

Mary Lou Kelly Consulting

ANIMAL ISSUES LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

February 22, 2019



IN THE NEWS

PeTA and celebs hold press conference to promote CA anti-circus legislation

PeTA held a press conference in Los Angeles on Tuesday with local activists, lawmakers, and actor Joaquin Phoenix to generate support and attention for [California Senate Bill 313](#), which was introduced in the state legislature last week. Titled the “Circus Cruelty Prevention Act,” the legislation would ban wild and exotic animals in traveling exhibitions. The bill’s sponsor, [Senator Ben Hueso](#) (D-San Diego), issued the following statement in a PeTA press release: “Wild animals used in circuses endure cruel training, near-constant confinement, and are deprived of their natural habitat. We cannot allow this type of abuse to occur in California. This bill will ensure that these beautiful creatures are not exploited or cruelly treated within our state.”

PeTA and the group [Social Compassion in Legislation](#) said they co-sponsored CA SB 313 (technically only a legislator can co-sponsor legislation; the groups probably worked with the Senator’s staff to draft the bill). Here’s a roundup of press coverage and PeTA announcements this week regarding the bill:

[California is now one step closer to ending circus cruelty statewide](#)

(PeTA blog, February 19)

[Joaquin Phoenix joins animal activists, lawmakers to announce bill to ban wild animal acts in California](#) (ABC7, February 19).

[State Senate bill aims to close curtain on circus cruelty in California](#)

(PeTA press release, February 19)

PENDING LEGISLATION

Updated February 22, 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	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. May be heard in Committee Feb. 24	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.	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	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
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	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

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
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)	6/5/19
CT HB 6439	Concerning the sourcing of pets sold in pet stores.	1/28/19: introduced and referred to 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 Joint Committee on the Environment	6/5/19
CO HB 1092	Concerning a prohibition on future ownership of an animal for persons convicted of animal cruelty.	1/31/19: discussion in the House Committee on Judiciary	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 Committee; subcommittee meeting scheduled for 2/28/19.	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	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	5/31/19
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

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
MA SD 588	Prohibits the use of elephants, big cats, primates, and bears in traveling exhibits.	1/24/19: presented in the Senate; bill number and Committee referral not assigned yet.	11/20/19
MD HB 131 and HB 239	Establishes an Animal abuse registry.	1/21/2019: introduced and referred to Committee on Environment and Transportation 1/25/2019: reassigned to Judiciary. Hearing held on 2/7/19 (for both bills).	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	4/8/19
ME LD 782	An Act Relating to Animals in Pulling Events; prohibits a person handling or responsible for an animal in a pulling event from using on the animal any technique, force or method of preparing the animal for pulling 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 scheduled for 2/28/19	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.	1/14/19: introduced and read first time 1/15/19: read second time 1/31/19: referred to Agriculture Policy Committee 2/6/19: public hearing completed 2/20/19: action postponed	5/17/19
MT HB 379	Working Animal Protection Act	2/4/19: Introduced and referred to Local Government Interim Committee. 2/14/19: hearing held	5/1/19
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	6/13/19
NH SB 161	Relative to the definition of pet vendor.	1/22/19: referred to Energy and Natural Resources Committee 2/7/19: hearing held 2/21/19: committee report - ought to pass with amendment	6/13/19

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
NJ A 376	Animal Cruelty Offender Registry; prohibits purchase, adoption, and breeding of animals by animal cruelty offenders.	1/9/19: Introduced, Referred to Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 12/31/18: carried over to 2019 session.	1/14/20
NJ A 511	Requires accountability of NJSPCA and county societies for prevention of cruelty to animals to Attorney General and county prosecutors.	1/9/19: 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 legislature of recommendations on how to increase statewide uniformity of such.	1/9/19: Introduced and referred to Agriculture Committee.	6/9/19
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

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
NY AB 839 and SB 662	Relates to prohibitions on circus performances; prohibits circuses from conducting shows or other performances in the state for two years where a circus has been found to be in violation or in 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 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
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	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	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	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

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
SC HB 3086	Licensing for commercial dog breeders	1/8/19: referred to Agriculture Committee	5/9/19
TN HB 281 and SB 436	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.	1/29/19: filed to introduction	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
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	5/27/19
TX HB 1268 and SB 641	Relating to seizure of illegally owned dangerous wild animals; sets penalties	1/31/19: filed	5/27/19
VA HB 1625 and SB 1025	Tethering of animals; adequate shelter and space. Provides that the definition of "adequate shelter" includes shelter that protects the animal from exposure to heat or cold. Current law requires such shelter to protect the animal from the adverse effects of heat or cold. (Companion bill SB 1025)	1/16/19: House: Reported from Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources 1/21/19: read second time and engrossed 1/22/19: passed House and sent to Senate 1/23/19: referred to Senate Agriculture Committee 2/14/19: Passed Senate with substitute 2/21/19: vote - adoption #2	2/23/19
VA HB 1827 and HB 646	Tethering animals; adequate space requirements means tether is four times the length of the animal or 15 feet long, whichever is greater, and does not cause injury or pain, contain metal chain links, or weigh more than one-tenth of the animal's body weight.	1/2/19: Introduced and referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee 1/16/19 House: Reported from Agriculture Committee with amendment 2/13/19: left in Agriculture Committee	2/23/19
VA SB 32	Animal Cruelty Conviction List. Requires the State Police to establish and maintain by 2020 an Animal Cruelty Conviction List that shall be available to the public on the website of the Department of State Police. (Same as VA SB 1011)	Carried over from 2018 session.	2/23/19

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
VA SB 217	Prohibits the sale of a dog or cat not obtained from releasing agency or animal rescue; prohibition.	Carried over from 2018 session	2/23/19
VA SB 1065	Prohibits the rental or lease of a dog or cat to a consumer, including by a purported sale of the animal in a manner that vests no permanent ownership in the consumer at the time of the purported sale.	12/10/18: Prefiled, referred to Agriculture Committee 1/17/19 Senate: Passed by indefinitely in Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources	2/23/19
VA SB 1462	Sale and boarding of animals. Maintaining records of animal history; no misreporting of animal's condition; consumer remedies for receipt of diseased animal.	1/8/19: referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources	2/23/19
VA HB 1827	Tethering animals; an animal is given adequate space if the tether is four times the length of the animal or 15 feet long, whichever is greater, and does not cause injury or pain, contain metal chain links, or weigh more than one-tenth of the animal's body weight.	1/18/19: read first time	2/23/19

Federal Legislation:

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
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	Dec 2020

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
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Local Ordinances:

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)	
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