

ENACTED AND VETOED STATE LAWS AFFECTING ANIMALS FOR THE YEAR 2003

The following list is a compilation of laws and resolutions that were passed by state legislatures in 2003 and then signed into law or vetoed. The list includes legislation that had a positive, negative, or neutral impact on animals. Please e-mail Julie Janovsky at jjanovsky@hsus.org , to obtain a copy of these bills, or if you have any questions, additions or corrections to the list.

ALABAMA

H.B. 37 (Buskey) - Greyhound Euthanasia

Requires that the only method allowed for euthanasia of greyhounds is by lethal injection and makes it a crime to remove greyhounds from the state for the purpose of euthanizing.

Signed into law on 6/20/03.

ALASKA

H.B. 208 (Fate) & S.B. 155 (Seekins) - Airborne Shooting

Allows the Department of Game and Fish to authorize a predator control program involving airborne or same day airborne shooting of wolves.

Signed into law on 6/18/03

S.B. 147 (Green) - NWCO BILL

Provides for licensing and regulating of nuisance wildlife control operators.

Signed into law on 6/28/03.

ARIZONA

H.B. 2121 (Carruthers) - Dogs

Changes the minimum age for a dog to be considered a stray from four months to three months, and adds an additional \$10 to the \$2 late payment fee for a dog license if more than a year late, or an additional \$20 if more than 2 years late.

Signed into law on 5/6/03.

S.B. 1351 (Weiers) - Pet Trusts

Creates trusts for pets.

Signed into law on 5/12/03.

ARKANSAS

H.B. 1261 (Oglesby) - Horses

Prohibits treating horses or mules with behavior altering substances within twenty-four hours of a sale, except for racehorses.

[Signed into law on 3/14/03 as Act 363.](#)

CALIFORNIA

A.B. 202 (Corbett) — Baby birds

Prohibits pet shops from selling an unweaned bird. Prohibits a pet shop with 6 or more employees from possessing an unweaned bird unless they employ two full-time certified avian specialists, and a pet shop with 5 or fewer employees from possessing an unweaned bird unless they employ one full-time certified avian specialist. A person found in violation is subject to a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per violation.

[Signed into law on 10/12/03.](#)

A.B. 326 (Dutton) – Dog Licenses

Permits the board of supervisors or animal control department to designate veterinarians to issue dog licenses.

[Signed into law on 7/7/03.](#)

A.B. 396 (Harman) – Shared Habitat Alliance for Recreational Enhancement Program (SHARE)

Encourages private landowners to open their land to the public for wildlife-dependent recreational activities such as hunting. removes landowners liability and allows the Department of Fish and Game to compensate the landowners with money from hunting licenses and bird stamps. It also exempts the program from being public information.

[Signed into law on 10/12/03.](#)

A.B. 566 (Yee) – Live Markets

States that a person is not in violation of the requirement that fishing records (including those on frogs in the live animal markets) be written in English if, at the time of inspection, someone provides an English translation of records not kept in English.

[Signed into law on 7/21/03.](#)

A.B. 1420 (Laird) – Killing Elk

Requires the department to make certain determinations and specify certain corrective measures, prior to the issuing of a depredation permit for elk.

[Signed into law on 9/3/03.](#)

A.C.R. 16 (Nation) – Vegetarian Options

Asks state agencies to develop nutritionally sound school lunch menu plans that include daily optional vegetarian lunches.

[Chaptered on 6/19/03.](#)

A.C.R. 18 (Leno) – Spay Day

Declares February 25, 2003 to be Spay Day USA 2003, asks Californians to spay/neuter their dogs and cats or to contribute to organizations that provide spay and neuter services, and asks veterinarians to work with animal shelters and rescue groups that provide spay and neuter services.

[Chaptered on 3/4/03.](#)

A.C.R. 33 (Nation) – Day of the Horse

Declares December 13, 2003, to be the Day of the Horse in the State of California, and calls upon all citizens to be mindful of the welfare of the horse and to recognize and appreciate the role of the horse in our history, heritage, and economy.

[Chaptered on 5/6/03](#)

S.B. 216 (Sher) – Sandhill Cranes

Extends Recovery Strategy Pilot Program for the Greater Sandhill Crane plus four additional species.

[Signed into law on 10/12/03.](#)

S.B. 412 (Sher) – Collection of Animals for Research

Authorizes the Fish and Game Commission to permit the collection of fully protected birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, or fish for necessary scientific research, including efforts to recover those species.

[Signed into law on 10/8/03.](#)

S.B. 732 (Soto) – Cockfighting

Increases the penalty for cockfighting to up to 1 year and \$5,000 and makes a repeated conviction ineligible for probation, or a conditional or suspended sentence. The bill now raises the penalty on second offense to 1 year imprisonment and a fine of up to \$25,000.

[Signed into law on 9/2/03.](#)

S.B. 993 (Poochigian) – Investigations

Makes it a misdemeanor to enter lands or buildings owned by another person where cattle, goats, pigs or other livestock is being raised for the purpose of food for human consumption, or to injure or carry away any animal being housed on such lands or buildings without the license of the owner or legal occupant, or to remove, damage or destroy any stakes, fences or signs designating the boundaries of those lands.

[Signed into law on 10/12/03.](#)

COLORADO

H.B. 1236 (Hefley) – Animal Cruelty

Changes to the animal cruelty law by creating “aggravated cruelty to animals” and making it a higher level crime when committed with intent, and another section for when it is committed recklessly or negligently.

[Signed into law on 4/30/03.](#)

H.B. 1319 (Fritz) — Wildlife Commission Authority

Clarifies that the wildlife commission has the power to provide for the control of wildlife in order to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the public; clarifies that a permit is not required to trap, kill, or otherwise dispose of bears, mountain lions, or dogs when such animals threaten livestock, people, or property.

[Signed into law on 5/22/03.](#)

H.J.R. 1022 (Pommer & Groff) – Spay and Neuter your Pet Day.

[Signed by the President of the Senate on 5/23/03 & the Speaker of the House on 6/5/03.](#)

S.B. 65 (Chlouber) – Animal Fighting

Prohibits breeding, selling, transferring animals for fighting, expands the sources for the animal cruelty prevention fund to include grants, gifts, and donations. It expands the uses of the animal cruelty prevention fund to include assisting with costs associated with the impoundment of an animal that is the subject of cruelty. Clarifies that a peace officer may take possession of and impound an animal under certain circumstances. Permits an animal owner or custodian to prevent disposition of an animal by posting a bond with the court for the cost of the care provided by the impound agency.

[Signed into law on 5/22/03.](#)

S.B. 107 (Chlouber) – Greyhound Racing

Increases from 15 days to 250 days an in-state simulcast facility may receive simulcast greyhound races from an out-of-state host track. Requires the in-state facility to carry all in-state simulcast greyhound races to simulcast out-of-state greyhound races.

[Became law without the Governor’s signature on 4/29/03.](#)

S.B. 114 (Hanna) – Bear Baiting

Punishes the offense of knowingly luring a wild bear to food or edible waste by a fine of \$ 100 for a first offense, \$ 500 for a second offense, and \$ 1,000 for a third or subsequent offense. Exempts acts related to agriculture and acts allowed by wildlife commission rule.

[Signed into law on 6/5/03.](#)

CONNECTICUT

H.B. 5530 (Urban) – Animal Cruelty, Psychological Counseling

Authorizes courts to order persons charged with or convicted of cruelty to animals to undergo counseling and participate in animal cruelty prevention and education programs as a condition of probation. State law now allows for fines or jail terms in

animal cruelty cases. Penalties for cruelty to animals are limited by state law to \$1,000 or one year in jail. Penalties for injuring or killing animals are limited to \$5,000 or five years in jail.

[Signed into law on 7/0/03 as Public Act No. 03-208](#)

H.B. 6038 (Joint Environment Committee) – Tethering

Prohibits confining or tethering an animal for an unreasonable period of time.

[Signed into law on 7/9/03.](#)

H.B. 6066 – Spay - Neuter

Authorizes municipal animal control officers to spay and neuter animals in their care; reduces the municipal expense of managing unwanted animals and reduce the number of unclaimed animals that are euthanized.

[Signed into law on 6/26/03 as Public Act No. 03-137.](#)

H.B. 6394 – Game and Fish Bill

Concerns the endangered species programs of the Department of Environmental Protection. It addresses use of drugs, pesticides, vaccines, and immunocontraceptives; allows hunters to use bait to kill deer; authorizes the Commissioner to permit towns, associations, and organizations to kill deer and Canada geese; increases the Commissioner's powers but also requires that he document his actions and subjects them to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); allows the Commissioner to dispose of "undesirable" wildlife; permits people to kill pigeons, monk parakeets, and some other birds under certain circumstances; increases the fines for harming bald eagles or their nests; expands the definition of dangerous animals and increases penalties for possessing them; expands the Commissioner's power over possession, importation, and transport of wildlife; bans the sale and purchase of snakehead fish; and requires that hunters who shoot migratory birds use nontoxic shot.

[Signed into law on 6/26/03 as Public Act No. 03-192.](#)

S.B. 49 – Dog Licensing

Increases the dog license fee for dogs that are not spayed or neutered from \$10 to \$13.

[Signed into law on 6/18 as Public Act No. 03-103.](#)

S.B. 486 (Aniskovoch) – CT Humane Society

Exempts the Connecticut Humane Society from any state fees charged in association with the adoption of an animal from a public animal control facility.

[Signed into law on 6/26/03 as Public Act No. 03-198.](#)

DELAWARE: NO NEW LAWS ON ANIMALS

FLORIDA

H.B. 399 (Ryan) & S.B. 174 [Geller] – Turtles

Provides a penalty for taking, harvesting, or possessing an egg of certain marine turtle species.

[Signed into law on 5/2/03.](#)

H.B. 1037 & S.B. 462 (Committee on Agriculture) – Rabies

Revives and reenacts the exemption from public-records requirements which pertains to certain confidential information contained in a rabies vaccination certificate provided to the animal control authority.

[Signed into law on 6/20/03.](#)

H.B. 1319 (S.B. 2586) (Harrington) – Manatees

Provides that a portion of the Save the Manatee Trust fund shall be used for funding law enforcement positions within the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for enforcement of laws designed to protect manatee populations in certain counties; requires additional information to be included in an annual report regarding expenditure of funds in the trust fund.

[Signed into law on 6/17/03.](#)

H.B. 1429 (Rubio), H.B. 1911 & S. 2350 (Klein) - Animal Fighting

Close loopholes in the animal fighting law, including prohibiting keeping and training of animals for fighting, dealing in animal fighting equipment, and assisting in an animal fight. The bill also provides for the seizure of fighting animals, and allows the court to prohibit convicted animal fighters from owning animals in the future.

[Signed into law on 6/24/03.](#)

S.B. 308 - Turtles

Revises the exemption from sales of the Sea Turtle license plate and provides for the use of such funds.

[Signed into law on 6/8/03.](#)

GEORGIA

H.B. 815 - Allows Alligator Hunting

Allows alligator hunting and deer hunting with dogs. Under this bill alligator hunting would be legal at night from any boat or watercraft, with the aid of hand-held ropes, snare, snatch hooks, harpoons, gigs, or arrows with restraining lines attached. Once the alligator is restrained hunters may kill him with any caliber handgun or bang stick. In addition, it is currently legal to hunt deer with dogs and this bill would require a permit.

[Signed into law on 6/3/03](#)

HAWAII - NO NEW ANIMAL LAWS WERE ENACTED

IDAHO

H.B. 106 (Agricultural Affairs) - Exotic Animals

Provides that Department of Agriculture and the administrator of the Division of Animal industries have the authority to regulate or prohibit the importation or possession of deleterious exotic animals in Idaho.

[Signed into law on 3/20/03.](#)

H.B. 127 – Feeding Wild Animals

Adds authorization to existing law to allow the Division of Animal Industries to promulgate rules for the regulation and prohibition of certain private feeding of big game animals, with the cooperation of the Department of Fish and Game.

[Signed into law on 3/17/03.](#)

ILLINOIS

H.B. 184 (Saviano) – Dangerous Dogs

Provides that a dangerous dog must be both muzzled and leashed whenever it is upon a street, sidewalk, or other public place or grounds, and provides that a vicious dog must be either spayed or neutered within 30 days after impoundment. Authorizes the microchipping of dogs and cats. Adds impairment of plastic surgery to the definition of serious physical injury. Requires notice before disposal of an impounded animal. Requires reporting of animal bite by any person with knowledge. Provides for dog owner liability.

[Signed into law on 8/19/03.](#)

H.B. 648 (Madigan) – Euthanasia

Specifies that animals cannot be transported beyond state lines for the sole purpose of euthanasia unless the methods comply with 510 ILCS 72/57 and the euthanasia is performed by a certified euthanasia technician.

[Signed into law on 12/23/03.](#)

H.B. 1089 (Joyce) – Animal Fighting

Provides that real property used in the conduct of animal or dog fighting and of moneys, profits, and proceeds acquired by the conduct of animal fighting or dog fighting in violation of the Humane Care for Animals Act or the dog fighting provisions of the Criminal Code of 1961 be forfeited to the state. This new law allows authorities to confiscate and sell property associated with dog and other animal fighting. It also provides for hearings on forfeiture and for the distribution of the proceeds from the sale of the property seized to the various units of government that investigated and prosecuted the violations.

[Signed into law on 7/14/03.](#)

S.B. 386 (Klindt) – Veterinary Reporting

Adds failing to report a case of suspected aggravated cruelty, torture or animal fighting to the grounds for discipline – for veterinarians.

[Signed into law on 7/22/03.](#)

S.B. 387 (Haines) – Animal Fighting

Prohibits the court from entering an order for supervision of a defendant who has committed a Class A misdemeanor violation relating to the manufacture, sale, or possession of equipment used in dog fighting, or of a misdemeanor violation relating to failure to provide humane care or treatment of animals, animal fighting, animal cruelty, or depictions of animal cruelty. Amended so that the bill no longer applies to violations of providing adequate food, shelter, veterinary care, or humane care, and current law no longer applies to violations of the Boarding Aircraft with Weapon Act.

[Signed into law on 7/25/03.](#)

INDIANA

H.B. 1077 (Reske) – Cruelty to Law Enforcement Animals

Establishes increased penalties for causing serious injury to or the death of a law enforcement animal.

[Signed into law on April 14.](#)

S.B. 533 (Woolard) – CAFOs

Establishes National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit procedures for concentrated animal feeding operations.

VETOED on 5/8/03.

IOWA

H.F. 509 (Mertz) – Chronic Wasting Disease

Relates to deer and elk chronic wasting disease by establishing a task force and requiring departmental cooperation in the implementation of a chronic wasting disease administrative strategy.

[Signed into law on 8/29/03.](#)

KANSAS

S.B. 46 (Senate Committee on Ways and Means) – Bonding

Requires the owner to place a bond for the costs of care of a seized animal for 30 days, renewable. [Signed into law on 4/21/03.](#)

KENTUCKY

H.B. 243 (Farmer) and S.B. 24 (Buford) – Cruelty to Animals

Increase the penalty for committing an act of cruelty to a domestic animal to a felony offense, however, it lessens the penalties for killing any animals that are not domestic and removes “mutilate” from the misdemeanor statute.

[Signed into law on 3/31/03.](#)

LOUISIANA

H.B. 106 (Cazayoux) - Dangerous dogs

Authorizes law enforcement officers and animal control officers to seize dogs which cause death or inflict serious bodily injury on human beings and provides for a hearing to determine whether such dogs shall be euthanized.

[Signed into law on 6/27/03.](#)

H.B. 939 (Bruce) – Sanctuaries

Limits the liability for nonprofit corporations which maintain animal sanctuaries.

[Signed into law on 6/27/03.](#)

H.B. 1005 (Schwegmann) – Tax Checkoff

Provides for individual income tax checkoff for donations to Louisiana Animal Welfare Commission.

[Signed into law on 5/28/03 as Act 111.](#)

H.B. 1137 (Townsend) – Hunting

Authorizes taking of bobcats and foxes under big game license relative to hunting.

[Signed into law on 7/7/03.](#)

H.B. 1468 (Schwegmann) – Primates

Provides that the Department of Fish and Wildlife promulgate rules regulating the possession and importation of non-human primates. The bill was amended to also cover non-indigenous reptiles. Zoos, sanctuaries, scientific organizations, and medical facilities including the U. Of LA at Lafayette Primate Center and the Tulane National Primate Center were exempted from the bill.

[Signed into law on 7/3/03.](#)

H.B. 1486 (Toomey) - Local Control

Provides that parishes and municipalities of over 400,000 operating under a home rule charter are not constrained from adopting ordinances for the control of dogs and other animals and providing for the utilization of license fees and fines.

[Signed into law on 5/28/03.](#)

H.B. 1797 (Kenney) – Importing Wildlife

[Provides with respect to the importation of cervid species into Louisiana. On 6/5/03 it was reported from the Legislative Bureau without amendments.](#)

VETOED on 7/15/03.

S.B. 20 (M. Smith) – Dogs and Livestock

Provides relative to the liability of an owner of a dog that kills, wounds, or harasses livestock.

Signed into law on 5/8/03.

MAINE

LD 237 (HP 192) (McKee) - Coyote Snaring

Amended to provide for the use of snares by Department of Wildlife agents to control coyotes during winter months under certain conditions only for animal damage control purposes; provides agents must be trained and certified in the use of snares; provides for the adoption of policies and procedures in the use of snares to minimize the taking of nontarget species.

Signed into law on 4/25/03.

LD 326 (HP 191) (Bruno) – Wildlife

Requires a biologist's approval for dealing with nuisance wildlife.

Signed into law on 5/16/03.

LD 327 (SP 109) (Pendleton) – Elephants in Performance

Mandates that elephants in the state must be kept in accordance with USDA specifications on care.

Signed into law on 5/23/03.

LD 360 (HP 280) (Hutton) – Dangerous Dogs

Increases the minimum and maximum allowable fines for violation of the uncontrolled dog laws, and sets a minimum fine of \$250 for keeping a dangerous dog.

Signed into law on 4/18/03.

LD 460 (HP 352) (A. Trahan) – Hounding Dogs

Directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow a person licensed to track wounded animals with a leashed dog to charge a fee for the tracking service, adds moose and bear to the list of game animals that the tracker may track and requires the department to list all licensed leashed-dog trackers in any hunting rule publication the department makes available to the general public.

Signed into law on 4/18/03.

L.D. 928 (H.P. 685) (McKee) – Ferrets

Prohibits importing ferrets under 8 weeks of age or weighing less than 450 grams for sale or resale.

Signed into law on 5/23/03.

L.D. 1228 – Regulating Pets

Requires records be kept of all animals, except mice and fish, and that Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources report to the legislature in 2003 on the need for additional regulation of breeders and sellers of small mammals commonly kept as pets, including gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs, ferrets, rats and mice.

[Signed into law on 5/30/03.](#)

L.D. 1456 (HP1064) (Dunlap)

Creates the Landowners and Sportsmen Relations Advisory Board.

[Signed into law on 5/23/03.](#)

L.D. 1545 (S.P. 520) (Bryant) – Animal Welfare Advisory Board

It requires the commissioner to perform a background check for members of the Animal Welfare Advisory board, and at least one member of the commission must be from a statewide animal protection group. It also requires animal control officers to pass a literacy test and complete at least 8 hours basic training and 8 hours hands-on training, and requires humane agents to complete the 100-hour in-service program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy or a nationally recognized program dealing with animal welfare. This bill also increases dog licenses from \$7.50 to \$20 for unaltered dogs and from \$4 to \$10 for sterilized dogs,

[Signed into law on 6/3/03.](#)

MARYLAND

H.B. 679 (Boutin) – Sunday Hunting

Allows hunting on Sundays for the first time in centuries. This allowance would apply to all privately owned land and be applicable through the entire month of December and November pending DNR seasons. With all but two Sundays amended out.

[Signed into law on 4/22/03.](#)

MASSACHUSETTS – NO NEW ANIMAL LAWS.

MICHIGAN

H.B. 4011 (DeRossett) – Sunday Hunting

Repeals a ban on Sunday hunting in Washtenaw County (Ann Arbor).

[Signed into law on 12/2/03.](#)

H.B. 4599 (Richardville) – Sunday Hunting

Repeals Sunday hunting ban in Hillsdale, Lenawee, St. Clair and Tuscola counties.

[Signed into law on 7/15/03.](#)

H.B. 4896 (Richardville) – Falconry

Repeals the sunset provision for taking of falcons for falconry hunting, which means that a bill would not be required to allow falconry to continue. Amends sec. 40107a of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.40107a).

[Signed into law on 12/23/03.](#)

S.B. 361 (Barcia) – Shelter License Fee

Replaces the \$150 license application fee for pet shops with a \$200 initial fee and a \$100 renewal fee. It established a fee for animal shelter licensure for the first time, but it is nominal: \$25 initial, and \$25 annual renewal. It sets the fee for pet store licensure at \$200 initial and \$100 annual. None of the fees come close to covering the actual cost of the inspections/licensure process. Renewal applicants who have had substantiated complaints against them within the past calendar year for violations of regulations pertaining either to animal health and well-being OR public health and safety must pass an inspection before being granted a renewal license. The motion passed almost unanimously; with only one “no” vote (Dr. Al Stinson, Mich. Assn. for Purebred Dogs & Mich. Hunting Dog Assn.).

[Signed into law on 7/21/03.](#)

MINNESOTA – NO NEW ANIMAL LAWS.

MISSISSIPPI

H.B. 1120

Creates offense of killing or injuring a public service animal.

[Signed into law on 3/31/03.](#)

S.B. 2578

Clarifies animal seizure law notice due to owner.

[Signed into law on 3/12/03.](#)

S.B. 2682 (Posey)

Imposes moratorium on importation of any due susceptible to chronic wasting disease.

[Signed into law on 4/19/03.](#)

MISSOURI – NO NEW ANIMAL LAWS

MONTANA

H.B. 32 (Golie) – Hound Hunting

Allows for an open season on hunting bobcats in addition to mountain lions, including hounding, and allowing a training session with dogs.

[Signed into law on 3/26/03.](#)

H.B. 181 (Bill Thomas) - Euthanasia

Allows a certified agency to apply for registration to possess controlled substances for the purpose of euthanizing animals and allows certified euthanasia technician to administer controlled substances under the agency's lawful possession when the agency and technician are certified by the board of veterinary medicine.

[Signed into law on 3/5/03.](#)

H.B. 262 (Fuchs) – Large animals

Clarifies the policy of the department of fish, wildlife, and parks and providing legislative intent, establishing that large predators must be managed primarily to preserve huntable species of large game and to protect livestock, pets, and people.

[Signed into law on 4/3/03.](#)

H.B. 283 (Fuchs) – Wolf Management

"An act providing a substitute state plan for wolf management if the U.S. fish and wildlife service does not remove the northern rocky mountain or gray wolf from the united states' list of endangered or threatened wildlife by January 1, 2004, or if delisting occurs by January 1, 2004, but is challenged in court; defining the gray wolf as a predator for state management purposes under the substitute plan; directing the attorney general to seek compensation from the united states fish and wildlife service for damages and costs associated with wolf reintroduction in Montana; repealing the present statutory wolf management plan if delisting does not occur by January 1, 2004, or if delisting occurs by January 1, 2004, but is challenged in court; repealing section 87-5-131, mca; and providing effective dates."

[Signed into law on 4/29/03.](#)

H.B. 306 (J. Balyeat) – Right to Hunt

Right to hunt constitutional amendment, intended to preserve "the right" to harvest and wild game animals, which may only be abridged for a compelling state interest.

[Signed into law on 4/3/03.](#)

H.B. 317 (J. Shockley) – Cost of Care (animal cruelty)

Allows a sentencing court to require a person convicted of cruelty to animals to pay the reasonable costs incurred by a public or private animal control agency or humane animal treatment shelter for the care of the animal.

[Signed into law on 4/17/03.](#)

H.B. 553 (Gallik)

Enhances penalties for animal abuse.

[Signed into law on 4/17/03.](#)

H.J. 32 - Wolves

Requests that the governor, the Montana congressional delegation, and the U.S. Secretary of the Interior seek the immediate removal of the gray wolf from the endangered species list and the return of control of the wolf to the state; urging

Montana officials to actively pursue the delisting effort on terms favorable to Montana and recommending certain specific terms for delisting; and urging the state attorney general to join the state in any legal action brought to block the wolf delisting process.

[Signed into law on 4/15/03.](#)

S.B. 395 (Perry) - Bison

Opens a hunting season on bison.

[Signed into law on 5/9/03.](#)

S.J. 4 - Wolves

Urges the delisting of wolf as endangered species.

[Passed the legislature on 4/10/03.](#)

NEBRASKA

L.B. 17 (Brashear) – Animal Sales

Makes it a misdemeanor crime for a person (other than animal control of an animal shelter to sell a puppy or kitten under six weeks of age.

[Signed into law on 5/29/03.](#)

L.B. 130 – Pet Trusts

Creates the Uniform Trust Code (including trusts for pets).

[Signed into law on 3/20/03.](#)

L.B. 233 – Licensing Animal Control

Increases the annual licensing of shelters and animal control facilities to a fee of \$140 per year but no inspection is necessary on application. If there are complaints, public or otherwise, the shelter will be inspected, and the licensing fee will go to inspections. This will bring these organizations under the current Cat and Dog Inspection Act.

[Signed into law on 4/16/03.](#)

L.B. 273 (Chambers) – Cruelty Reporting

Requires reporting of suspected animal abandonment, cruelty, neglect, or mistreatment, makes animal fighting violations a class IV felony on first offense (instead of a class I misdemeanor), makes animal abandonment and cruel neglect a class I misdemeanor on first offense (instead of a class II misdemeanor), and makes cruel mistreatment a class IV felony on first offense (instead of a class I misdemeanor).

[Signed into law on 3/20/03.](#)

L.B. 274 (Chambers) – Pet Shop License

Requires licensure of pet shops, requires dealers, pet shops, shelters, and breeders to provide purchasers with spaying and neutering information, requires spay/neutering of all dogs and cats released from shelters or animal control facilities, and sets standards of care of dogs and cats for commercial breeders (including socialization).

Signed into law on 3/20/03.

L.B. 305 (Sen. Ed Schrock) – Hog Hunting and Hog-dog Fighting

Prohibits the wounding or killing of pigs for sport and competition and establish processes for obtaining hunting permits, among other provisions.

Signed into law on 5/15/03.

L.B. 632 (Price) – Selling Dogs or Cats

Prohibits the sale of dogs or cats under six weeks.

Signed into law on 4/28/03.

NEVADA

A.B. 41 (Collins) – Division of Wildlife

Converts Division of Wildlife of State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources into Department of Wildlife.

Signed into law on 5/29/03.

A.B. 136 (Government Affairs) – Preservation Area

Authorizes creation of general improvement district for establishment of area or zone for preservation of one or more species or subspecies of wildlife threatened with extinction.

Signed into law on 5/28/2003.

A.B. 332 (Arberry) & S.B. 231 (Townsend) – Service Animals

Makes various changes relating to service animals.

Signed into law on 6/13/03.

S.B. 197 (Weiner) – Psychological Counseling

Adds mandatory psychological counseling for juveniles who torture or commit an act of animal cruelty another section of the statutes (mandatory counseling law was in place).

Signed into law on 5/26/03.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

H.B. 128 (Rousch) - Horses

Regulates the care, feeding and housing of horses.

Signed into law on 4/23/03.

H.B. 515 (Fraser) - Trapping

Removes trapper's names from the Right to Know law.

Signed into law on 6/2/03.

S.B. 46 (Prescott) – Spay Neuter

Require that 25% of all dedicated funds be deposited into the state's general fund for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. It would seriously impact the state-subsidized spay/neuter program, which is a dedicated fund currently funded by dog license fees.

[Signed into law on 6/30/03.](#)

S.B. 52 (Clegg) – Police Dogs

Creates a voluntary certification program for police dogs and handlers.

[Signed into law on 5/27/03.](#)

S.B. 79 (Roberge) – Animal Fighting and Bonding

Requires the owner of animals seized under cruelty charges to post a bond for their care and support, and strengthens the animal fighting law by increasing the penalties for cockfighting to the same level as dog fighting.

[Signed into law on 6/6/03.](#)

NEW JERSEY

A. 2064 (Geist) – Animal Control

Requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish a list of animal control officers found guilty of or liable for violating any animal cruelty law; prohibits persons on that list from being animal control officers for municipalities.

[Signed into law on 5/6/03.](#)

A. 3074 & S. 2154 (Fisher & Burzichelli, Senator Sweeney) – Animal Cruelty

Increase criminal and civil penalties for certain animal cruelty offenses, and increase penalty for certain repeat offenders.

[Signed into law on 1/9/04.](#)

NEW MEXICO

H.B. 48- Pet Trusts

Enacts the Uniform Trust Code, including trusts for pets, although provisions previously existed to allow for pet trusts.

[Signed into law on 4/2/03.](#)

H.B. 560 (Godbey) – Bear Proofing

Gives the state the authority to provide as necessary, designate areas of the state in which bear-proof garbage containers are required on public and private lands to reduce potential human-bear interactions.

[Signed into law on 4/12/03.](#)

H.B. 566 (Harrison) – Spay Neuter License Plate

Creates special plates supporting spayed pets. It has a bill enabling a s/n plate to be made. It needs to get some unidentified number of pre-paid applications before they will

actually make it. Once they take out all the state government funds for production, the money goes to the counties, proportional to the number of plates sold in each county, for animal control s/n programs.

Motor vehicle dept still needs to identify how many pre-paid applications it needs--and to come up with the logo--before anything happens.

[Signed into law on 4/12/03.](#)

HJM 3 (Stewart) - Reduce Vehicle-Wildlife Collisions

Memorial requests that state and congressional officials take action to reduced vehicle-wildlife collisions on New Mexico roads. This would include such actions as requesting federal funding for wildlife overpasses and underpasses, public education campaigns, and declaration of a state day to educate people about the importance of reducing vehicle-wildlife collisions.

[Passed.](#)

S.B. 59 (Jennings) “Shooting Artificial Game or Birds”

Makes it illegal to shoot the artificial game or birds used by conservation officers to detect and apprehend those who are in violation of game and fish laws and regulations.

[Signed into law on 4/8/03.](#)

SM 8 (Hurt) – Endangered Species

Memorial that requests Congress to reevaluate the worth of the federal endangered species

[Passed.](#)

NEW YORK

A. 781 (Grannis) & S. 3274 (Maltese) – Veterinary Reporting

Allows veterinarians to report suspected cases of animal abuse or cruelty.

[Signed into law on 10/7/03.](#)

A. 860 (Adams) & S. 2298 (Skelos) – Detection Dogs

Amends the registration requirements and fees to engage in certain activities with controlled substances; includes drug detection dogs and dog handlers used by commercial detection services; requires disclosure of discovery of controlled substances; provides that client records shall be confidential. S. 2298 includes dogs used or training to detect ignitable liquids within the definition of detection dog.

[Signed into law on 8/5/03 \(S. 2298\) and 8/7/03 A. 860 was signed into law.](#)

A. 4609 (Stringer) & S. 2735 (Padavan) – Canned Hunting

[Would have expanded the prohibition on canned hunts to include all mammals and to prohibit spearing of animals.](#)

[Vetoed by on 8/26/03.](#)

A. 8679 (Rules & Paulin) & S. 4549 (Maltese) – Shelter of Dogs

Requires appropriate shelter for dogs left outdoors in inclement weather and provides standards for compliance; and a range of fines for failure to comply.

[Signed into law on 9/22/03.](#)

S. 1068 – Trapping

Provides that traps set for the taking of wildlife may bear the assigned identification number of the operator, rather than the operator's name and residence address.

The bill was vetoed on 9/9/03.

NORTH CAROLINA

H.B. 948 (Williams, A.) – Deer

Clarifies the authorities of the Department of Agriculture and consumer services and the wildlife resources commission to regulate the transportation and ownership of cervids.

[Signed into law on 7/27/03.](#)

S.B. 245 (Weinstein) – Hunting Coyotes

Authorizes the hunting of coyotes in controlled hunting preserves and to make it unlawful to import live coyotes into this state.

[Signed into law on 5/30/03.](#)

S.B. 593 – Hog Farms

Extends the moratoria on construction or expansion of swine farms.

[Signed into law on 6/26/03.](#)

S.B. 669 (Hartsell) – Cruelty to Animals

Defines the term animal and also allows for easier confiscation of abused animals. The bill provides for civil action. In addition, if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that even if a permanent injunction were issued there would exist a substantial risk that the animal would be subjected to further cruelty if returned to the possession of the defendant, the court may terminate the defendant's ownership and right of possession of the animal and transfer ownership and right of possession to the plaintiff or other appropriate successor owner.

[Signed into law on 6/19/03.](#)

S.B. 825 (Albertson) – Protection of Reptiles and Amphibians

Authorizes the Wildlife Resources Commission to protect certain reptiles and amphibians that require conservation measures.

[Signed into law on 5/30/03.](#)

NORTH DAKOTA

H.B. 1192 (Metcalf) – Animals as Prizes

Allows horses to be given out as animal raffle prizes.

Signed into law on 3/26/03.

OHIO

H.B. 152 (Reinhard) – Factory Farms

Revises statutes governing animal feeding facilities allowing an increase of 10%.

Signed into law on 8/6/03.

OKLAHOMA

H.B. 1565 (Boren) – Fur from “nuisance” control

Allows for the sale of squirrel pelts. This bill provides no incentive to solve problems without killing.

Signed into law on 4/16/03.

H.B. 1566 – Cats and Bears

Creates a permit system for native cats or bears that are held in captivity.

Signed into law on 5/6/03.

H.B. 1690 (Askins) - Cruelty to Animals

Increases penalties from \$500 to \$5000. In addition to the other sentencing powers of the court, the court, in the case of a person convicted of cruelty to animals pursuant to section 1685 of title 21 of the Oklahoma statutes, may require the person to pay restitution to animal facilities for medical care and any boarding costs of victimized animals. Any violation of cruelty to animals may result in forfeiture and seizure of any animals and property. On 5/23 the conference committee report was adopted by the House.

Signed into law on 6/3/03.

S.B. 401 (Corn) Oklahoma Animal Control Officer Certification Act

Modifies the people that can be provided sodium pent., states requirements for membership on the Council; sets term of appointment to the Council; requires the State Board of Health to act in certain capacity; authorizes the Council to adopt training program for certification of animal control officers.

Signed into law on 6/2/03.

S.B. 584 (Price) Oklahoma Farm Animal, Crop, & Research Facilities Protection Act;

Prohibits removing or damaging animals or products of the facility.

Signed into law on 4/10/03.

S.B. 833 (Shurden) – Trespassing

Relates to crimes and punishments, relating to prohibited acts with regard to certain animal facilities; reduces certain penalty pursuant to a violation of the Animal Facilities Protection Act; requires full restitution for damaged property.

[Signed into law on 3/31/03.](#)

OREGON

H.B. 2086 - Cockfighting

Creates crime of cockfighting and establishes maximum penalty of five years imprisonment, \$100,000 fine, or both. It creates crime of participation in cockfighting and establishes maximum penalty of one year's imprisonment, \$ 5,000 fine, or both. It allows the court to order seizure and impoundment of alleged fighting birds, and provides for peace officer to take constructive possession of bird based upon probable cause to believe bird is fighting bird. The bill also provides for forfeiture of fighting birds and other seized property upon conviction of person for cockfighting or participation in cockfighting. Lastly the bill includes cockfighting, participation in cockfighting and forcible recovery of fighting bird in list of predicate offenses for establishing racketeering activity.

[Signed into law on 6/25/03.](#)

Support: H.B. 2811 – Downer Bill

Expands definition of maximum care with regard to non-ambulatory livestock animals for purposes of certain criminal statutes.

[Signed into law on 7/3/03.](#)

H.B. 3339 (Judiciary Committee) – Downers

Makes it a crime for anyone to trade downer animals. Nonambulatory is defined as unable to stand or walk without assistance. A person commits the crime of trading in nonambulatory livestock if the person knowingly delivers or accepts delivery of a nonambulatory livestock animal at a stockyard. This subsection does not apply to the delivery to, or acceptance by, a licensed veterinarian at a stockyard for the purpose of humanely euthanizing or providing appropriate medical care to the animal. This consists of a Class A misdemeanor.

[Signed into law on 6/6/03.](#)

H.B. 3646 (Rules & Public Affairs) – Horse and Greyhound Racing

Eliminates prohibition on overlapping horse and greyhound race days in same metropolitan area.

[Signed into law on 9/17/03.](#)

S.B. 65 (Courtney)

Relates to crimes against animals.

[Signed into law on 6/23/03.](#)

S.B. 255 (Schrader) – Veterinary Reporting

Requires veterinarians to report suspected aggravated animal abuse; punishes failure to report suspected aggravated animal abuse by maximum fine of \$1,000, eliminates requirement to report treatment of animals injured by trapping device.

[Signed into law on 6/10/03.](#)

S.B. 564 (Atkinson) – Animal Cruelty

Strengthens the law to make intentional injury to a law enforcement animals a class C felony. (This is the current felony level penalty for cruelty to animals) punishes by maximum of five years' imprisonment, \$ 100,000 fine, or both; expands and renames the crime of interfering with a police animal to include law enforcement animals.

[Signed into law on 7/3/03.](#)

S.B. 832 (Walker) – Nuisance Wildlife

Allows a person to take wildlife that is public nuisance or public health risk on land that person owns or occupies; directs State Fish and Wildlife Commission to define public nuisance and public health risk. This was requested by the Governor's office.

[Signed into law on 6/6/03.](#)

PENNSYLVANIA

H.R. 221 (Reichley) – Animal Abuse Awareness Week

Designates the week of April 27 through May 3, 2003, as "Animal Abuse Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

[Passed the House on 4/24/03.](#)

H.R. 403 (Gordner) – Dog Week

Designates the week of September 21 through 27, 2003, as "Dog Week" in Pennsylvania.

[Passed the House on 9/23/03.](#)

H.R. 501 (Nailor) – Home 4 the Holidays Month

Designates the month of December 2003 as "Home 4 the Holidays Month" in Pennsylvania to promote the adoption of homeless pets.

[Passed the House on 12/8/03.](#)

RHODE ISLAND

H.B. 5085 (Shanley) – Abandoned Animals

Creates a possessor lien in favor of individuals who provide board for livestock; permits kennels and veterinarians who board or groom animals to transfer an abandoned animal to a licensed animal rescue, shelter, humane society or adoption service; requires notice of intent to owner or keeper.

[Became law without the Governor's signature on 7/15/03.](#)

H.B. 6288 and S.B. 1001 – Dog Licensing

Permits the town of Newport to charge an annual license fee of ten dollars (\$ 10.00) for all dogs, and to impose an additional five dollars (\$ 5.00) for unspayed females and unneutered males. This act would take effect upon passage

[Became law without the Governor's signature on 7/17/03.](#)

H.B. 6381 [Faria] – Greyhound

requires the Department of Health to pay for the testing required at dog racing facilities.

[Became law without the Governor's signature on 8/6/03.](#)

S.B. 220 (Sosnowski) – Bonding/Lien

Allows for a lien to be put on animals for their keep. If a person is caring for an animal that does not belong to him or her, the owner of the animal must pay for the cost of the keeping within 30 days. If it is not the person with custody of the animal may sell the animal. A kennel or vet hospital which has custody of an animal for non-medical purposes many transfers that animal to a licensed nonprofit rescue, shelter or adoption organization.

[Signed into law on 7/17/03.](#)

SOUTH CAROLINA

H. 3299 – Hunting Raccoon, Opossum, and Fox

Provides that it is unlawful to carry weapons while hunting raccoon, opossum or fox during the period it is lawful to hunt them without weapons; prohibits running raccoons with dogs at any time during the year.

[Became law without governor's signature on 4/23/03.](#)

H. 3303 (Duncan) – Sunday Hunting

Provides that it is not unlawful to bait deer at any time on private land, or to hunt deer on Sunday on private land during the prescribed season for hunting deer.

[Became law without governor's signature on 5/13/03.](#)

H. 3353 – Trapping Coyotes

Deletes the requirement that a permit be obtained before trapping coyotes outside the prescribed trap distance limits; relates to possession, sale, or importation of live wolves and coyotes; relates to persons not required to obtain fur dealer, buyer, or processor's license.

[Became law without governor's signature on 4/23/03.](#)

H. 3613 (Duncan) – Trapping Wildlife

Provides that a permit issued for the removal of destructive beavers is valid for a period of 6 months from the date of issue.

[Signed into law on 5/12/03.](#)

S. 36 (Knotts) - Creates Layla's Law

Provides for the protection of guide dogs and service animals; provides criminal penalties for interference with or injury to a service animal or guide dog; provides penalties for intimidation or instruction of the owner of a guide dog or service animal; provides for restitution and civil remedies.

[Signed into law on 6/2/03.](#)

S. 489 (Ravenel) - Hunting & Trapping

Provides that it is unlawful for a person other than a trustee, employee or agent of the foundation or a person authorized by the foundation to trap, hunt, molest or attempt to molest a bird, wild fowl or game, including wild hogs, within the refuge or trespasses in any manner upon the property of the Belle W. Baruch Foundation for that purpose.

[Signed into law on 6/6/03.](#)

S. 523 (Gregory) – Killing Wildlife

provides measures the DNR may implement to prevent and control the spread of disease among wildlife; relates to the authority of the Department to allow the taking of animals that cause damage to crops and property; extends this authority to animals posing a human health risk; provides that it is unlawful to possess or transport live deer except in certain circumstances.

[Signed into law on 6/25/03..](#)

SOUTH DAKOTA

S.B. 27 – Mountain Lions

De-lists mountain lions, allowing for the legal hunting and hounding of the currently listed animals.

[Signed into law on 2/11/03 as S.J. 401.](#)

S.B. 213 (Koskan) – Hunting

Prohibits hunting on school and public lands containing unharvested crops, unless the crop is designated for conservation or wildlife habitat.

[Signed into law on 3/21/03.](#)

TENNESSEE

H.B. 1796 (Walker) & S. 1740 – Trapping

Authorizes use of snare traps in Bledsoe County.

[Signed into law on 4/24/03.](#)

TEXAS

H.B. 151 (Farabee and Senator Estes) – “Offenses Involving Dogs”

Allows for people to kill dogs who are attacking livestock. This is already an exception to prosecution in the animal cruelty statute, so little, if anything, was accomplished by the passage of this bill.

[Signed into law on 6/20/03.](#)

H.B. 641 (Kolkhorst) - Agricultural policy regarding bison.

Indigenous animals do and don't have certain protections under parks and wildlife law in Texas. As long as no additional species are put on this bill, the law will essentially stay the same.

[Signed into law on 5/14/03.](#)

H.B. 1115 (Hartnett) & S.B. 572 – Euthanasia Guidelines

Sets up regulations for the euthanasia of animals in shelters. Mandates the use of sodium pentobarbital or commercially compressed carbon monoxide and only in accordance with the 2000 Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia as modified. A person may not euthanize an animal unless they have successfully completed a training course in the proper methods and techniques for euthanizing animals, that are specified in the law. An offense under this section is a Class B misdemeanor.

[Signed into law on 5/14/03.](#)

H.B. 1119 (Goodman) – Animal Cruelty

Improves current Texas law on responding to animal cruelty by allowing the seizure of animals who are being treated cruelly sooner, shortening the judicial process and allowing counties and municipalities to recover court costs and other expenses related to seizure proceedings.

[Signed into law on 6/20/03.](#)

H.B. 2881 (Driver) – Service Animals

Increases the penalties for injuring or killing a service animal. This section adds the word “kill” to current law and includes allowing one’s own dog to kill a service animal. Those found guilty of a first offense are fined not more than \$2,000 and jailed in a state facility for not more than 30 days. A subsequent offense is a fine of not more than \$5000 and jail time in a state jail for not more than 30 days. Those guilty must also pay restitution to the owner of the animal for vet or medical bills, and cost of replacement or training.

[Signed into law on 6/20/03.](#)

S.B. 236 (Fraser) - Killing Hogs

Allows for a landowner to kill feral hogs on his property with out a license.

[Signed into law on 6/25/03.](#)

UTAH

H.B. 130 (Urguhart) – Damage by Wildlife

Relates to damage on private land by big game animals.

[Signed into law on 3/9/03.](#)

H.B. 148 (S. Clark) – Falcons

Increases the penalty for illegally killing a peregrine falcon.

[Signed into law on 3/13/03.](#)

H.B. 157 & HJR 12 (Styler) – Wolves

Relates to control of wolf population.

[Signed into law on 3/15/03.](#)

VERMONT

H. 320 - Service Animals

Permits service animals utilized by police officers and other emergency personnel for search and rescue and detecting criminal activity to enter public property with their handlers. Current law only allows service animals for the disabled to enter public property. Current law only allows full-fledged service animals to enter public property.

[Signed into law on 5/2/03.](#)

H.B. 449 (Committee on Government Operations) – Veterinary Reporting

Sec. 12. 26 V.S.A. Section 2404 is added to include veterinary immunity from liability for reporting suspected cases of animal cruelty and animal fighting.

[Signed into law on 6/12/03.](#)

H. 464 (formerly H.459) (Dept. of Agriculture) – Licensing of Pet Merchants

Increases the licensing fees for pet merchants from \$30 to \$150, allows the department to contract with local veterinarians to provide inspection services, mandates the department to work with the Vermont animal cruelty task force to improve the existing system for licensing pet merchants, and appropriates \$25,000 to a special fund to support the licensing of pet merchants.

[Signed into law on 6/18/03.](#)

VIRGINIA

H.B. 1589 (Morgan) - Rabies

Reduces the confinement period for exposure to rabies for dogs and cats that are currently vaccinated for rabies.

[Signed into law on 3/16/03.](#)

H.B. 1765 (Nutter) – Killing Deer

Authorizes the Director of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to issue a deer kill permit to landowners whose residential plants have been damaged by deer.

[Signed into law on 3/16/03.](#)

H.B. 1831 (Morgan) – Dangerous Dogs

Changes the definition of dangerous dog to mean a canine or canine crossbreed that has bitten, attacked, or inflicted injury on a person or companion animal, or killed a companion animal. When dog attacks or bites another dog, the attacking or biting dog shall not be deemed dangerous (i) if no serious physical injury occurs to the other dog as a result of the attack or bite or (ii) both dogs are owned by the same person. No dog shall be found to be a dangerous dog as a result of biting, attacking or inflicting injury on another dog while engaged with an owner or custodian as part of lawful hunting or participating in a field trial authorized by the department of game and inland fisheries.

[Signed into law on 3/31/03.](#)

H.B. 1865 (O'Bannon) – Abandoning or Dumping an Animal

Increases the penalty for abandoning or dumping of animals within city limits by adding it to the littering section of the highway laws, which carries a penalty of confinement in jail for not more than 12 months and a fine of not less than \$250 or more than \$2,500, either or both. However, the court may suspend the imposition of any sentence on the condition that the defendant volunteers his services to remove litter from the highway.

[Signed into law on 3/27/03.](#)

H.B. 1866 (O'Bannon) – Animal Cruelty

Gives judges the authority to ban any person convicted of animal cruelty from owning other companion animals.

[Signed into law on 3/20/03.](#)

H.B. 2113 – Shooting Deer or Bear

Prohibits a person who has been convicted of any hunting or fishing law from being designated as a shooter authorized to kill deer or bear found damaging fruit trees, crops, livestock, or personal property or creating a hazard to aircraft or motor vehicle.

[Signed into law on 3/16/03.](#)

H.B. 2689 (Bell) – Dog Fighting

Prohibits possessing, owning, training, transporting, or selling dogs for fighting, making it a class 6 felony, prohibits being a spectator at a dogfight even when not purchasing admission and increases the penalty to a class 1 misdemeanor, and requires a person convicted to be liable for the reasonable costs of care of dogs involved. Cockfighting sections were removed.

[Signed into law on 3/22/03.](#)

H.B. 2705 (Suit) – Animal Control Authority

Provides animal control officers shall have the power to obtain a felony, providing the execution of the warrant shall be carried out by any law enforcement officer.

[Signed into law on 3/27/03.](#)

S.B. 950 (Frederick Quayle) – Rescue

Removes animal rescues from the law requiring shelters, pounds, and rescues to follow minimum standards of animal care. Passed the Senate and on 2/5/03 the bill went to the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources. Section added that says a person can not have more than 50 companion animals. Most provisions from 895 went into S.B. 950.

[Signed into law on 4/3/03.](#)

WASHINGTON

H.B. 1108 (Chase) – Police Animal

Increases the penalties for harming a police animal, includes horses.

[Signed into law on 5/14/03.](#)

H.B. 1144 (Haigh) - Immunocontraception

allows the department of fish and wildlife may apply to the department of health for registration pursuant to the applicable provisions of this chapter to purchase, possess, and administer controlled substances for use in chemical capture programs. The department of fish and wildlife must not permit a person to administer controlled substances unless the person has demonstrated adequate knowledge of the potential hazards and proper techniques to be used in administering controlled substances.

[Signed into law on 5/9/03.](#)

H.B. 1512 (Cox, Fromhold, Sump And Schoesler) – Wildlife

This bill mandates that the department shall conduct rather than consider, a special hunt or special hunts to reduce the potential for such damage, and authorize at least 2 doe permits per hunter for special hunt held in damage areas, when the dept has confirmed six incidents of crop damage caused by deer or elk.

[Signed into law on 5/20/03.](#)

H.B. 5011 (Jacobson) – Wildlife Viewing

Promotes wildlife viewing tourism.

[Signed into law on 5/9/03.](#)

S.B. 5129, S.B. 5179 (Oke), S.S.B. 5179 and HB 1254 – Trapping

Bills that essentially repeal I-713. This bill removes the permitting system that was established by the initiative, eliminating the mechanism for verifying that an animal problem exists. This legislation also ensures that non-lethal methods have been attempted before resorting to the use of inhumane traps.

[Vetoed by the Governor on 2/20/03.](#)

S.B. 5204 (Oke) – Wildlife

Provides opportunities for wildlife viewing, by setting up the sale of “wildlife decals”. The money from the sale of the decal will go toward promoting non-consumptive wildlife viewing and toward assisting communities in developing wildlife viewing.

Signed into law on 5/14/03.

WEST VIRGINIA

H.B. 2301 (Amores) – Bonding

Relates to posting bond for maintenance of animals seized pursuant to allegations of neglect or cruel treatment.

Signed into law on 3/13/03.

H.B. 2753 (Overington) – Animal Fighting

Makes animal fighting, possessing, owning, training, transporting, selling animals for fighting, hosting an animal fight, or possessing, owning, manufacturing, transporting, selling animal fighting implements a felony, and makes attendance at an animal fight a misdemeanor regardless of whether admission is purchased. This bill does not include cockfighting.

Signed into law on 3/27/03.

H.B. 2965 – Service Dogs

Relates to authorizing the division of corrections and the state fire marshall to retire, transfer or dispose of division of corrections and state fire marshall canine.

Signed into law on 3/18/03.

S.B. 205 (Kessler) – Felony Animal Cruelty

Modifies the criminal intent requirement for animal cruelty crimes; increases the fine applicable to convicted persons. This bill also eliminates the civil recovery limitation of the assessed value of a dog; creating a felony offense for intentionally torturing or maliciously killing animals; and mandating that persons convicted of animal cruelty be prohibited from possessing, owning or residing with animals for varying periods depending on whether the person is convicted of a misdemeanor or felony.

Signed into law on 3/11/03.

WISCONSIN

A.B. 106 (Gunderson) – Bear Hunting

Allow those who are 18 to transfer their hunting license to someone 12 or over and allow them to Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues two types of bear hunting licenses. A Class A bear license allows the license holder to shoot and kill bear. A Class B bear license allows the license holder to assist a Class A license holder in pursuing bear, to bait bear, and to train dogs to pursue bear, but it does not allow the license holder to actually shoot at or kill bear. This bill allows a person who is issued a Class A bear license to transfer that license to a person who is at least 12 years old but under the age of 18. The minor may then use the license to pursue, bait, and hunt bear as authorized by a Class A bear license. The bill provides that the minor may be the transferee of a Class A bear license only once during the time he or she is a minor.

Signed into law on 10/13/03.

S.B. 122 (Jaunch) – Hunting

Allows the use of a laser sighting device by visually handicapped persons while hunting.

[Signed into law on 11/12/03.](#)

WYOMING

H.B. 77 – Pet Trusts

Uniform Trust Code, including pet trusts.

[Signed into law on 3/7/03.](#)

H.B. 219 – Animal Euthanasia

Establishes the animal euthanasia certification board as specified; authorizes the board to certify animal euthanasia technicians; specifies eligibility criteria; specifies approved training and testing; prohibits persons from acting as an animal euthanasia technician without certification.

[Signed into law on 3/7/03.](#)

S.F. 125 (Coe) – Felony Level Animal Cruelty

Provides for a felony level penalties for acts of animal cruelty that cause the death of an animal.

[Signed into law on 3/7/03.](#)