



HUMANE VOTERS | OREGON

Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
Good Bills That Passed					
SB638	Research Animals	Requires research labs using dogs for experiments to make them available for adoption if possible after conclusion of experiments.	Animals used for research should at least have a chance to live with a caring owner after the research is concluded.	We submitted written and oral testimony in support of this bill in both Senate and House committees. We also the Senate. We also sent an action alert urging our followers to contact their legislators to urge them to support this bill.	Passed by Senate and House and signed by the Governor. Now law.
SB580	Predator Control	Prohibits the use of cyanide devices (M44s) to control wildlife.	Cyanide devices inflict excessive pain and suffering on intended targets (generally coyotes) and also on unintended targets such as dogs.	We joined written testimony from multiple groups in support of this bill.	Passed by Senate and House and signed by the Governor. Now law.
SB1019	Egg-Laying Birds	Amends standards for egg-laying birds; generally requiring cage-free housing for eggs produced or sold in Oregon; exemptions for commercial operations of 3,000 birds or less and operations subject to certain federal inspection programs.	Cage-free environments are more humane for egg-laying birds.	We submitted comments to leaders of the committee considering the bill.	Passed by Senate and House. Expected to be signed by the Governor and become law.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
HB2500	Animal Abuse	Allows private party to sue animal abuser to recover expenses of getting veterinary care for animal.	A person who abuses an animal should be required to pay for any veterinary services provided by a third party to treat injuries resulting from the abuse.	We submitted written testimony in support of this bill.	Passed by House and Senate and signed by the Governor. Now law.
HB2829	Wildlife	Establishes an Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund to help fund Department of Fish and Wildlife; appropriates \$1 million to fund contingent on match from federal government or other source.	The Department of Fish and Wildlife receives a large portion of its budget from hunting and fishing licenses, which we believe causes it to favor hunters and anglers in wildlife management decisions. This bill would help diversify the Department's funding, which we believe would help lead to decisions better reflecting the interests of all Oregonians.	We submitted written testimony in support of this bill.	Passed by House and Senate. Expected to be signed by the Governor.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
HB2834	Wildlife	Requires State Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with Department of Transportation, to develop Wildlife Corridor Action Plan to help preserve and restore important wildlife corridors.	Humane treatment of animals includes protecting and restoring wildlife habitat. This plan also could lead to creation of more wildlife highway crossings.	We submitted written testimony in support of this bill.	Passed by House and Senate and signed by the Governor. Now law.
HB3035	Poaching	Increases penalties for poaching with "culpable mental state."	Humane treatment of animals includes enforcement of laws to protect wildlife.	We testified in favor of this bill.	Passed by House and Senate and signed by the Governor. Now law.
SB883	Animal Rescues	Changes authority for regulating animal rescue entities from local animal control agencies to state veterinarian.	We did not take a position on this bill during the legislative session. However, having read and heard testimony from others, believe it will better regulate animal rescues and that better regulation is necessary.	See previous column.	Passed Senate and House and signed by the Governor. Now law.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
Bad Bills Defeated					
HB2795	Cougars	Would have created a "pilot program" to allow hunting cougars with dogs within county electing to participate.	Hunting cougars with dogs, which was banned by ballot measure in 1994, is inhumane because it does not respect principles of "fair chase" in hunting.	We submitted oral and written testimony opposing this bill.	Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. Did not advance after public hearing.
HB3118	Cougars	Would have authorized the further appointment of "agents" to hunt cougars with dogs for "management" purposes.	Generally another attempt to increase hunting of cougars with dogs.	We joined a group letter opposing this bill.	Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources and then House Committee on Rules. No further action.
HB3119	Cougars	Would have required state Department of Fish and Wildlife to designate overseeing employee if department operates cougar management plan that uses appointed agents.	Generally another attempt to increase hunting of cougars with dogs.		Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. No further action.
SB306	Cougars	Would have allowed counties to opt out of ban on hunting cougars with dogs.	Hunting cougars with dogs, which was banned by ballot measure in 1994, is inhumane because it does not respect principles of "fair chase" in hunting.		Referred to Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. No further action.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
SB340	Cougars	Would have required cougar season permitting use of dogs.	Hunting cougars with dogs, which was banned by ballot measure in 1994, is inhumane because it does not respect principles of "fair chase" in hunting.		Referred to Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. No further action.
HB2370	Cougars	Would have allowed counties to opt out of ban on hunting cougars with dogs.	Hunting cougars with dogs, which was banned by ballot measure in 1994, is inhumane because it does not respect principles of "fair chase" in hunting.		Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. No further action.
HB2747	Wildlife	Would have required representatives of various interests on Fish and Wildlife Commission - generally favoring hunting, fishing, farming and ranching and not animal welfare.	The proposed Commission makeup would under-represent people who care about Oregon wildlife but do not hunt, fish or own rural land.	We submitted oral and written testimony opposing this bill.	Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. Public hearing held. Amended version passed by the committee but referred back to the committee by House leadership and did not advance after that.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
HJR9	Hunting	Would have referred to voters a proposal to: (a) make hunting and fishing a Constitutional right; and (b) say hunting and fishing are the preferred method of wildlife management.	If approved by voters, this measure would interfere with laws and regulations to ensure humane treatment of animals. We also disagree that hunting and fishing should be the preferred method of wildlife management.		Referred to House Committee on Rules. No further action.
HCR7	State Dog	Would have designated the border collie as the state dog.	We love Border collies, too, but believe no particular breed should be the "state dog" and that shelter dogs and cats should be the "state pet."		Referred to House Committee on Rules. No further action.
HB3227	Wildlife	Would have established a pilot program to liberalize killing of elk deemed to be causing "excessive damage" to private property (primarily by eating farm crops).	Would authorize unnecessary killing of elk.		Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. Public hearing held. No further action.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
HB2367	Marine Sancturies	Would have required the Governor to say proposed national marine sanctuaries off the Oregon coast are unacceptable unless the Legislature supports it.	Marine sanctuaries are good for animals. This bill would make it more difficult to create them.		Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. No further action.
HB2381	Salmon Predators	Would have required Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop program to "manage" species that prey on salmon in SW Oregon.	Decline of salmon in Oregon is primarily due to human impacts, not other animals pursuing their natural source of food.		Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. Did not advance after public hearing.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
Good Bills That Didn't Pass					
SB723	Killing Contests	Would have banned coyote-killing contests.	Contests to see who can kill the most animals are cruel and disrespectful of wildlife.	We submitted written and oral testimony in support of this bill at three hearings (two in the Senate and one in the House). We also sent multiple action alerts (website, Facebook and email) urging our followers to contact their legislators to urge their support for the bill. We also sent letters to endorsed legislators in both the Senate and the House urging them to help move the bill forward.	Passed by the Senate. Hearing held by House Committee on Rules. Likely died as part of last-minute deals to get Senate Republicans to end a walkout that prevented business by the Senate.
HB2804	Pet Adoption	Would have required retail pet stores to sell dogs, cats and rabbits only from rescues and shelters; later amended to exclude rabbits.	Requiring retail pet stores to get dogs, cats and rabbits from rescues and shelters would reduce demand for animals from inhumane mass breeding operations and help find homes for more shelter animals.	We submitted written and oral testimony in support of this bill. We also sent an action alert to encourage our followers to contact their legislators in support of this bill. We also sent emails to key committee members.	Referred to House Committee on Business and Labor. The bill was strongly opposed by the owners of retail pet stores and, due to its controversial nature and a close vote-count in the committee, did not advance after a public hearing.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
HCR12	State Pet	Would have designated rescued shelter dogs and cats as state pet.	Designating rescued shelter dogs and cats as the state pet would help promote pet adoption.	We helped obtain multiple co-sponsors for this bill.	Referred to House Committee on Rules. No further action.
SB103	Factory Farming	Would have created a moratorium on new or expanded dairies with more than 2,500 cows or more than 700 cows without at least seasonal access to pasture; also would have created a task force (with equal numbers of industry and animal welfare representatives) to study animal welfare issues in the dairy industry and make recommendations.	Industrial-scale dairies create numerous animal welfare issues, including extreme confinement, early separation of calves from mothers, and generally treating cows like machines.	We submitted written and oral testimony in support of this bill.	Referred to Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. The dairy industry strongly opposed the bill and it did not have enough votes on the committee to advance.
SB268	Pet Adoption	Would have created a tax deduction for expenses adopting dogs and cats from animal rescue entities.	A tax credit for expenses of adopting a dog or cat would help promote and encourage adoption and thereby help provide more shelter dogs and cats with homes.	We submitted written and oral testimony in support of this bill in the Senate. We also sent an action alert urging our followers to contact their legislators to urge them to support this bill.	Passed by Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and referred to Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue. Hearing held by Committee on Finance and Revenue. No further action.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
HB2113	Wildlife	Would have required the Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop program with technical assistance for nonlethal management of conflicts with wildlife.	Humane treatment of animals includes attempting to manage conflicts with wildlife using non-lethal methods.	We testified in favor of this bill.	Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. Replaced with bill to provide reduced-cost hunting and fishing licenses for low-income people, which failed to advance after public hearing.
HB3087	Poaching	Would have directed the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish an anti-poaching awareness program.	Humane treatment of animals includes respecting laws to protect fish and wildlife. Increasing penalties for poaching will help prevent poaching.	We testified in favor of this bill.	Passed by House Committee on Natural Resources and referred to Joint Committee on Ways and Means. No further action.
SB404	Poaching	Would have increased penalties for poaching if convicted twice within two years.	Humane treatment of animals includes respecting laws to protect fish and wildlife. Increasing penalties for poaching will help prevent poaching.		Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary. No further action.
HB3088	Poaching	Would have done a number of things to crack down on poaching - increasing maximum penalties, etc.	Humane treatment of animals includes enforcement of laws to protect wildlife.	We testified in favor of this bill.	Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. Did not advance after public hearing. But see HB3035 above.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
SB583	Wildlife	Would have required the Department of Fish and Wildlife to conduct a study regarding designation and protection of wildlife corridors.	Humane treatment of animals includes protecting and restoring wildlife habitat but this concept was carried forward in another bill.		Referred to Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. No further action, but see comparable bill, HB 2834.
Other Bills We Were Watching					
HB2841	Wildlife	Allows the Department of Fish and Wildlife to refuse to disclose certain wildlife-location information to prevent harm to the wildlife.	Allowing the Department of Fish and Wildlife to withhold information on wildlife location would prevent this information from being used to kill wildlife. However, we had concerns that later forms of the bill had too many exceptions and also could prevent legitimate access to public records. The final version of the bill includes a "sunset" provision that will require reconsideration of this issue after three years.	We joined written testimony of other groups supporting an initial version of this bill. We did not take a position on the final form of the bill.	Passed by House and Senate. Expected to be signed by the Governor.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
SB71	Euthanasia	Amends board of pharmacy statute to allow use of sedatives and analgesics by more entities when euthanizing animals.	This bill should increase availability of humane euthanasia but we deferred to veterinary experts on this issue.		Passed by Senate and House and signed by the Governor. Now law.
SB76	Animal Racing	Authorizes Oregon Racing Commission to issue licenses for a new form of betting technology (ADW); includes legislative findings promoting horse racing.	We have concerns about the dog- and horse-racing industries, which this bill could help fund, but decided not to take a position on the bill.		Passed by Senate and House and signed by the Governor. Now law.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
SB77	Animal Racing	Allows Oregon Racing Commission to adopt rules to authorize and license "Multi-Jurisdictional Simulcasting and Interactive Wagering Totalizator Hubs" to conduct simulcast broadcasting of, and mutuel wagering on, animal races, including previously held races on which mutuel wagering is lawful in Oregon.	We have concerns about the dog- and horse-racing industries, which this bill could help fund, but decided not to take a position on the bill.		Passed by Senate and House and signed by the Governor. Now law.
HB2227	Animal Control	Adds animal control officers to list of occupations required to report suspected child abuse.	Does not directly affect animal welfare. Testimony on the bill recognized that people abusing or neglecting animals are more likely to abuse or neglect people, too, which could call more attention to animal abuse and neglect issues.		Passed by House and Senate and signed by the Governor. Now law.



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Bill	Subject	Description	Brief Explanation of Position	Work Done by HVO	Result
SB876	Factory Farming	Would have imposed modest additional requirements on large confined animal feeding operations.	Increased CAFO regulation will be good for animal welfare but we opposed this bill as inadequate.	We testified in opposition to this bill as inadequate.	Referred to Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. Did not advance after public hearing.
SB886	Factory Farming	Would have imposed limits on exempt use of water by confined animal feeding operations.	Increased CAFO regulation will be good for animal welfare but this bill didn't specifically address any animal welfare issues.		Referred to Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. No further action.
SB78	Animal Racing	Would have directed the Oregon Racing Commission to adopt rules related to issuance of licenses to conduct off-race course simulcast mutuel wagering; current system allows simulcast betting only under license by facility with a track.	We have concerns about the dog- and horse-racing industries, which this bill could help fund, but decided not to take a position on the bill.		Passed by Senate and referred to House Committee on Business and Labor. No further action.



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HB2683	Pet Housing	Would have prohibited landlords from charging additional rent or fees for pets.	We do not want pet owners to pay extra but, as long as landlords can prohibit pets entirely, we worry that prohibiting extra charges could make pet-friendly housing less available. Thus, we took no position on this bill.		Referred to House Committee on Human Services and Housing. No further action.
SB466	Service Animals	Would have created a task force to develop standards for qualifying animals as service animals.			Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary. No further action.
SB909	Service Animals	Would have required rules and permits to certify dogs as comfort animals and created crime of misrepresenting a comfort animal or other animal as an assistance animal.			Referred to House Committee on Judiciary. No further action.
HB2758	Service Animals	Would have made it a crime to misrepresent an animal as a service animal.			Referred to House Committee on Judiciary. No further action.



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HB3162	Service Animals	Would have made it a crime to interfere with an assistance animal.			Referred to House Committee on Judiciary. No further action.
HB2815	Prison Programs	Would have directed the Department of Corrections to work with a nonprofit on a prison-based animal program to develop pet care vocational skills.			Referred to House Committee on Judiciary. No further action.
SB70	Veterinary Practice	Would have modified exceptions to requirements for veterinary license with respect to "animal husbandry" and certain other services.			Referred to House Committee on Business and General Government. Did not advance after public hearing.
HB3097	Dogs on Vehicles	Would have added truck bed to parts of vehicle where can't have a dog unless enclosed, secured, etc. Exception for "working dogs."			Referred to House Committee on Rules. No further action.
HCR25	Working Dogs	Would have honored "working dogs."			Referred to House Committee on Rules. No further action.



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HB2442	Wolves	Would have appropriated money (\$800,000) for a wolf management compensation fund.			Referred to Joint Committee on Ways and Means. No further action.
HB2746	Wolves	Would have tied compensation for animals killed by wolves to wolf population estimates; would have required spending for nonlethal deterrents.			Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. No further action.
SB261	Aquariums	Would have appropriated \$10 million to Oregon Coast Aquarium for renovations.	We have concerns about confinement of marine animals but did not take a position on this bill.		Passed by Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and referred to Joint Committee on Ways and Means. No further action but Aquarium received \$5 million in so-called "Christmas Tree Bill" (a long list of special appropriations) at the end of the legislative session.
SB439	Wildlife	Would have prohibited confining a game bird or mammal for use at a hunting club.	Confining wildlife for "hunters" to kill is inhumane.		Referred to Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. No further action.



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HB2955	Hunting	Would have allowed certain persons to hunt certain animals with a crossbow.			Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. No further action.
SB407	Poaching	Would have required courts to consider the income of a defendant in determining financial penalties for poaching.			Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary. No further action.
HB2356	Fish Farming	Would have transferred authority for regulating finfish aquaculture from Department of Fish and Wildlife to Department of Agriculture; also would have required grants for more aquaculture.			Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. No further action.
HB3019	Wildlife	Would have authorized Department of Fish and Wildlife to designate critical habitat for biodiversity; created strict liability for spill of oil or hazardous material in critical habitat during unpermitted transportation of same.	We support protecting wildlife habitat but this was more about hazardous material management.		Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources. No further action.