



HUMANE VOTERS | OREGON

2020 OREGON LEGISLATURE - PROPOSALS AFFECTING ANIMAL WELFARE (as of 2/9/20)

Bill	Subject	Description	HVO Position	Brief Explanation of Position
HB 4075	Coyote-Killing Contests	Would ban coyote-killing contests for cash or prizes.	Support	Coyote-killing contests are cruel and should be banned.
SB 1513	Confined Animal Feeding Operations	Adds requirements for permitting large confined animal feeding operations.	Oppose	Large confined animal feeding operations (Cafos) are generally bad for animal welfare. This bill would add permitting requirements but does not do nearly enough to address environmental and animal-welfare issues with large Cafos.
SB 1562	Confined Animal Feeding Operations	Creates task force to study nitrate contamination of groundwater in Umatilla Basin.	Oppose	Animal agriculture, including industrial dairies, is a significant cause of the nitrate contamination of groundwater in this area. The area is home to Threemile Canyon Farms, one of the largest dairies in the country, and was home to Lost Valley Farm, a notorious industrial dairy that collapsed after approximately two years of operation. The nitrate problem has been studied for many years but no progress has been made. We believe it is time for action, including a moratorium on new and expanded industrial dairies.

SB 1530	Greenhouse Gas Emissions/ Confined Animal Feeding Operations	Includes numerous measures intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions including incentives for certain activities believed to reduce emissions. (Several other bills also address this issue but this is the bill on which action is occurring.)	Support; Encourage Change	We support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions (climate change is bad for animals in many ways) but this bill does not go nearly far enough. Among other things, animal agriculture is not included among industries subject to greenhouse gas regulations and incentives for capturing and converting methane from animal waste could incentivize more and/or expanded confined animal feeding operations.
HB 4053	Dog licensing	Removes prohibition on issuing dog license without proof of rabies inoculation. Provides alternative means to ensure required inoculations.	Neutral; Considering Support	Gives counties more flexibility to ensure proper inoculation upon licensing. Intent is to increase licensing by making it easier to accomplish. Increased licensing means more revenue for county animal control agencies, including shelters.
SB 1511	Artificial beaver dams.	Would exempt "restoration weirs" from certain environmental laws.	Neutral	Bill does not directly address animal welfare issues but justification for bill in part is need to make up for loss of real beaver dams, which are not generally considered beneficial to watersheds, due to near eradication of beavers through trapping and habitat destruction. We believe part of the solution to this problem is better protection of real beavers but will wait to make that point in further discussions expected to occur in relation to beavers and beaver restoration.