

Mary Lou Kelly Consulting

ANIMAL ISSUES LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

March 29, 2019



IN THE NEWS

Congressional Subcommittee Hearing on Big Cat Public Safety Act

The Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife (of the House Natural Resources Committee) held a hearing on Tuesday, March 26, and one of the items on the Subcommittee's agenda was [HR 1380](#), the Big Cat Public Safety Act. There was only one witness for the bill -- a representative from the [International Fund for Animal Welfare](#) (IFAW), who spoke in support of the bill. The IFAW testimony is available online [here](#).

Video of the full Subcommittee hearing is online at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/wow-legislative-hearing>. In the video, the IFAW testimony starts at 57:00 minutes and lasts about four minutes. There was a question and answer portion of the hearing following all the testimony on the various bills before the subcommittee, but no members of the Committee asked any follow-up questions regarding HR 1360. The only mention of the bill was by Representative Tom McClintock (R-CA), who pointed out that the Zoological Association of America opposes the Big Cat Act (1:08). Rep. McClintock also said a recurring theme in these bills is "big guys versus little guys," where smaller animal exhibitors, "folks struggling to make ends meet and doing it responsibly and sustainably, take on this world of environmental advocacy and the little guys end up on the losing end." (1:12)

PENDING LEGISLATION

March 29, 2019

New legislative activity is highlighted in yellow

State Legislation:

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
AZ HB 2588	To create an animal abuser registry	2/7/19: Introduced and read first time in the House 2/11/19: read second time	4/27/19
CA AB 44	To prohibit the sale and manufacture of fur products	12/3/18: Introduced. 1/17/19: referred to Judiciary and Water, Parks and Wildlife Committees 2/26/19: re-referred to Water, Parks and Wildlife Committees 3/12/19: passed Parks and Wildlife Committee with amendments. 3/14/19: re-referred to Judiciary Committee	9/13/19
CA AB 128	Relates to the slaughter of horses (domestic and wild) for human consumption	12/5/18: Introduced. 1/7/19: read first time.	9/13/19
CA AB 273	Prohibits recreational and commercial trapping of fur-bearing and nongame mammals.	1/24/19: introduced and read first time 2/7/19: referred to Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee. 3/5/19: Amended, and re-referred to Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee; read second time. 3/12/19: passed Parks and Wildlife Committee and re-referred to Appropriations Committee	9/13/19
CA SB 313	Wild and exotic animals: prohibition on use in traveling animal acts. This bill would prohibit a person from using, or allowing to be used, a wild or exotic animal in a traveling animal act, as defined.	2/15/19: Introduced 2/19/19: may be acted upon on or after March 21. 2/28/19: referred to Natural Resources and Water Committee 3/13/19: hearing scheduled for April 9 3/28/19: from committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on Natural Resources and Water. Text of amended bill	9/13/19
CO HB 1092	Prohibition on future ownership of an animal for persons convicted of animal cruelty.	1/14/19: Introduced In House - Assigned to Judiciary 1/31/19: Committee Discussion 3/7/19: hearing held 3/11/19: third reading and passed House 3/13/19: introduced in Senate and referred to Judiciary Committee	5/3/19
CT HB 5024	To prohibit the use of wild and exotic animals in circuses and traveling shows.	1/9/19: introduced and referred to the Joint Committee on Environment	6/5/19

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
CT HB 5248	To prohibit the use of wild and exotic animals in circuses and traveling shows.	1/14/19: introduced and referred to the Joint Committee on Environment	6/5/19
CT HB 5386	Prohibits the sale or transfer of dogs and cats at pet shops that are not from animal welfare organizations.	1/16/19: referred to Joint Committee on Environment 2/11/19: vote to draft 2/22/19: public hearing scheduled for 3/1/19 3/28/19: filed with Legislative Commissioners' Office	6/5/19
CT HB 5399	Concerning the definition of kennel for purposes of commercial kennel regulation.	1/17/19: referred to Joint Committee on the Environment	6/5/19
CT HB 6001	An act restricting the use of wild and exotic animals in circuses and traveling shows	1/24/19: referred to Joint Committee on the Environment	6/5/19
CT HB 6018 and CT SB 20	To prohibit the import and trade of the big six African species (elephants, lions, leopards, black rhino, white rhino, giraffes)	1/23/19: vote to draft 1/24/19: referred to Joint Cmte on the Environment 2/8/19: public hearing scheduled for 2/15 (for SB 20) 3/12/19: favorable report from Committee (SB 20)	6/5/19
CT HB 6439	Concerning the sourcing of pets sold in pet stores.	1/28/19: introduced and referred to the Joint Committee on the Environment.	6/5/19
CT SB 250	An act concerning the regulation of commercial kennels.	1/23/19: referred to Joint Committee on Environment	6/5/19
CT SB 593	Commercial kennels; to exempt certain places from the definition of commercial kennel for purposes of registration with and regulation by the Dept of Agriculture.	1/25/19: introduced and referred to the Joint Committee on the Environment	6/5/19
IA SSB 1169 (Senate Study Bill)	A bill for an act relating to the definition of "circus" and making penalties applicable. This bill states that elephant rides are not included under the definition of "circus" for permitting purposes.	2/19/19: proposed by the Senate Agriculture Cmte.; subcommittee meeting scheduled for 2/28. 2/28/19: Subcommittee recommended passage	5/3/19
IL HB 2554	Traveling Animal Act; Provides that a person commits unlawful use of an exotic animal in a traveling animal act when he or she knowingly allows for the participation of an exotic animal (rather than an elephant) in a traveling animal act.	2/13/19: introduced and referred to Rules Committee 2/26/19: assigned to the Judiciary/Criminal Cmte. 3/5/19: motion filed to table bill	5/31/19
IL SB 154	Provides that a person using an animal in a traveling animal act is committing an unlawful use of an animal. <u>Note</u> : current law (passed in 2017) prohibits the use of elephants in traveling acts; this bill incorporates all exotic animals.	1/29/19: Introduced and referred to Committee on Assignments 2/6/19: referred to Senate Agriculture Committee 2/21/19: Agriculture Committee voted to postpone 3/22/19: re-referred to Assignments Committee	5/31/19

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
IN HB 1576 and SB 432	Establishes an Animal abuse registry.	1/17/19: first reading and referred to Committee on Courts and Criminal Code	4/29/19
KY HB 37	Establishes an Animal abuse registry.	1/10/19: Introduced and referred to Judiciary Committee	3/30/19
KY SB 200	Guarantees the right to utilize working animals for the mutual benefit and welfare of the animals and those they serve.	2/14/19: introduced in Senate 2/19/19: referred to Senate Agriculture Committee	3/30/19
MA HB 2934	Prohibits the use of elephants, big cats, primates, and bears in traveling exhibits. (Same as MA SB 2028, below)	1/22/19: referred to the Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts, and Cultural Development	11/20/19
MA SB 2028	Prohibits the use of elephants, big cats, primates, and bears in traveling exhibits. (Formerly MA SD 588.)	1/22/19: referred to the Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts, and Cultural Development	11/20/19
MD HB 131 and HB 239	Establishes an Animal abuse registry.	1/21/2019: introduced and referred to Environment and Transportation Committee 1/25/2019: reassigned to Judiciary. Hearing held on 2/7/19 (for both bills). 3/6/19: unfavorable report filed by Judiciary	4/8/19
MD HB 880	Prohibiting the governing body of a county or municipality from enacting a local law that restricts or prohibits the transportation of certain animals for education, exhibition, competition, or entertainment purposes.	2/08/19: introduced and referred to Environment and Transportation Committee 2/11/19: hearing scheduled on 3/5/19 3/6/19: unfavorable report by Environment and Transportation Committee 3/11/19: withdrawn from consideration	4/8/19
ME LD 782	Prohibits a person handling or responsible for an animal in a pulling event from using on the animal any technique, force or method that subjects the animal to pain, fear or undue stress.	2/12/19: introduced and referred to Joint Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry 2/22/19: hearing held on 2/28/19 3/7/19: Committee work session scheduled 3/21/19: Placed in Legislative Files (DEAD)	6/19/19
MO HB 559	Working Animal Protection Act; no law or ordinance shall be enacted by any city or county that bans, or creates undue financial hardship, the use of working animals or animal enterprise in commerce, service, or ranching - including entertainment, transportation, education, or exhibition.	1/31/19: referred to Agriculture Policy Committee 2/6/19: public hearing completed 2/20/19: action postponed 3/6/19: Executive session completed; HCS voted to pass; referred to Rules Committee 3/13/19: Executive session completed; Committee voted to pass	5/17/19
MT HB 379	Working Animal Protection Act	2/4/19: Introduced and referred to Local Government Interim Committee; hearing held 2/14/19. 2/27/19: first reading in Senate 3/18/19: hearing held in Local Government Cmte	5/1/19

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
		3/25/19: tabled in Committee	
NH HB 688	Relative to transfer and inspection of animals.	1/17/19: referred to Environment and Agriculture Committees. 1/30/19: public hearing scheduled for 2/7/19. 2/21/19: committee issued report without recommendation 2/27/19: bill laid on table (no further action)	6/13/19
NH SB 161	Relative to the definition of pet vendor.	1/22/19: referred to Energy & Natural Resources Cmte 2/7/19: hearing held 3/21/19: Committee report; ought to pass. Third reading.	6/13/19
NJ A 376	Animal Cruelty Offender Registry; prohibits purchase, adoption, and breeding of animals by animal cruelty offenders.	1/9/18: Introduced, Referred to Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 12/31/18: carried over to 2019 session.	1/14/20
NJ A 511	Accountability of NJSPCA and county societies for prevention of cruelty to animals to Attorney General and county prosecutors.	1/9/18: Introduced, Referred to Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 12/31/18: carried over to 2019 session.	1/14/20
NJ A 3388	Prohibits persons convicted of criminal animal cruelty offenses from owning domestic companion animals and from working at animal-related enterprises.	2/15/18: Introduced, Referred to Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 12/31/18: carried over to 2019 session.	1/14/20
NJ A 3751	The piercing or tattooing animals constitutes needless mutilation/animal cruelty.	4/5/18: Introduced and referred to Agriculture Cmte 12/31/18: carried over to 2019 session.	1/14/20
NJ S 180	Prohibits pet dealers from selling dogs/cats obtained from certain breeders or brokers.	12/31/18: carried over to 2019 session.	1/14/20
NJ SB 2820	Dog breeding standards; prohibits dog breeding without USDA license and compliance with DOH standards.	7/1/18: introduced and referred to Senate Environment and Energy Committee 12/31/18: carried over to 2019 session.	12/31/18
NJ SB 2907	Requires licensure of dog trainers.	9/13/18: Intro and referred to Senate Commerce Cmte 12/31/18: carried over to 2019 session.	12/31/18
NY AB 25	Relates to the creation of a court appointed advocate for animals	1/9/19: Introduced and referred to Judiciary Committee.	6/9/19
NY AB 58	Relates to prohibiting animal hatching projects in schools	1/9/19: Introduced and referred to Education Committee.	6/9/19
NY AB 277	Creates a task force on animal laws and requires reporting to the governor and	1/9/19: Introduced and referred to Agriculture Committee.	6/9/19

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
	legislature of recommendations on how to increase statewide uniformity of such.		
NY AB 351	Amends the definitions of pet dealers; decreases the number of animals a person can distribute to fit under the exemption.	1/9/19: Introduced and referred to Agriculture Committee.	6/9/19
NY AB 702	Relates to the appointment of a special advocate in a proceeding involving the welfare of an animal.	1/9/19: referred to Agriculture Committee	6/9/19
NY AB 830	Prohibits tethering, restraining, caging or penning of dogs or animals between the hours of 7 p.m. to 6 a.m.	1/11/19: introduced and referred to Agriculture Committee	6/9/19
NY AB 839 and SB 662	Prohibits circuses from conducting shows or other performances in the state for two years where a circus has been found to be in violation/non-compliance with the AWA.	1/11/19: referred to Economic Development Cmte	6/9/19
NY AB 912	Relates to prohibiting the taking of zoo, petting zoo, carnival or circus animals (also pertains to selling, donating, and transfer)	1/14/19: Referred to Environmental Conservation Committee	6/9/19
NY AB 1002	Prohibits the operation of horse drawn cabs in the city of New York.	1/14/19: referred to Committee on Cities	6/9/19
NY AB 1102 and SB 1497	Prohibits the slaughter of horses for human consumption	1/14/19: referred to Agriculture Committee	6/9/19
NY AB 3673	Relates to prohibiting the issuance of permits authorizing the use of wild animals in circuses; exempts an accredited zoo and a wildlife sanctuary.	1/30/19: Introduced and referred to Environmental Conservation Committee	6/9/19
NY AB 3784	Creates an animal abuser registry	1/31/19: referred to Agriculture Committee	6/9/19
NY AB 6255	Relates to the registration and regulation of animal breeders; requires each to be licensed; creates a breeder licensing fund; exempts not-for-profit organizations.	3/4/19: introduced and referred to Agriculture Committee	6/9/19
NY SB 2627	Relates to the registration and regulation of animal breeders; requires each to be licensed; creates a breeder licensing fund; exempts not-for-profit organizations.	1/28/19: introduced and referred to Committee on Domestic Animal Welfare	6/9/19

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
RI HB 5072	Prohibits pet shops from selling cats or dogs that are not obtained from an animal shelter, dog pound or animal rescue.	1/10/19: referred to House Committee on Health, Education, and Welfare 2/15/19: Public hearing scheduled for 2/27/19 2/27/19: Committee recommended measure be held for further study	6/30/19
RI HB 5113	Creates an animal abuser registry	1/11/19: referred to House Judiciary Committee 2/5/19: Committee recommended measure be held for further study	6/30/19
RI HB 5246	Prohibits renting/leasing/financing sales of dogs/cats.	1/31/19: referred to House Committee on Health, Education, and Welfare 2/15/19: Public hearing scheduled for 2/27/19 2/27/19: Committee recommended measure be held for further study	6/30/19
RI HB 5265	Establishes an animal rights advisory council to advise the governor and the general assembly on matters relating to animal rights, treatment, health, and safety	2/1/19: referred to House Committee on Health, Education, and Welfare 2/15/19: Public hearing scheduled for 2/27/19 2/27/19: Committee recommended measure be held for further study	6/30/19
RI SB 167	Prohibits the use of wild or exotic animals in traveling animal acts.	1/24/19: introduced and referred to Judiciary Cmte	6/30/19
SC HB 3086	Licensing for commercial dog breeders	1/8/19: referred to Agriculture Committee	5/9/19
TN HB 281	Requires retail pet stores to provide info to consumers in connection with purchases of dogs; prohibits retail pet stores from sourcing dogs from breeders that have committed certain violations. (same as TN SB 436)	1/29/19: filed to introduction 2/1/19: referred to Local Committee, Subcommittee on Cities and Counties 3/13/19: placed on calendar for 3/19 3/19/19: Taken off notice for calendar in Subcmte of Cities & Counties.	5/15/19
TN SB 436	Same ad TN HB 281, above.	1/29/19: filed to introduction 2/6/19: Senate bill: referred to Committee on Energy, Agriculture, and Natural Resources 3/13/19: placed on calendar for 3/19 3/20/19: assigned to General Subcommittee of Energy, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Committee	5/15/19
TX HB 135	A county or municipality may not adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation that prohibits the use of an animal for the purpose of performing a specific duty for a business, including entertainment, transportation, education, or exhibition.	11/12/18: pre-filed for 2019 session 2/13/19: referred to Committee on County Affairs	5/27/19

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
TX HB 146	Relating to the adoption of cats and dogs previously used for research. (Also SB 121)	11/12/18: pre-filed for 2019 session 2/13/19: referred to Committee on Public Health	5/27/19
TX HB 1268	Prohibits the ownership, possession, sale, transfer, breed, have custody or control of a dangerous wild animals.	1/31/19: filed 2/27/19: referred to Public Health Committee 3/28/19: scheduled for public hearing on 4/3/19	5/27/19
TX HB 1268 and SB 641	Relating to seizure of illegally owned dangerous wild animals; sets penalties	1/31/19: filed 2/27/19: House bill referred to Public Health Cmte 3/1/19: Senate bill referred to Water and Rural Affairs 3/28/19: scheduled for public hearing on 4/1/19	5/27/19

Federal Legislation:

HR 689	Pet Safety and Protection Act of 2019; to amend the Animal Welfare Act to ensure that all dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained legally.	1/18/19: introduced and referred to House Committee on Agriculture 2/8/19: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture.	Dec 2020
HR 1042	To amend the Animal Welfare Act to require that covered persons develop and implement emergency contingency plans.	2/7/19: introduced and referred to the House Agriculture Committee 3/1/19: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture	Dec 2020
HR 1380	Big Cat Public Safety Act	2/26/19: introduced and referred to House Committee on Natural Resources 3/12/19: Referred to Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife . 3/26/19: hearing held before the subcommittee	Dec 2020

Local Ordinances:

AZ - Kingman	Proposed ban on the use of exotic animals in circuses (a similar ordinance was introduced in 2017 but did not pass. Instead, City Council passed a non-binding resolution condemning the use of exotic animals in circuses).	2/28/19: the proposed ordinance was placed on the agenda for the March 5 City Council meeting. Animal Defenders International is pushing for the ordinance and has sent numerous materials to Council members. 3/5/19: the General Manager of the Mohave County Fair Association attended the hearing, along with other industry supporters, and he reported that the Council voted to table the ordinance indefinitely .	N/A
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Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
NY - Westchester County	Proposed ban on wild animals in circuses	7/17/18: two county legislators issued a Memo of Legislation , calling for a ban on wild animals in circuses. Item was referred to the Committee on Parks, Planning & Economic Development. 1/18/18: news reports stated that Westchester County Defenders of Animals met with county officials to try and get legislation introduced. Mary Lou spoke the county legislative clerk and confirmed that an ordinance has not been drafted or introduced yet (legislative website)	N/A

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