

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATIVE  
**SCORECARD**  
ON ANIMAL ISSUES



## INTRODUCTION

This scorecard has been created to help provide information about legislators' positions on animal protection issues to those who care about legislation affecting animals in Massachusetts and in the United States.

The scorecard is meant to assist you in learning about your legislators. It is not a personal evaluation of legislators, nor does it reflect every action a legislator may have taken to help or harm animals. For example, the scorecard does not necessarily reflect when a legislator testified for or against an animal protection measure, made a phone call to push or stop an animal bill, or when he or she may have helped a constituent with an animal concern in the district. In addition, some legislators may be very helpful on domestic animal issues and not as supportive of wildlife issues, or vice-versa. Therefore, as always, we encourage you to meet with your legislators (in either the State House or district office), write to them, and ask about positions on specific animal issues. If your legislators have been supportive of animal issues, please take a few minutes to thank them – and let us know.

*MSPCA Advocacy Department*

Contact us at: 617-541-5008 or [Advocacy@mspca.org](mailto:Advocacy@mspca.org). Visit our webpages at [www.mspca.org/advocacy](http://www.mspca.org/advocacy)

## HOW VOTES ARE TALLIED

In the Massachusetts State Legislature, recorded votes on animal protection issues are rare. For this reason, we have included some past years' recorded votes. This information, while still helpful, will only be available for legislators who have been in office during those votes. Newer legislators will not have these votes recorded and this is indicated with blank spaces (on the trapping and greyhound votes). In order to give readers more information on legislators' positions, we have also included information on legislators who have sponsored pro-animal legislation and those who have taken positions and co-sponsored bills harmful to animals.

On the federal level, the scorecard reflects the 110th Congress and the positions that members of our Massachusetts Congressional Delegation have taken on animal protection measures.

## WHO REPRESENTS ME?

You can find out at: [www.WhereDoIVoteMA.com](http://www.WhereDoIVoteMA.com) or call your city or town hall.

**On the State level:** The Massachusetts State Legislature consists of 200 members (40 senators and 160 representatives). You are represented by one representative and one senator.

Massachusetts legislators can be reached by writing: The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, State House, Boston, MA 02133. The salutation should be: Dear Representative or Senator \_\_\_\_\_. The phone number for the State House is (617) 722-2000.

**On the Federal level:** All states have two senators (Massachusetts' Senators are John F. Kerry and Edward M. Kennedy) — both represent all citizens of the Commonwealth. The number of representatives a state has depends on its population. Massachusetts has ten representatives who represent the ten Congressional districts in Massachusetts (see pages 12-14 for more information on members of Congress).

Members of Congress can be reached at: The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, The Capitol, Washington D.C., 20510, (202) 224-3121 (switchboard). The salutation should be: Dear Representative or Senator \_\_\_\_\_:

## SELECTED LEGISLATOR PROFILES FOR 2008/2009

### Representative Louis Kafka

Louis Kafka has sponsored many animal protection bills. Several years ago, after speaking with the MSPCA about dog and cockfighting in Massachusetts, he filed a bill — passed in 2006 — that significantly strengthened Massachusetts' statutes pertaining to animal fighting. The law clarifies the authority of law enforcement officers to seize paraphernalia intended to be used for illegal animal fighting and to seize the offspring of animals who are intended to be used in future fights. The law also requires the forfeiture or surrender of an animal if the owner has been convicted of animal cruelty, so that the animal does not go back to the abuser. In 2007, Representative Kafka filed a bill — that became a law in 2008 — increasing the penalties for aiding or being present at an exhibition of fighting animals. The penalty is now a maximum \$1,000 fine and/or five years in prison. In the current session, he has filed a bill to criminalize the depictions of dog fighting, as well as other animal protection measures.

### Representative Carl Sciortino

Carl Sciortino started his legislative career off with a bang when he unseated a 16-year incumbent. He since has become known as a supporter of animal protection issues and has led the legislative charge against greyhound racing. A ballot question in 2008, which passed by a vote of 56% to 44%, phases out greyhound racing. For the 2009-2010 legislative session, he filed a bill to use trust funds that had been reserved for capital improvements to, and promotion of, the greyhound tracks to instead be used to re-train track workers.

### Representative Peter Koutoujian

Peter Koutoujian has long supported efforts to prevent violence toward humans and animals. In 2003, he sponsored a bill that allows the Department of Social Services (now the Department of Children and Families) to report suspected animal abuse without fear of liability. This bill passed in 2004. He has sponsored important legislation to allow pets to be included in temporary restraining orders in domestic violence cases, recognizing that pets are often used as pawns by the abuser and that victims will often delay or not leave a violent situation because of fear of what could happen to the pet.

### Senator Robert Hedlund

Robert Hedlund became interested in elephants when he learned about their plight from a constituent. Since then, he has become a staunch advocate for their treatment and has co-sponsored several measures to protect traveling elephants. In 2006, a bill to ban the use of elephants in traveling shows passed the Senate. This was the first bill of its kind to pass any branch of any legislature in the country. It didn't end up passing the House, but Senator Hedlund continues to advocate for elephants and recently filed a bill to ban the use of the bullhook or ankus on elephants used in traveling shows. Senator Hedlund has an excellent record on other animal issues, too.

### Senator Patricia Jehlen

Senator Jehlen has been very good on animal issues, but she has taken on one big and important bill — a bill that would update the state's animal control laws. For decades, bills have been filed that would make necessary changes to better protect people and animals. She and her staff have worked hard to help pass this bill that would improve the dangerous dog law (while preventing being breed-specific provisions), create a spay/neuter fund, require animal control officers to receive training, and more.



*A Few other legislators  
recognized this year  
as working for animals*

Representative Katherine Clark  
Representative Pamela Richardson  
Representative Sean Garballey  
Representative William Brownsberger  
Representative Jennifer Callahan

# SCORECARD

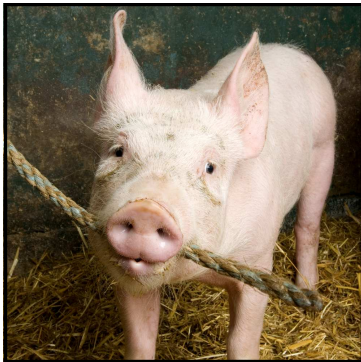
## MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

	TRAPPING—VOTE 1	TRAPPING—VOTE 2	TRAPPING—VOTE 3	TRAPPING—VOTE 4	TRAPPING COSPONSOR	GREYHOUND VOTE—SUBSIDY 1	GREYHOUND VOTE—SUBSIDY 1	GREYHOUNDS — HOT WEATHER	GREYHOUNDS—SLOT MACHINES	GREYHOUND PROTECTION ACT — ENDORSER	DISSECTION CHOICE — COSPONSOR	DOG BREED DISCRIMINATION— COSPONSOR	MOOSE HUNTING — COSPONSOR	FARM ANIMALS — COSPONSOR	CIRCUS ANIMALS/ELEPHANTS —VOTE/COSPONSOR	SUNDAY HUNTING — VOTE/COSPONSOR	ANIMAL CONTROL — COSPONSOR	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE — COSPONSOR
Aguilar, K. (D)										N								+
Alicea, G. (D)										N						-		+
Allen, W.M. (D)										N								
Arciero, J. (D)																		
Ashe, B. (D)																		
Atkins, C. (D)	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	Y								+
Atsalis, D. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	N								
Ayers, B. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	-	+	-	N					+		+	+
Balser, R. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	N	+						+	
Barrows, F. (R)										N								
Basile, C. (D)										N								
Benson, J.(D)																		+
Binienda, J. (D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N								
Bosley, D.(D)	-	-	-	-		+	-	nv	+	N								
Bowles, B (D)															+		+	+
Bradley, G. (D)						+	-	+	+	N					+			
Brady, M. (D)															+		+	+
Brownsberger, W. (D)										Y				+				+
Brown, S. (R) (now in Senate)	-	-	-	-		-	+	+		N								
Buoniconti, S. (D) (now in Senate)						-	-	+		N								
Cabral, A. (D)	-	+	+	+		-	-	-	+	N								
Callahan, J. (D)									+	Y				+			+	+
Calter, T. (D)										N								
Campbell, L D (D)										Y								
Canavan, C. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	N	+			+	+		+	+
Candaras, G. (D) (now in Senate)	-	nv	-	+		nv	nv	nv	+	N								
Canessa, S. (D)									-	N							+	
Cantwell, J. (D)																	+	
Clark, K. (D)										N								++
Coakley-Rivera, C. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+		Y				+		-	+	+
Conroy, T. (D)										Y				+				
Costello, M. (D)									+	N								

### KEY:

+ a vote for the animals  
 ++ primary sponsor of an animal-friendly bill  
 - a vote against the animals  
 -- primary sponsor of harmful bill

nv absent or not voting  
 P present, but not voting  
 \* legislator did not vote or reserved rights during a poll in committee  
 Y signed on to Greyhound Protection Act



	TRAPPING—VOTE 1	TRAPPING—VOTE 2	TRAPPING—VOTE 3	TRAPPING—VOTE 4	TRAPPING — COSPONSOR	GREYHOUND VOTE—SUBSIDY 1	GREYHOUND VOTE—SUBSIDY 1	GREYHOUNDS — HOT WEATHER	GREYHOUNDS—SLOT MACHINES	GREYHOUND PROTECTION ACT — ENDORSER	DISSECTION CHOICE — COSPONSOR	DOG BREED DISCRIMINATION — COSPONSOR	MOOSE HUNTING — COSPONSOR	FARM ANIMALS — COSPONSOR	CIRCUS ANIMALS/ELEPHANTS—VOTE/COSPONSOR	SUNDAY HUNTING — VOTE/COSPONSOR	ANIMAL CONTROL—COSPONSOR	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—COSPONSOR
Creedon, G. (D)	-	-	-	+		-	-	-	-	N								
Curran, S. (D)									+	N								
D’Amico, S. (D)										Y				+				+
DeLeo, R. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	-	-	-	N								
deMacedo, V. (R)	-	-	-	-		-	+	-		N								
Dempsey, B. (D)	-	-	-	+		-	-	nv	+	N								
DiNatale, S. (D)										N			-	+		-		
Donato, P. (D)						-	-	-	nv	N	+							
Donelan, C. (D)									+	N		+				-		
Driscoll, J. (D)									+	N								
Dwyer, J. (D)																	+	
Dykema, C. (D)																		+
Ehrlich, L.(D)										N					+		+	+
Eldridge, J. (D) (now in Senate)					-				+	Y	+							
Evangelidis, L. (R)					-					N			-					
Fagan, J. (D)	-	-	-	-		nv	nv	nv	-	N								
Fallon, C. (D)	+	+	+	-		-	-	-	-	N								
Falzone, M. (D)						-	-	-	-	N	+							
Fennell, R. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	N								
Fernandes, J. (D)										N								
Ferrante, Ann-Margaret (D)																		+
Finegold, B. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	-	-	+	N								
Flanagan, J. (D) (now in Senate)									-	N								
Flynn, D. (D)	-	+	-	-		-	-	-	-	N								
Dorcena Forry, L. (D)									+	N						-		
Fox, G. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	N								
Fresolo, J. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	N	+				+		+	+
Frost, P. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	N					+			
Galvin, W. (D)	+	+	+	+		nv	nv	nv	-	N	+							
Garballey, S. (D)										N								+
Garry, C. (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	N								+
Gifford, S. (R)									-	N				+				
Gobi, A. (D)					-				-	N	+	++	--	+	+	--		+

\*See page 11 for an explanation of the votes\*

# SCORECARD

## MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, CONTINUED



	TRAPPING—VOTE 1	TRAPPING—VOTE 2	TRAPPING—VOTE 3	TRAPPING—VOTE 4	TRAPPING—COSPONSOR	GREYHOUND VOTE—SUBSIDY 1	GREYHOUND VOTE—SUBSIDY 1	GREYHOUNDS — HOT WEATHER	GREYHOUNDS—SLOT MACHINES	GREYHOUND PROTECTION ACT—ENDORSE	DISSECTION CHOICE—COSPONSOR	DOG BREED DISCRIMINATION— COSPONSOR	MOOSE HUNTING—COSPONSOR	FARM ANIMALS—COSPONSOR	CIRCUS ANIMALS/ELEPHANTS—VOTE/COSPONSOR	SUNDAY HUNTING — VOTE/COSPONSOR	ANIMAL CONTROL—COSPONSOR	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—COSPONSOR
Golden, T. (D)	-	-	-	-		nv	nv	nv	+	N	+							
Grant, M. (D)									+	N								
Greene, W. (D)	-	-	-	-	--	-	-	-	+	N		+						
Gregoire, D. (D)																		
Guyer, D. (D)					-				+	N				-	-			+
Haddad, P. (D)						-	-	-	+	N								
Hargraves, R. (R)	-	-	-	-		-	+	-	-	N								
Harkins, L. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	+	-	+	N	+				+			
Hecht, J. (D)																		
Hill, B. (R)	-	-	-	-		+	-	+	-	N							+	
Hogan, K. (D)																		+
Honan, K. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	-	-	+	N								+
Humason, D. (R)					-				-	N				+				
Jehlen, P. (D) (now in Senate)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+		N								
Jones, B. (R)	-	-	-	-		+	-	+	-	N								
Kafka, L. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	-	-	N	++			+				
Kane, M. (D)						-	-	-	+	N								
Kaufman, J. (D)	+	+	+	-		nv	nv	nv	+	Y								
Keenan, J. (D)									+	N						-		
Kennedy, T. (D) (now in Senate)	+	+	+	nv		-	-	-	-	N								
Khan, K. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	-	+	+	Y	+							+
Kocot, P. (D)									+	N	+			+				
Koczera, R. (D)	-	-	-	-		+	-	-	-	N						-		
Koutoujian, P. (D)	+	-	+	+		-	-	-	+	N	+			+				++
Kujawski, P. (D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N								
Kulik, S. (D)	-	-	-	-		+	-	-	+	N	+			-				
Lantigua, W. (D)									+	N								
Lewis, J. (D)																		
Linsky, D. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	Y								
L'Italien, B. (D)					-				+	Y	+							
Madden, T. (I)																		
Malia, E. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	Y						+		+

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nv

P

\*

Y

absent or not voting  
 present, but not voting  
 legislator did not vote or reserved rights during a poll in committee  
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	TRAPPING—VOTE 1	TRAPPING—VOTE 2	TRAPPING—VOTE 3	TRAPPING—VOTE 4	TRAPPING—COSPONSOR	GREYHOUND VOTE—SUBSIDY 1	GREYHOUND VOTE—SUBSIDY 1	GREYHOUNDS — HOT WEATHER	GREYHOUNDS—SLOT MACHINES	GREYHOUND PROTECTION ACT—ENDORSER	DISSECTION CHOICE—COSPONSOR	DOG BREED DISCRIMINATION— COSPONSOR	MOOSE HUNTING—COSPONSOR	FARM ANIMALS—COSPONSOR	CIRCUS ANIMALS/ELEPHANTS- VOTE/COSPONSOR	SUNDAY HUNTING — VOTE/COSPONSOR	ANIMAL CONTROL—COSPONSOR	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—COSPONSOR
Mariano, R. (D)	-	-	-	+		-	-	-	+	N								
McCarthy, A. (D)										N								
McMurtry, P.(D)										N				+				+
McGee, T. (D) (now in Senate)	-	nv	-	-		-	-	-		N								
Miceli, J. (D)	-	-	-	+		-	-	-	+	N								
Moran, M. (D)									+	N				+				
Murphy, C. (D)	-	-	-	+		-	-	-	+	N								
Murphy, J. (D)									+	N								
Murphy, K. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	+	N								
Nangle, D. (D)	-	+	+	-		-	-	-	+	N								
Naughton, H. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	-	+	nv	N								
Nyman, R. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	N	+							+
O'Day, J. (D)										N								
O'Flaherty, G. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	-	+	+	N	+			+	+			
Patrick, M. (D)					-	+	-	-	+	N	+							
Peake, S. (D)										N								+
Pedone, V. (D)	-	-	-	-		nv	nv	nv	+	N								
Peisch, A. (D)									+	N								+
Perry, J. (R)									-	N					*	-		
Peterson, G. (R)	-	-	-	-	--	+	-	-	-	N			-					
Petrolati, T. (D)	-	+	+	+		+	-	-	+	N								
Petrucelli, A. (D) (now in Senate)	+	+	+	+		-	-	-	-	N								
Pignatelli, W. (D)									+	N	+				-			
Poirier, E. (R)	-	-	-	-		+	-	-	-	N								
Polito, K. (R)						+	+	+	-	N								
Provost, D. (D)									+	Y								+
Puppola, A. (D)										N								
Quinn, J. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	N								
Reinstein, K. (D)	-	-	-	+		-	-	-	-	N	+	+				+		+
Rice, R. (D)									+	N						-		
Richardson, P. (D)										N				++				
Rodrigues, M. (D)	-	-	-	-		+	+	-	+	N		+						

\*See page 11 for an explanation of the votes\*

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## MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, CONTINUED



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Rogers, J. (D)	-	+	-	-		+	+	-	+	N	+							
Rosa, D. (D)																		
Ross, R. (R)									-	N							+	+
Rush, M. (D)					-				-	N				+			+	+
Rushing, B. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	N	+							
Sanchez, J. (D)									+	N								
Sandlin, R. (D)										N								
Sannicandro, T. (D)									+	N				+				+
Scaccia, A. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	-	-	+	N								
Scibak, J. (D)					-				+	N			-			-	+	+
Sciortino, C. (D)									+	Y				+			+	+
Smith, S. (D)										N								
Smizik, F. (D)						+	+	+	+	Y								
Smola, T. (R)									+	Y	+		-					
Speliotis, T. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	-	-	+	N						-		+
Spellane, R. (D)						-	-	-	+	N	+							
Speranzo, C. (D)									+	N								
Spiliotis, J. (D)									-	N								
St. Fleur, M. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	-	+	+	N								
Stanley, H. (D)	+	+	+	-		+	-	+	+	N								
Stanley, T. (D)						-	-	-	-	N	+							
Story, E. (D)	-	+	-	+		+	+	-	+	Y					+		+	+
Straus, W. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	+	-	+	N			-	-				
Sullivan, D. (D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	N			-					
Swan, B. (D)	+	+	+	-		-	-	-	+	N	+							
Timilty, W. (D)									-	N	+							+
Tobin, A. (D)	nv	-	-	-		-	-	-	+	N								
Toomey, T. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	-	N	+						+	+
Torrisi, D. (D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	N								
Turner, C. (D)									-	N								
Vallee, J. (D)	-	-	-	-		+	+	-	+	N								
Wagner, J. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	+	-	+	N								

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Rogers, J. (D)	-	+	-	-		+	+	-	+	N	+							
Rosa, D. (D)																		
Ross, R. (R)									-	N							+	+
Rush, M. (D)					-				-	N							+	+
Rushing, B. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	N	+							
Sanchez, J. (D)									+	N								
Sandlin, R. (D)										N								
Sannicandro, T.									+	N				+				+
Scaccia, A. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	-	-	+	N								
Scibak, J. (D)					-				+	N			-			-	+	+
Sciortino, C. (D)									+	Y				+			+	+
Smith, S. (D)										N								
Smizik, F. (D)						+	+	+	+	Y				+				
Smola, T. (R)									+	Y	+		-					
Speliotis, T. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	-	-	+	N						-		+
Spellane, R. (D)						-	-	-	+	N	+							
Speranzo, C. (D)									+	N								
Spiliotis, J. (D)									-	N								
St. Fleur, M. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	-	+	+	N								
Stanley, H. (D)	+	+	+	-		+	-	+	+	N								
Stanley, T. (D)						-	-	-	-	N	+							
Story, E. (D)	-	+	-	+		+	+	-	+	Y					+		+	+
Straus, W. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	+	-	+	N				-				
Sullivan, D. (D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	N				-				
Swan, B. (D)	+	+	+	-		-	-	-	+	N	+							
Timilty, W. (D)									-	N	+							+
Tobin, A. (D)	nv	-	-	-		-	-	-	+	N								
Toomey, T. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	-	N	+						+	+
Torrisi, D. (D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	N								
Turner, C. (D)									-	N								
Vallee, J. (D)	-	-	-	-		+	+	-	+	N								
Wagner, J. (D)	-	-	-	-		-	+	-	+	N								
Wallace, B. (D)									-	N								
Walsh, M. (D)	+	+	+	+		-	-	-	-	N								
Walsh, S. (D)					-				-	N					*			
Walz, M. (D)									+	N								+
Webster, D. (R)									-	N								
Welch, J. (D)									+	N								
Wolf A. (D)	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	N	+							+

# SCORECARD

## MASSACHUSETTS SENATE



GREYHOUND VOTE—HOT WEATHER  
GREYHOUND VOTE—SLOT MACHINES  
GREYHOUND PROTECTION ACT—ENDORSE  
TRAPPING BILL—COSPONSORSHIP  
MOOSE HUNTING - COSPONSORSHIP  
DISSECTION CHOICE — COSPONSORSHIP  
FARM ANIMALS- COSPONSORSHIP  
WILD ANIMALS; ELEPHANTS—COSPONSORSHIP  
SUNDAY HUNTING —COSPONSORSHIP  
ANIMAL CONTROL — COSPONSORSHIP  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE — COSPONSORSHIP

Baddour, S. (D)		-	N	-		+					
Berry, F. (D)		-	N								
Brewer, S. (D)	-	-	N	-		+	+		-		
Brown, S. (R) (see also House)		nv	N					+		+	+
Buoniconti, S. (D)(see also House)		-	N								
Candaras, G. (D)			N						+		
Chandler, H. (D)		-	N								
Chang-Diaz, S. (D)											
Creem, C. (D)		+	N			+					
Donnelly, K. (D)											+
Downing, B. (D)			N								+
Eldridge, J. (D)			Y						+	+	
Fargo, S. (D)		+	N				++				
Flanagan, J. (D)			N								
Galluccio, A. (D)			N						+	+	
Hart, J. (D)		-	N					+			
Hedlund, R. (R)		-	Y			+		++	+	+	
Jehlen, P. (D) (see also House)			Y			+	+	+			
Joyce, B. (D)		-	N								
Kennedy, T. (D)			N								
Knapik, M. (R)		-	N								
Lees, B. (R)		-	N					*			
McGee, T. (D) (See also House)		-	N								
Menard, J. (D)		-	N								
Montigny, M. (D)		+	N					+	+		
Moore, Michael			N								
Moore, R. (D)		nv		-					+	+	
Morrissey, M. (D)		-	N					+			
Murray, T. (D)		-	N								
O'Leary, R. (D)		-	N	-							
Pacheco, M. (D)		+	N				+			+	
Panagiotakos, S. (D)		-	N								
Petrucelli, A. (D)			N						+	+	
Rosenberg, S. (D)		+	N								
Spilka, K.(D)		+	N						+		
Tarr, B. (R)		-	N					+		+	
Timilty, J. (D)		nv	N					*			
Tisei, R. (R)		-	N			+	+				
Tolman, S. (D)		-	N				+				
Tucker, S.(D)		+	Y			+		+	+	+	
Walsh, M. (D)		+	N					+			

### KEY:

- +
  - ++
  - 
  - 
  - nv
  - P
  - \*
  - Y
  - N
- a vote for the animals  
primary sponsor of an animal-friendly bill  
a vote against the animals  
primary sponsor of harmful bill  
absent or not voting  
present, but not voting  
legislator did not vote or reserved rights  
during a poll in committee  
signed on to Greyhound Protection Act  
did not sign on to Greyhound Protection Act

# VOTE EXPLANATIONS, MASS LEGISLATURE

## TRAPPING -- VOTE 1

This vote was to remove the restrictions on the body-gripping conibear trap that were passed in 1996 with Question 1. A "No" vote was a vote for the animals. (Approved 91-60, 11/10/99, H. 4884.)

## TRAPPING -- VOTE 2

This vote would have sent the bill that removed the restrictions on the body-gripping conibear trap back to the Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee. A "Yes" vote was a vote for the animals. (Rejected 81-70, 1/16/99, H. 4884.)

## TRAPPING -- VOTE 3

This vote was to engross the bill that removed the restrictions on the body-gripping conibear trap. A "No" vote was a vote for the animals. (Approved 89-64, 11/16/99, H. 4884.)

## TRAPPING-- VOTE 4

This vote was to concur with the Senate's amendment to the House bill that would have allowed for the unrestricted use of traps. The Senate amendment would have allowed for the use of traps only in certain circumstances. A "Yes" vote was a vote for the animals. (Rejected 65-86, 3/8/00, H. 4884.)

## TRAPPING BILLS -- SUPPORT AND SPONSORSHIP

A "-" indicates a legislator has supported one of several bills during the current session or past sessions that would repeal or significantly alter the Wildlife Protection Act.

## GREYHOUND VOTE – INJURY RECORDS

This vote was for an amendment to the racing bill to improve greyhound disposition and injury records. A "Yes" vote was a vote for the animals (Approved 137-0, 6/25/01.)

## GREYHOUND VOTE - SUBSIDY 1

This vote was for an amendment to give Revere's Wonderland track an additional \$750,000 for capital improvements at the race-track. A "No" vote was a vote for the animals. (Approved 81-55, 6/25/01.)

## GREYHOUND VOTE – SUBSIDY 2

This vote was for an amendment to the racing bill to give \$2 million to racetracks. A "No" vote was a vote for the animals. (Approved 97-41, 6/25/01.)

## GREYHOUND VOTE – HOT WEATHER RACING

This vote was for an amendment to the racing bill to limit greyhound races in weather above 80 degrees or below 20 degrees. A "Yes" vote was a vote for the animals. (Rejected 95-42, 6/25/01.)

## GREYHOUND VOTE – SLOT MACHINES

A "-" vote indicates a legislator voted in favor of slot machines at the racetracks. A "+" vote indicates a legislator voted against this proposal. (2006)

## GREYHOUND PROTECTION ACT – ENDORSER

A "Y" indicates the legislator endorsed the 2008 Greyhound Protection Act, the ballot question that passed with 56% of the vote. An "N" indicates the legislator did not sign on.

## DISSECTION CHOICE - COSPONSORSHIP

This bill would allow students to opt out of dissection and complete an alternative project. A "+" indicates a cosponsor of this bill in a past session.

## MOOSE HUNTING - COSPONSORSHIP

A "-" indicates the legislator is a cosponsor of a bill to allow moose hunting in the current session or in at least one of the past several sessions.

## FARM ANIMALS - COSPONSORSHIP

A "+" indicates a legislator has cosponsored (or voted for it in committee) a bill banning the production of foie gras in Massachusetts, a bill to ban the use of veal and gestation crates in a past session and/or or a bill relating to farm animal confinement (H. 815) in the current session to allow veal calves, gestating pigs, and egg-laying hens space to lie down, turn around, and fully extend their limbs. A "-" indicated a legislator voted against the foie gras ban bill in Committee.

## WILD ANIMALS; ELEPHANTS— VOTE AND COSPONSORSHIP

This rating indicates whether a legislator has cosponsored a bill, or voted for or against the bill in committee or Senate, that would have banned either the use of certain wild animals in circuses and traveling entertainment acts or the use of the bull-hook or ankus on elephants.

## SUNDAY HUNTING — VOTE AND COSPONSORSHIP

A "-" indicates either sponsorship of this bill to allow hunting on Sunday, or a favorable vote when the bill was polled in the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security (in 2006), or cosponsorship in the current session or in at least one of the past several sessions. A "+" vote indicates a vote against this bill when it was polled in committee. A "\*" indicates the legislator on the Committee did not vote either way.

## ANIMAL CONTROL BILL — COSPONSORSHIP

This bill (S. 2120, formerly S.406, in 2009-2010) would update Massachusetts' antiquated animal control laws: establish a spay/neuter fund, improve and standardize the dangerous dog law (without breed-specific provisions), require animal control officer training, and prevent the use of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide for euthanasia of dogs and cats, among other provisions.

## PETS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE— COSPONSORSHIP

These bills (H.1499, H.1319 in 2009-2010) would allow pets to be included in temporary restraining orders issued in domestic violence cases. Pets are often used as pawns in domestic violence. Batterers abuse animals for a variety of reasons - to demonstrate power and control, to retaliate for acts of independence, to keep a victim silent and to coerce a victim to return or stay in an abusive relationship.

More information about these bills and issues can be found at [www.mspca.org/Advocacy](http://www.mspca.org/Advocacy)

# SCORECARD

## US SENATE



	HORSE SLAUGHTER—COSPONSOR	DOWNED ANIMALS—COSPONSOR	CLASS B DEALERS - COSPONSOR	ANIMAL FIGHTING—COSPONSOR	FARM BILL—VOTE	FUNDING LETTER	LEADERS	SCORE
Senator Kennedy	+	+		+	NV	+	+	83
Senator Kerry	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100

### KEY

- + Took a pro-animal position, through cosponsorship of a bill, a vote, signing a letter, or leading on pro-animal legislation
- Took an anti-animal position on a vote
- NV Not voting because absent or abstained

## VOTE EXPLANATIONS, US SENATE

### Horse Slaughter – S.311

Would bar the transport, possession, purchase, and sale of horses to be slaughtered for human consumption.

### Downed Animals – S.394, S.2770

S.394 would require humane euthanasia of livestock too sick or injured to walk and prohibit USDA certification of meat from such animals for human consumption. S.2770 would ban the slaughter of downed livestock and strengthen penalties for violations of the downer ban and humane slaughter law. Note: a provision to ban the slaughter of downed cattle and strengthen penalties was included in an economic stimulus package, S.3604, but debate on the over-all package was blocked in the Senate.

### Class B Dealers – S.714

Would prohibit the use in research of dogs and cats obtained by Class B dealers through random sources, which can include theft of family pets and fraudulent response to “free to good home” ads.

### Animal Fighting – S.261

Would establish felony-level penalties for violations of the federal law on dogfighting, cockfighting, and other animal fighting ventures and ban interstate and foreign commerce in cockfighting implements.

**Farm Bill** – Senate vote to override Bush’s veto of H.R.2419, which contained key animal welfare provisions to strengthen the federal law on animal fighting, prohibit importation of puppies under 6 months of age, and increase penalties for violations of the Animal Welfare Act.

*Information for federal components of this Scorecard were taken from the Humane Society Legislative Fund.*

# SCORECARD

## US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



HORSE SLAUGHTER—CO SPONSOR  
DOWNED ANIMALS—COSPONSOR  
CLASS B DEALERS—COSPONSOR  
FUR LABELING—COSPONSOR  
ANIMAL FIGHTING—VOTE  
WILD HORSES—VOTE  
POLAR BEARS—VOTE  
GREAT CATS/RARE CANIDS—VOTE  
CRANE CONSERVATION —VOTE  
FARM BILL—VOTE  
PRIMATES AS PETS—VOTE  
FUNDING LETTER  
LEADERS  
SCORE

Capuano (D - 8th)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92
Delahunt (D - 10th)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Frank (D - 4th)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92
Lynch (D - 9th)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Markey (D - 5th)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
McGovern (D - 3rd)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Meehan (D-5th)	+	+		+	+	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Neal (D - 2nd)	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92
Olver (D - 1st)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Tierney (D - 6th)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92
Tsongas (D - 5th)	+	+	+	+	*	*	*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	*

## VOTE EXPLANATIONS, US HOUSE

### Horse Slaughter – H.R. 503 (and H.R.6598) – (See S.311)

Would bar the transport, possession, purchase, and sale of horses to be slaughtered for human consumption.

### Downed Animals – H.R. 661 (See S.394), H.R.5762

H.R. 661 would require humane euthanasia of livestock too sick or injured to walk and prohibit USDA certification of meat from such animals for human consumption. H.R.5762 would ban the slaughter of downed livestock and require the release of the names of retailers and school districts that purchased products subject to recall.

### Class B Dealers – H.R. 1280 (See S.714)

Would prohibit the use in research of dogs and cats obtained by Class B dealers through random sources, which can include theft of family pets and fraudulent response to “free to good home” ads.

### Fur Labeling – H.R.891

Would require labeling of all fur products regardless of value and would include raccoon dogs in the current prohibition on interstate and foreign commerce in dog and cat fur products.

### Animal Fighting – H.R. 137 (See S.261)

Would establish felony-level penalties for violations of the federal law on dogfighting, cockfighting, and other animal fighting ventures and ban interstate and foreign commerce in cockfighting implements. H.R.137 passed by a role call vote of 368-39 on 3/26/07 (vote No. 188) and cleared the Senate by unanimous voice vote 4/10/07. Signed 5-3-07 as P.L. 110-22.

### Wild Horses – H.R.249

Would restore the prohibition on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild horses and burros. H.R.249 passed the House by a 277-137 vote (Roll call No. 269) on 4/26/07.



# VOTE EXPLANATIONS

## US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, CONTINUED

### **Polar Bears – H.R.2643 (and S.1406/H.R.2327)**

This amendment to the fiscal 2008 Interior Appropriations bill would bar federal funding that permits the import of sport-hunted polar bear trophies from Canada. The Senate passed the Interior Bill with this amendment in committee, but the House rejected the amendment by a 188-242 vote (Roll Call No.573) on 6/27/07 and it was dropped in the final bill. Freestanding legislation (S.1406/H.R.2327) to bar import of sport-hunted polar bear trophies was also introduced (by Sen. Kerry and Sen. Snowe). On 5/15, the US Dept of the Interior decided that polar bears should be listed as a threatened species, with a resulting ban on further imports of sport-hunted polar bear trophies from Canada.

### **Great Cats/Rare Canids – H.R. 1464**

Would assist conservation programs that protect rare dog and cat species outside North America and Europe such as jaguars, leopards, cheetahs, and African wild dogs. H.R.1464 passed the House by a 294-119 vote (Roll Call No.335) on 5/20 and was approved by Senate committee on 9/17, but did not get a vote in the full Senate.

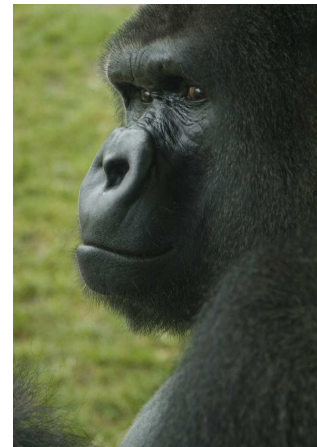


### **Crane Conservation – H.R.1771**

Would provide assistance to conservation programs aimed at helping imperiled crane populations in this country and around the world. H.R.1771 passed the House by a 304-118 vote (Roll Call No. 345) on 5/21 and was approved by Senate committee on 9/17, but did not get a vote in the full Senate.

### **Primates as Pets – H.R.2964**

Would prohibit interstate and foreign commerce in primates for the pet trade in order to protect public health and safety and prevent inhumane treatment and neglect of these animals. H.R.2964 passed the House by a 302-96 vote (Roll Call No. 414) on 6/17. The Senate bill, S.1498 was approved in committee 10/29/07. Both bills were blocked from full Senate consideration by a Senate hold.



**Farm Bill** – Senate vote to override Bush's veto of H.R.2419, which contained key animal welfare provisions to strengthen the federal law on animal fighting, prohibit importation of puppies under 6 months of age, and increase penalties for violations of the Animal Welfare Act.



## PAST LEGISLATIVE SUCCESSES!

Animals have recently scored some important legislative wins in Massachusetts:

### **Penalties for Spectators at Animal Fights are Increased (2008)**

The new law increases the penalties for aiding or being present at an exhibition of fighting animals to a maximum \$1,000 fine and/or five years in prison. The previous fine was a mere two hundred and fifty dollars or imprisonment for not more than one month, or both.

### **Greyhound protection Act (2008)**

This ballot question – Question 3 – phases out greyhound racing in Massachusetts by 2010. It passed 56% to 44% and won in 12 out of 14 counties.

### **Renting of Pets Banned (2008)**

This law prohibits the practice of renting pets in Massachusetts. News of a company, FlexPetz, coming to Boston prompted concerns among people who care about animals. The MSPCA worked with The Coalition to Prohibit the Renting of Pets to pass the bill. The City of Boston also passed a similar ordinance.

### **Internet Hunting Banned (2007)**

An *Act to Prohibit Internet Hunting* was passed in response to the development of a click and shoot mechanism that operates like a computer assisted Internet hunting game, but kills real animals. The passage of the law made it illegal to create, maintain or engage in a computer-assisted Internet hunting program in Massachusetts or to operate a shooting range for this purpose.

### **Animal Fighting and Cruelty Laws are Strengthened (2006)**

An *Act Relating to the Penalties for Animal Fighting* strengthened Massachusetts' statutes pertaining to animal fighting. The law enables better enforcement by clarifying the authority of law enforcement to seize paraphernalia intended to be used for illegal animal fighting and to seize the offspring of animals who are intended to be used in future fights. The law also requires the forfeiture or surrender of an animal if the owner has been convicted of animal cruelty, so that the animal does not go back to the abuser.

### **Animal Abuse Penalties Increased (2004)**

When this law passed, cruelty to animals became a felony punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a \$2,500 fine. Under the previous statute, pet owners faced lesser penalties for abusing their own animals compared to individuals who abused animals who did not belong to them.

### **Recognizing the Link Between Human and Animal Violence (2004)**

A law was passed that allows the Department of Social Services (DSS) employees to report instances of animal abuse, cruelty or neglect when they are conducting investigations. The DSS employee may report the case to any organization that investigates animal abuse within two days of witnessing the abuse.





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*Kindness and Care for Animals®*

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For questions or comments, please email [advocacy@mspca.org](mailto:advocacy@mspca.org)

To become more involved in protecting animals through the legislative process, visit [www.mspca.org/JoinTheTeam](http://www.mspca.org/JoinTheTeam) to join our *Animal Action Team*.