 3/12/07

VERMONT

S.B. 169 (H.B. 313) – Civil Violations for Animal Cruelty

Permits first offense violations of some provisions of the state's animal cruelty laws to be charged as civil violations rather than criminal offenses.

Signed into law: 5/26/07

VIRGINIA

H.B. 1900 – Companion Animal Cruelty

Makes it a Class 6 felony if any person who has been convicted of animal cruelty is convicted within five years of the prior offense of maliciously depriving a companion animal of necessary food, drink, shelter, or emergency veterinary treatment, and either the previous or current violation causes death to an animal.

Signed into law: 3/23/07

H.B. 2296 – Licensure of Cats and Dogs

Exempts releasing agencies from obligations of licensure of cats and dogs.

Signed into law: 3/20/07

H.B. 2525 – Spay and Neuter Fund

Distributes a contribution made to the Spay and Neuter Fund through the voluntary contribution of tax refunds to the locality in which the filer resides. The locality must use the contribution for the provision of low-cost spay and neuter surgeries, or it may make the funds available to any private, nonprofit sterilization program for dogs and cats in the locality. All contributions to the Spay and Neuter Fund are currently distributed to the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies.

Signed into law: 2/19/07

H.B. 2714 – Shooting Policies

Increases the penalty for violating the provisions of the shooting enclosure laws from a Class 2 misdemeanor to a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill empowers the State Veterinarian to seize and dispose of animals held in unlicensed shooting enclosures. The bill also makes it illegal for any person to knowingly provide livestock to an unlicensed shooting enclosure.

Signed into law: 3/12/07

S.B. 882 – No Net Loss of Public Lands For Hunting

Establishes a policy that there will be no net loss of public lands on which hunting occurs.

Signed into law: 4/11/07

S.B. 787 – Emergency Planning

Requires the Department of Emergency Management to develop an emergency response plan to address the needs of animals in an emergency and to assist localities in developing their own emergency response plans.

Signed into law: 4/11/07

S.B. 1180 (H.B. 2365) – Removal of Dog Collar

Provides that it is a Class 1 misdemeanor for anyone to remove an electronic or radio transmitting collar from a dog without the permission of the dog owner and with the intent to prevent or hinder the owner from locating the dog. The guilty party can be ordered to pay as restitution the actual value of any dog lost or killed due to the collar removal and the value of lost breeding revenue.

Signed into law: 3/21/07

WASHINGTON

H.B. 1249 – Deferral of Hunter Education Training

Authorizes a one-year deferral of hunter education training.

Signed into law: 4/21/07

H.B. 1418 – Potentially Dangerous Animals

Prohibits possession and breeding of “potentially dangerous wild animals,” including large cats, wolves, bears, primates, certain snakes, crocodiles, etc. Allows persons who possessed a potentially dangerous wild animal prior to the effective date of the act to keep the animal, provided the possessor maintains adequate records and can prove possession prior to the effective date of the act. Provides that a city or county may adopt an ordinance governing potentially dangerous wild animals that is more restrictive than this act. Provides for enforcement of provisions and penalties for violations.

Signed into law: 4/30/07

S.B. 5227 – Abandonment

Defines animal abandonment and increases the penalty for animal abandonment to a gross misdemeanor.

Signed into law: 5/8/07

WEST VIRGINIA

H.B. 2206 – Removal of Dog ID

Prohibits a person not the owner of a dog from removing tags, collars or apparel from a dog without the permission of the owner.

Signed into law: 3/22/07

S.C.R. 78 – Animal Protection Laws for Horses

Requests that the Joint Committee on Government and Finance study the effectiveness of existing animal protection laws as they relate to horses.

Signed into law: 03/18/07

WYOMING

H.B. 195 – Killing or Injuring Police or Rescue Dogs

Makes it a felony to kill or injure a police or corrections animal, fire dog, or search and rescue dog.

Signed into law: 2/21/07

H.B. 213 – Wolf Management

Provides for classification of gray wolves, aggressive management of wolves, monitoring of wolf population and movements, and rules and regulations.

Signed into law: 3/2/07

S.F. 20 – Accessibility of Animal Tranquilizers for Euthanasia

Defines “animal tranquilizers” and “certified animal euthanasia technician”; specifies that certified animal euthanasia technicians can purchase, possess, and administer animal tranquilizers to animals only.

Signed into law: 2/14/07

S.F. 39 – Hunting Penalties

Provides for additional penalties for hunting when hunting privileges have been revoked or suspended.

Signed into law: 2/14/07