

# UPDATE

## 2009 State Legislative Summary

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### Mission:

Colorado Humane Voters League's mission is to benefit animals by supporting and initiating humane legislation, opposing inhumane legislation, responding to proposed administrative regulations regarding animals, and supporting candidates who align with our values.

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2009 was an interesting year for animal-related legislation at the state capitol. CHVL tracked a total of eleven bills during this session, nine of which were ultimately used for scoring on our legislative scorecards. Several of these bills never made it out of committee, meaning that most legislators did not have the opportunity to vote on them.

### HB09-1019 – Cat Identification

**CHVL position: support. Outcome: bad**  
Representative Cheryl Peniston introduced this bill, which aimed to increase the number of cats who are reunited with their “owners” after being taken in by animal shelters. The Senate sponsor of House Bill 1019 was Senator Joyce Foster. The proposed law would have required all cats in communities of 100,000 or more to have either a microchip or a collar and I.D. tag. House Bill 1019 passed through the House Local Government Committee, but the second reading vote was “laid over” until after the end of the legislative session (essentially, the bill was killed without a vote). This was rumored to be because those in leadership positions in the House thought the issue was frivolous.

### HB09-1095 – Lower Tax for Dog Racing

**CHVL position: oppose. Outcome: good**  
This bill, introduced by Representative Randy Baumgardner, was intended to prop up the failing dog racing industry in Colorado. It would have encouraged the resumption of live greyhound racing in the state by allowing tracks to simulcast more out-of-state races, and by reducing the tax rate on dog racing wagers. It was killed by the House Finance Committee. Senator Abel Tapia was the bill's Senate sponsor.

### HB09-1152 – Horse Racing Simulcast

**CHVL position: oppose. Outcome: good**  
This bill would have increased the profitability of horse racing in Colorado by authorizing two new methods of wagering on horse races. The House Agriculture Committee approved the bill, but it was later killed by the House Finance Committee. House Bill 1152 was introduced by Representative Jerry Sonnenberg, and sponsored in the Senate by Senator Lois Tochtrop.

### HB09-1172 – Puppy Mills

**CHVL position: support. Outcome: bad**  
Representative Beth McCann introduced this bill, which would have cracked down on large-scale commercial dog breeding facilities commonly known as “puppy mills.” It would have barred breeders from keeping more than 50 unsterilized adult dogs on their premises, and mandated annual certification by a veterinarian that each dog is suitably healthy for breeding. It also would have allowed facility inspections to occur at any time, and would have prohibited anyone who has been convicted of cruelty to animals from holding a breeding facility license. The House Agriculture Committee voted down House Bill 1172 by a vote of 5-7.

### HB09-1294 – Wildlife Tax Checkoff

**CHVL position: support. Outcome: good**  
This bill extends the state income tax check-off program that benefits the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Fund. It was sponsored in the House by Representative Ed Vigil, and in the Senate by Senator Gail Schwartz. House Bill 1294 was passed by both houses of the legislature and signed into law.

### SB09-024 – Wildlife Damage & Control

**CHVL position: oppose. Outcome: bad**  
This bill makes several changes to laws governing how the Division of Wildlife (DOW) responds to wildlife damage claims by landowners, and makes it easier for a landowner to obtain a “kill permit” for wildlife. It also provides an incentive for landowners to allow hunting on their property. An amendment that would have required the DOW to issue kill permits in some circumstances was removed from the final version of the bill. Senate Bill 024 was signed into law on June 1. Senator Al White introduced this bill, *(continued on page 3)*

## Colorado General Assembly Voting Scores, 2009 Regular Session

CHVL works on animal-related legislation. This report lists legislators' scores for the 2009 regular legislative session. The numerical score is the legislator's score on actual votes. The letter grade is our overall assessment of the legislator's performance; we considered votes, sponsorship or co-sponsorship of legislation that CHVL supported or opposed, and how well the legislator works with CHVL. For example, a legislator who scored 100% but did not sponsor or co-sponsor any CHVL-supported legislation would receive a grade of A-.

**Note: The scores don't tell the whole story!** Sometimes a legislator is either more or less animal-friendly than the score indicates. This is particularly true this session, as there were few animal-related bills used for scoring that made it to the floor for a full vote, so one vote made a larger difference in the scores than usual (especially in the House). For information on votes on individual bills and on who sponsored the legislation CHVL supported and opposed, please visit our "Scorecards" section at [www.ColoradoHumaneVoters.org/scorecards/scorecards.html](http://www.ColoradoHumaneVoters.org/scorecards/scorecards.html).

### Colorado State Senate

Dist.	Name (party)	Score	Grade
01	Greg Brophy (R)	38%	F
02	Ken Kester (R)	86%	B
03	Abel Tapia (D)	83%	C+
04	Mark Scheffel (R)	50%	F
05	Gail Schwartz (D)	100%	A+
06	Jim Isgar (D)	88%	B+
07	Josh Penry (R)	40%	F
08	Al White (R)	80%	C+
09	David Schultheis (R)	40%	F
10	Bill Cadman (R)	0%	F
11	John Morse (D)	75%	C
12	Keith King (R)	57%	F
13	Scott Renfroe (R)	20%	F
14	Bob Bacon (D)	83%	B
15	Kevin Lundberg (R)	0%	F
16	Dan Gibbs (D)	100%	A+
17	Brandon Shaffer (D)	80%	A-
18	Rollie Heath (D)	83%	B+
19	Evie Hudak (D)	100%	A-
20	Maryanne Keller (D)	83%	B
21	Betty Boyd (D)	80%	B
22	Mike Kopp (R)	20%	F
23	Shawn Mitchell (R)	0%	F
24	Lois Tochtrop (D)	100%	A
25	Mary Hodge (D)	100%	A
26	Linda Newell (D)	100%	A
27	Nancy Spence (R)	75%	C
28	Suzanne Williams (D)	83%	B
29	Morgan Carroll (D)	80%	B
30	Ted Harvey (R)	38%	F
31	Jennifer Veiga (D)	100%	A-
32	Chris Romer (D)	80%	B+
33	Peter Groff (D)	80%	B+
34	Paula Sandoval (D)	100%	A-
35	Joyce Foster (D)	80%	A-

### Colorado State House of Representatives

Dist.	Name (party)	Score	Grade
01	Jeanne Labuda (D)	71%	C+
02	Mark Ferrandino (D)	60%	D
03	Daniel Kagan (D)	67%	D
04	K. Jerry Frangas (D)	83%	B+
05	Joel Judd (D)	86%	B
06	Lois Court (D)	67%	D
07	Terrance Carroll (D)	67%	D
08	Beth McCann (D)	60%	C-
09	Joe Miklosi (D)	67%	F
10	Dickey Lee Hullingshorst (D)	71%	C+
11	John Pommer (D)	60%	D
12	Paul Weissmann (D)	100%	A-
13	Claire Levy (D)	67%	D+
14	Kent Lambert (R)	50%	F
15	Mark Waller (R)	67%	D
16	Larry Liston (R)	50%	F
17	Dennis Apuan (D)	67%	D+
18	Mike Merrifield (D)	67%	D
19	Marsha Looper (R)	60%	D-
20	Amy Stephens (R)	67%	D
21	Bob Gardner (R)	40%	F
22	Ken Summers (R)	67%	D+
23	Gwyn Green (D)	67%	D+
24	Sue Schafer (D)	75%	C
25	Cheri Gerou (R)	83%	B
26	Andrew Kerr (D)	75%	C+
27	Sara Gagliardi (D)	67%	D
28	Jim Kerr (R)	20%	F
29	Debbie Benefield (D)	80%	B
30	Kevin Priola (R)	67%	D-
31	Judy Solano (D)	71%	C
32	Edward Casso (D)	67%	D

## Legislator of the Year

Unfortunately, for the 2009 session of the state legislature we did not feel that any legislator met our criteria for this award. However, we would like to acknowledge two legislators who made significant efforts on behalf of animals.

☐ State Senator Gail Schwartz (SSD05) earned a voting score of 100% and sponsored or co-sponsored three pieces of animal-friendly legislation. Together, these factors earned a score of A+ for Senator Schwartz. In fact, the only Legislator of the Year criterion she did not meet was to work with CHVL on pro-animal legislation. We commend Senator Schwartz for her pro-animal record and hope to work with her on animal-friendly legislation in the 2010 session.

☐ State Representative Beth McCann (SHD08) sponsored House bill 1172 (HB09-1172), which would have done much to curb puppy mills in Colorado and would also have made denial or revocation of an animal facility license mandatory when the licensee or prospective licensee has been convicted of cruelty to animals. We commend Representative McCann for her work on this important issue and hope to work with her on animal-friendly legislation in the 2010 session.

33	Dianne Primavera (D)	67%	D+
34	John Soper (D)	75%	C
35	Cherylin Peniston (D)	75%	B-
36	Su Ryden (D)	67%	D+
37	Spencer Swalm (R)	83%	B
38	Joe Rice (D)	67%	D
39	David Balmer (R)	67%	D
40	Cindy Acree (R)	75%	C
41	Nancy Todd (D)	67%	D+
42	Karen Middleton (D)	67%	D
43	Frank McNulty (R)	43%	F
44	Mike May (R)	67%	D+
45	Carole Murray (R)	67%	D
46	Sal Pace (D)	56%	F
47	Buffie McFadyen (D)	67%	D
48	Glenn Vaad (R)	40%	F
49	B.J. Nikkel (R)	67%	D
50	James Riesberg (D)	60%	D
51	Don Marostica (R)	40%	F
52	John Kefalas (D)	75%	C+
53	Randy Fischer (D)	71%	B+
54	Steve King (R)	67%	D+
55	Laura Bradford (R)	75%	C-
56	Christine Scanlan (D)	67%	D+
57	Randy Baumgardner (R)	67%	F
58	Scott Tipton (R)	33%	F
59	Ellen Roberts (R)	67%	D-
60	Tom Massey (R)	67%	D-
61	Kathleen Curry (D)	57%	F
62	Edward Vigil (D)	50%	F
63	Cory Gardner (R)	50%	F
64	Wes McKinley (D)	38%	D-
65	Jerry Sonnenberg (R)	22%	F

(continued from page 1) which was sponsored in the House by Representatives Jerry Sonnenberg and Kathleen Curry.

**SB09-027 – Coyote Control**

**CHVL position: oppose. Outcome: good**

Senator Joyce Foster introduced this bill, and Representative Joe Miklosi was the House sponsor. Senate Bill 027 would have required the Commissioner of Agriculture and Division of Wildlife to give a higher priority to the protection of “human safety” from coyotes in urban and suburban areas. This bill was killed early in the session by the Senate Agriculture Committee.

**SB09-118 –Pet Animal Care & Facilities Act**

**CHVL position: support. Outcome: good**

This bill re-authorizes the “Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act” (PACFA), a licensing and inspection program for facilities that house or handle “pet” animals. The bill made several positive changes to the act, such as raising license fees by an amount sufficient to hire an additional PACFA inspector; adding rats and gerbils to the definition of “pet” animal; and requiring licensed facilities to publicly post the contact information for the department that enforces the act. Unfortunately, a proposed amendment that would have prohibited persons convicted of cruelty to animals from operating a pet animal facility was not included in the bill. Senate Bill 118 was signed into law on June 1. Senator Dan Gibbs introduced this bill, and the House sponsor was Representative Randy Fischer.

**SJR09-048 – Colorado Prairie Heritage**

**CHVL position: support. Outcome: neutral**

This non-binding resolution, introduced by Senator Gail Schwartz, states that the Colorado General Assembly supports the protection and restoration of Colorado's shortgrass prairie ecosystem (home to the imperiled black-tailed prairie dog and many other species). Senate Joint Resolution 048 passed the Senate, but was not able to make it through the House of Representatives before the legislative session ended. Representative Wes McKinley was the House sponsor of this resolution.

**Happy Anniversary to Us!** 🐾🌱🍃🐾🐾

March 8 was CHVL's 10th anniversary! We had hoped to be able to have a formal celebration to acknowledge our donors, volunteers, and achievements. We decided against it because we just did not feel that it would be the best use of our resources.

We do appreciate all of our supporters, and send a special “thank you” to those who have been with us from the beginning.

**Yard Sale Thanks** 🐾🌱🍃🐾🐾🌱🍃🐾

CHVL's annual yard sale was held on June 6. Nice weather and some extra traffic from other sales in the neighborhood made for a successful event. “Thank You” to everyone who donated items and to our great yard sale volunteers!

**Donor Recognition** 🐾🌱🍃🐾🐾🌱🍃🐾

A very special “THANK YOU” to the following donors who went “above and beyond” the call of duty and helped sustain CHVL in 2008.

**Pamela Joseph Virginia Robbins Marcie Wells**

A heartfelt “THANK YOU” to the following folks who have contributed to CHVL since our last newsletter. We also wish to thank our donors who prefer to remain anonymous.

- |                         |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Bev Baker               | Wendy Hall              | Suzanne Morris         |
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**Contributions & Address Changes**

CHVL is funded entirely by private contributions. Any donation you could make at this time would be greatly appreciated! Remember that because of our work on political issues, donations to CHVL or to the Pro-Animal PAC of Colorado are not tax deductible. Also, if you are moving or want to inform us of any changes to your e-mail address, phone number, etc., please fill out this form and return it in the return envelope included in this newsletter.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 NEW ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Thank You!**

Donations to CHVL will be gratefully acknowledged in our newsletter. Check here if you do not wish to be listed.

I wish to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Colorado Humane Voters League (make check payable to CHVL)

I wish to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Pro-Animal PAC (make check payable to Pro-Animal PAC of Colorado)  
 Limit \$500 per election cycle. For PAC donations of \$100 or more, please provide the following additional information:  
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## Lobby Day Report

On February 12, 2009, over 100 people, including many CHVL members, participated in Colorado Humane Lobby Day at the state capitol. This was the second such event to be organized in Colorado by the Humane Society of the United States, and CHVL thanks HSUS for the opportunity to “co-host” the event this year. Also participating were Rocky Mountain Animal Defense and greyhound advocates Grey2K USA.

The day began with a briefing from Holly Tarry of HSUS, who discussed how to be an effective citizen lobbyist and outlined the animal-related bills that were currently under consideration by the state legislature. Participants then attended pre-arranged meetings with their individual legislators (or their aides) to lobby on behalf of animals.

Although it was early in the legislative session, the fate of several animal-related bills had already been decided. Participants were asked to focus their efforts on Senate Bill 118, a bill to reauthorize the Pet Animal Care & Facilities Act, and to ask for several pro-animal amendments to the bill. One important amendment, to add an additional inspector to enforce animal care regulations, was included in the final bill.

The day ended with a rally on the capitol steps to protest the defeat of anti-puppy-mill legislation (HB09-1172), which the House Agriculture Committee had voted down a few days earlier. The bill’s sponsor, Representative Beth McCann,

spoke at the rally, which also featured several canine victims of puppy mills. Advocates vowed to keep fighting puppy mills on other fronts, and to bring back similar legislation during the next session.

CHVL hopes to see even greater attendance at next year’s lobby day event, as humane advocates discover how easy and effective it is to get to know their elected officials and make their views known. This event is a great place to start!

## Request for E-mail Addresses

We encourage our members to give us their e-mail addresses for two reasons: It is the only way to communicate with our members quickly enough when an animal-related bill comes up for action in the legislature on short notice, and it is by far the least costly and most efficient method for us to communicate with our members. We do not share your contact information with any person or group unless you have explicitly authorized us to do so, and we do not send “junk” e-mail.

If you would like to receive our e-mail alerts and have not given us a current e-mail address, please take this opportunity to provide one. You can either send us a quick note with your e-mail address to [chvl@coloradohumanevoters.org](mailto:chvl@coloradohumanevoters.org) or add your e-mail address to the coupon contained in this newsletter and return the coupon in the enclosed envelope. If you e-mail it to us, please include your name, street address, and city as well, so we can match it to the correct record in the database. Thank you!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.vote4animal.com  
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**Colorado Humane Voters League** 