



Texas Accomplishments (2005 through 2012)

Legislation/Public Policy

- The HSUS in Texas has been working alongside other state and national coalition partners on the following legislation:
 - Puppy mills: Requires licensing and inspection of dog and cat breeders who maintain 11 or more female breeding animals and sell 20 or more animals per year (passed)
 - Cockfighting: Prohibits a person from attending a cockfight, owning or training a roster to fight, owning or selling the knives, gaffs or other weapons used in the fights, and allowing one's property to be used in a fight (passed)
 - Posting bond in cruelty cases: Ensures animals seized from persons charged with cruelty to animals are not held in shelters for a long period pending an appeal and requires persons convicted of animal cruelty to reimburse the shelter for cost of care for the animals (passed)
 - Attendance at responsible pet owner class: Allows a judge to order a person convicted of animal cruelty to attend a responsible pet owner course
 - Helped to defeat the following bad bills:
 - Bill to expand the list of entities that are exempt from the Dangerous Wild Animal Act
 - Bill to establish a Livestock Standards Board
 - Bill that would have provided a defense to prosecution for the offense of cruelty to a dog if the person has a reasonable fear of serious bodily injury to himself or another person
 - Bill that would have defined working dogs as "livestock" and prohibited cities and counties from regulating them; it also treated working dogs as "livestock" for animal cruelty purposes
- Helped pass rules implementing the puppy mill bill, which we helped pass in 2011
- Helped pass an ordinance in Austin endorsing The HSUS and The United Egg Producers Agreement
- Helped pass an ordinance banning the retail sale of puppies and kittens in Austin and El Paso

Grants, Aid, and Project Contributions

- The HSUS has provided over \$201,000 in grants to shelters and other animal organizations for support, sponsorships, and general funding.
- The HSUS has sponsored the Texas Unites conference for several years, which brings together the three main animal shelter coalitions together into one conference.
- The HSUS donated money to the Austin Humane Society for medical supplies during the Bastrop wildfires.
- The HSUS provided grant to the Galveston Island Humane Society.

Training, Shelter, and Advocate Outreach and Events

- Illegal Animal Fighting trainings in San Antonio (40 attendees), Houston (more than 50 attendees) and South Texas (40 attendees)
- Disaster Animal Response Team trainings in 2006, 2009, 2011
- Lobby 101s/Advocacy Events, annual Humane Lobby Day at the state capitol, and advocacy events statewide



Partnerships

- Appointed to deer working group to assist nuisance deer population

Corporate Reform

- To date, 49 pet supply retailers have taken The HSUS's Puppy Friendly Pet Store pledge, committing not to sell puppies in favor of promoting shelter adoptions.

Direct Assistance, Hands-On Care, Transport, or Placement

- 2011: Texas Captive Hunt Facilities – Conducted an undercover investigation exposing the unsavory captive exotic animal hunting business in New York and Texas; the investigation aired on Animal Planet.
- 2011: ESPN Investigation – In April, 2011, HSUS investigators took an ESPN crew member undercover to a cockfight in Gunter, Texas. They aired the exposé on ESPN.
- 2010: Cockfighting Investigation – Undercover investigators attended cockfights at nearly 20 pits throughout Texas and documented about 100 locations where cockfights are regularly held. Investigators used hidden cameras to document repeated acts of animal cruelty, as well as the presence of young children, widespread illegal gambling, and prostitution.
- 2010: Texas Egg Facility Investigation – On November 17, The HSUS held simultaneous press conferences in Houston and Washington, D.C. regarding our investigation into an egg factory farm owned by Cal-Maine in Waelder, Texas. The investigation revealed appalling animal abuse and food safety threats.
- Ongoing: We have been working quite closely with the San Antonio Animal Care Services, providing them information of various cockfighting operations and breeding facilities. We also provided them with 200 cages to house roosters that were part of two back-to-back cockfight operations which occurred January 2012. Also in 2012, we assisted in the rescue of 52 puppies from a puppy mill in Giddings. The facility, "Lit'l Bit of Heaven Puppies," were selling sick puppies and breeding various small breeds, many living in small wire enclosures littered with feces. Many of the dogs were severely matted, urine-stained, and suffering from a variety of infections, dental disease, and medical issues. Austin Animal Services provided the onsite veterinarians and took the dogs for treatment and shelter.
- Dec. 15, 2011: The HSUS supplied key information that led to the raid of an alleged cockfighting breeding facility in Santa Fe. Local law enforcement, acting on information from an undercover investigation by The HSUS, found more than 350 birds and cockfighting paraphernalia on the scene, as well as a cockfighting pit.
- May 7, 2011: The HSUS assisted in identifying cockfighting operation in Gunter, which led to a cockfight raid. Dozens of birds were seized and 50 people are being investigated for illegal cockfighting.
- Feb. 19, 2011: The HSUS supplied key information that led to the raid of a suspected cockfighting operation in Tyler. HSUS experts also provided evidence identification and documentation on the scene. Authorities seized 44 roosters and detained an estimated 20 people.
- Dec. 18, 2010: The HSUS supplied key information that led to the raid of an alleged cockfighting operation in southeast Dallas, by the Dallas Police Department. Several people were detained on the scene, and others may later face charges. Authorities seized 80 roosters.



- Dec. 15, 2010: The HSUS assisted in the rescue of 44 neglected horses, providing care and assisting with placement. Many horses went to the Doris Day Horse Rescue and Adoption Center.
- Jan. 4, 2010: Officials arrested 176 people, seized 118 birds, and took into custody 15 children, ranging from 5 to 15 years old, at a cockfight in Poolville. The HSUS assisted with the raid, which turned up narcotics and more than \$10,000 in gambling money.
- Aug. 11, 2009: More than 500 dogs and approximately 15 cats were rescued from deplorable conditions in Kaufman County. Rescue workers and volunteers cared for the animals at an emergency shelter. The HSUS provided evidence, sheltering, field, and medical support.

Disaster Planning and Response

- 2012: The HSUS assisted the Lancaster Animal Control in April 2012 when more than 15 tornadoes touched ground in the Dallas area. We assisted in getting them much needed food, crates, and bowls.
- 2011: The HSUS assisted the Austin Humane Society with relief efforts during the wildfires that occurred in Bastrop during the fall of 2011.
- 2005: During Hurricane Rita, HSUS staff ran evacuation sites in Nacogdoches and Lufkin, where all but three of 457 animals were reunited with their owners.