

PENDING LEGISLATION

Thursday, March 19th, 2026

Newest legislative activity is highlighted in yellow

Bill numbers with hyperlink direct to bill text

All bill summaries are direct quotes from official state websites

State Legislation:

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
AK HB 258	STATEWIDE SPAY & NEUTER PROGRAM	1/20/26: Profile Released 1/16/26 Read The First Time - Referrals Resources, Finance Referred To Resources 1/30/26: (H) Heard & Held -- Delayed To A Call Of The Chair 2/13/26: Moved Cshb 258(Resources) Out Of Committee 2/16/26: Do Pass Referred To Finance	5/20/26
AZ SB 1789	pet stores; pet dealers	2/2/26: Introduced 2/5/26: Senate First Read 2/9/26: Senate Second Read	6/27/26
CA AB 631	AB 631, as introduced, Lee. Animals: animal shelters: transparency. Existing law requires all public and private animal shelters to keep accurate records on each animal taken up, medically treated, or impounded, as specified. This bill would require animal shelters, as defined, to post on their internet websites, or third-party internet websites, the number of animals taken in, the source of intake, and the outcomes for all animals, as specified. The bill would require this information to be made publicly accessible, updated at least once per month, and remain publicly accessible for at least 5 years. To the extent that this bill would impose a new program or higher level of service on public animal control agencies or shelters, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.	2/12/25: Introduced Read first time. To print. 2/13/25: From printer. May be heard in committee March 16. 3/2/25: Referred to Com. on B. & P. 3/31/25: From committee: Amend, and do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 17. Noes 0.) (April 1). 4/1/25: <u>Read second time and amended.</u> 4/23/25: From committee: Do pass. (Ayes 15. Noes 0.) (April 23). 4/27/25: Passed Assembly Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. 4/28/25: In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment. 5/6/25: Referred to Com. on B. P. & E.D. 5/27/25: From committee chair, with <u>author's amendments</u> : Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on B. P. & E.D. 6/9/25: In committee: Set, first hearing. Testimony taken. Further hearing to be set. 7/8/25: From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on B. P. & E.D. 7/13/25: From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 11. Noes 0.) (July 14). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	11/30/26

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		<p>8/17/25: In committee: Referred to suspense file. 8/29/25: In committee: Held under submission.</p>	
<p>CA AB 1482</p>	<p>AB 1482, as amended, Castillo. Bowie’s Law: animals: adoption, shelter overcrowding, and breeding. (1) Existing law declares that it is the policy of the state that no adoptable animal should be euthanized if it can be adopted into a suitable home. Existing law also declares that it is the policy of the state that no treatable animal should be euthanized. This bill, Bowie’s Law, would require an animal shelter, as defined, to provide in a conspicuous location on its internet website or a third-party internet website a list of all animals that are available for adoption or that are being held pursuant to specified laws, except as provided. The bill would also require the Department of Food and Agriculture to conduct a study on certain topics, including, among other topics, the overcrowding of California’s animal shelters, and, on or before January 1, 2028, to submit a report on that study to the Legislature, as provided. The bill would repeal these study and reporting requirements on January 1, 2032. To the extent that this bill would impose a new program or higher level of service on local public animal control agencies or shelters, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. (2) The existing Polanco-Lockyer Pet Breeder Warranty Act requires every breeder of dogs to meet certain requirements relating to housing and maintaining dogs and to disclose specified information. The act defines “dog breeder” and “breeder” to mean a person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other association that has sold, transferred, or given away all or part of 3 or more litters or 20 or more dogs during the preceding 12 months that were bred and reared on the premises of the person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other association. This bill would change that definition to a person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other association that has sold, transferred, or given away all or part of 2 or more litters or 10 or more dogs during the preceding 12 months, as specified. The bill would additionally require a breeder, before a dog reaches eight weeks of age, to have a microchip device implanted in the dog that identifies the breeder, except as</p>	<p>2/20/25: Introduced. To print. 2/21/25: From printer. May be heard in committee March 24. 2/23/25: Read first time. 3/12/25: Referred to Com. on B. & P. 4/21/25: Assembly Rule 47.1 invoked. (Castillo). <u>From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on B. & P. Read second time and amended.</u> 4/22/25: Re-referred to Com. on B. & P. 4/28/25: From committee: Amend, and do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 17. Noes 0.) (April 29). 4/29/25: Read second time and amended. 4/30/25: Re-referred to Com. on APPR. 5/13/25: In committee: Hearing postponed by committee. 5/20/25: In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file. Joint Rule 62(a), file notice suspended. 5/22/25: In committee: Held under submission. 1/31/26: Died pursuant to Art. IV, Sec. 10(c) of the Constitution. 2/2/26: From committee: Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.</p>	<p>11/30/26</p>

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	<p>provided. The bill would require the breeder, upon the sale or transfer of the dog, to register the identity of the new owner with the microchip registry company as the primary owner on the microchip device and would require the breeder to provide certain information to the new owner regarding the microchip. The bill would prohibit a dog from being sold or otherwise transferred by a breeder, whether for compensation or otherwise, until it has been immunized against common diseases and has a documented health check from a licensed veterinarian.(3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.</p>		
CT HB 5283	<p>An Act Authorizing Municipalities to Prohibit the Sale of Dogs, Cats and Rabbits in Pet Shops.</p>	<p>2/19/26: Referred to Joint Committee on Planning and Development Public Hearing 02/27 3/6/26: Joint Favorable 3/9/26: Filed with Legislative Commissioners' Office 3/12/26: Referred to Office of Legislative Research and Office of Fiscal Analysis 03/17/26 5:00 PM 3/18/26: Reported Out of Legislative Commissioners' Office Favorable Report, Tabled for the Calendar, House House Calendar Number 64 File Number 59</p>	
FL HB 1521	<p>Handling of Animals; Requires DACS to develop best management practices for dog breeding & to investigate certain claims; requires Board of Veterinary Medicine to verify that rules for such practices meet certain goals; preempts regulatory & operational oversight of local animal shelters to DACS; revises requirements for pet dealers & retail stores; removes certain limit on veterinary costs; provides that violations are unfair method of competition or unfair or deceptive act or practice & subject to penalties; provides for private causes of action; requires dog breeders to apply to DBPR for certificate of registration; authorizes DBPR to establish whistleblower program; provides penalties; requires certain individuals, dog breeders, & dog</p>	<p>1/9/26: Filed 1/13/26: 1st Reading (Original Filed Version) 1/15/26: Referred to Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee Referred to Budget Committee Referred to Commerce Committee Now in Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee 2/3/26: PCS added to Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee agenda 2/5/26: Favorable with CS by Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee 2/9/26: Reported out of Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee Laid on Table under Rule 7.18(a) CS Filed 1st Reading (Committee Substitute 1) 2/10/26: Referred to Budget Committee</p>	<p>3/13/26</p>

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	breeding facilities to be placed on public animal abuser database; provides requirements for best management practices; requires DACS to use requirements to develop rules.	2/18/26: Reported out of Budget Committee 2/20/26: Now in Commerce Committee 2/25/26: Bill referred to House Calendar 2/26/26: Added to Second Reading Calendar	
FL SB 1004		12/26/25: Filed 1/7/26: Referred to Commerce and Tourism; Judiciary; Rules 1/13/26: Introduced 1/16/26: On Committee agenda-- Commerce and Tourism, 01/21/26, 8:30 am, 110 Senate Building 1/21/26: Favorable by Commerce and Tourism; YEAS 10 NAYS 0 Now in Judiciary 1/29/26: On Committee agenda-- Judiciary, 02/03/26, 1:00 pm, 110 Senate Building 2/3/26: Favorable by Judiciary; YEAS 11 NAYS 0 Now in Rules 2/5/26: On Committee agenda-- Rules, 02/10/26, 9:00 am, 412 Knott Building 2/10/26: CS by- Rules; YEAS 24 NAYS 0 Pending reference review -under Rule 4.7(2) - (Committee Substitute) 2/11/26: CS by Rules read 1st time 2/12/26: Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading 2/17/26: Placed on Special Order Calendar, 02/19/26 2/19/26: Retained on Special Order Calendar 2/20/26: Read 2nd time Amendment(s) adopted (342166) Read 3rd time CS passed as amended; YEAS 36 NAYS 0 Immediately certified In Messages 3/5/26: Bill referred to House Calendar Bill added to Special Order Calendar (3/9/2026) 1st Reading (Engrossed 1) 3/9/26: Read 2nd time Added to Third Reading Calendar Read 3rd time CS passed; YEAS 110, NAYS 0 3/17/26: Ordered enrolled	
IL HB 1556	Amends the Animal Welfare Act. Defines "professional breeder". Provides that an animal shelter shall not accept a dog or cat from an animal shelter licensed under the Act or an out-of-state animal control facility, rescue group, or animal shelter that is duly licensed in their state or is a not-for-profit organization unless it obtains documentation attesting that the dog or cat was not obtained through compensation or payment made to a cat breeder, dog breeder, dog dealer, or dog broker. Provides that an animal shelter shall not obtain a dog	1/20/25: Introduced Filed with the Clerk by Rep. William "Will" Davis 1/27/25: First Reading Referred to Rules Committee 2/17/25: Assigned to Agriculture & Conservation Committee Added Chief Co-Sponsor Rep. Debbie Meyers-Martin 3/12/25: House Committee Amendment No. 1 Filed with Clerk by Rep. William "Will" Davis House Committee Amendment No. 1 Referred to Rules Committee HEARING 3/18/25 2:00 PM Central	1/3/27

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	<p>or cat by any means other than owner surrender, transfer from an animal control facility, an order by law enforcement, or an animal shelter in compliance with provisions concerning reporting of animals. Provides that a pet shop operator or dog dealer (rather than just a pet shop operator) may offer for sale a dog or cat only if the dog or cat is obtained from an animal control facility, animal shelter, or professional breeder (rather than just an animal control facility or an animal shelter) located in-state or out-of-state, that is in compliance with provisions concerning animal control facilities and animal shelters supplying to pet shop operators and requirements of professional dog breeders. Removes provisions concerning the requirement that a pet shop operator shall keep a record of each dog or cat offered for sale. Provides for requirements of professional dog breeders.</p> <p>House Amendment 001 House Amendment 002</p>	<p>House Agriculture & Conservation Committee 3/16/25: House Committee Amendment No. 2 Filed with Clerk by Rep. William "Will" Davis House Committee Amendment No. 2 Referred to Rules Committee 3/17/25: House Committee Amendment No. 1 Rules Refers to Agriculture & Conservation Committee House Committee Amendment No. 2 Rules Refers to Agriculture & Conservation Committee 3/20/25: Rule 19(a) / Re-referred to Rules Committee House Committee Amendment No. 1 Rule 19(c) / Re-referred to Rules Committee House Committee Amendment No. 2 Rule 19(c) / Re-referred to Rules Committee 2/17/26: Assigned to Agriculture & Conservation Committee House Committee Amendment No. 1 Rules Refers to Agriculture & Conservation Committee House Committee Amendment No. 2 Rules Refers to Agriculture & Conservation Committee</p>	
IL HB 1902	<p>Amends the Animal Welfare Act. Provides that dog breeders must genetically test or have their dogs genetically tested for diseases that cause early death or physical impairments. Provides that if the dog breeder finds that a dog he or she breeds has a genetic defect or mutation that causes early death or physical impairments, the dog breeder must have that dog sterilized.</p>	<p>1/28/25: Introduced Filed with the Clerk by Rep. Jennifer Sanalitra First Reading Referred to Rules Committee 2/24/25: Assigned to Agriculture & Conservation Committee 3/20/25: Rule 19(a) / Re-referred to Rules Committee</p>	1/3/27
IL HB 2410	<p>Pet Shelter Euthanasia Ban Amends the Animal Welfare Act. Provides that nothing in the Act permits the euthanization of a dog or cat or other pet in an animal shelter except in accordance with the requirements under certain provisions of the Humane Euthanasia in Animal Shelters Act. Amends the Humane Care for Animals Act. In the definition of "humanely euthanized", provides that "humanely euthanized" does not include euthanization of a dog, cat, or other pet in an animal shelter for any reason other than health reasons, attitude issues, or aggressiveness. Amends the Humane Euthanasia in Animal Shelters Act. Provides that, notwithstanding any other provision of any law, no person may euthanize a cat, dog, or other pet in an animal shelter unless the euthanization is for health reasons, attitude issues, or aggressiveness. Effective January 1, 2026.</p>	<p>1/30/25: Introduced Filed with the Clerk by Rep. Barbara Hernandez 2/3/25: First Reading Referred to Rules Committee 2/24/25: Assigned to Agriculture & Conservation Committee 3/20/25: Rule 19(a) / Re-referred to Rules Committee</p>	1/3/27

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IL HB 3056	Amends the Animal Welfare Act. Provides that a person licensed under the Act may not import any dog into the State if the licensee knows or has reason to know that the dog is under the age of 8 weeks old. Provides that a person licensed under the Act must inquire about the age of a dog before importing it into the State.	2/5/25: Introduced Filed with the Clerk by Rep. Curtis J. Tarver, II First Reading Referred to Rules Committee 3/3/25: Assigned to Agriculture & Conservation Committee 3/10/25: Do Pass / Short Debate Agriculture & Conservation Committee; 009-000-000 3/11/25: Placed on Calendar 2nd Reading - Short Debate 3/25/25: Second Reading - Short Debate Held on Calendar Order of Second Reading - Short Debate 4/6/25: House Floor Amendment No. 1 Filed with Clerk by Rep. Curtis J. Tarver, II House Floor Amendment No. 1 Referred to Rules Committee House Floor Amendment No. 1 Rules Refers to Agriculture & Conservation Committee 4/11/25: House Floor Amendment No. 1 Rule 19(c) / Re-referred to Rules Committee 2/17/26: House Floor Amendment No. 1 Rules Refers to Agriculture & Conservation Committee Approved for Consideration Rules Committee; 003-002-000 Placed on Calendar 2nd Reading - Short Debate	1/3/27
IL HB 3647	Amends the Animal Welfare Act. Requires a licensed veterinarian to examine each dog or cat that is imported into the State from another state by an animal shelter or an animal control facility and provide an examination document to the animal shelter or animal control facility. Provides that, for such dogs or cats, the animal shelter or animal control facility must provide the examination document provided by the licensed veterinarian to the adopter prior to the time of adoption.	2/6/25: Introduced Filed with the Clerk by Rep. Curtis J. Tarver, II 2/17/25: First Reading Referred to Rules Committee 3/10/25: Assigned to Agriculture & Conservation Committee HEARING Mar 18, 2025 at 2:00 pm House Agriculture & Conservation Committee 3/20/25: Rule 19(a) / Re-referred to Rules Committee 2/17/26: Assigned to Agriculture & Conservation Committee	1/3/27
IL HB 3648	Amends the Animal Welfare Act. Provides that if an animal shelter or an animal control facility offers a dog for adoption, it must provide, in addition to other requirements, the organization from which the dog was obtained, the organization's address, and the organization's phone number.	2/6/25: Introduced Filed with the Clerk by Rep. Curtis J. Tarver, II 1/17/25: First Reading Referred to Rules Committee 3/10/25: Assigned to Agriculture & Conservation Committee 3/20/25: Rule 19(a) / Re-referred to Rules Committee 2/17/26: Assigned to Agriculture & Conservation Committee	1/3/27
IL HB 4778	Animal Welfare-Dog Dealer	2/2/26: Filed with the Clerk by Rep. Rita Mayfield 2/6/26: First Reading Referred to Rules Committee 3/18/26: Assigned to Agriculture & Conservation Committee	1/3/27

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		HEARING House Agriculture & Conservation Committee March 24, 2026 at 2:00 PM CT	
IL SB 2990	<p>Amends the Animal Welfare Act. Provides that the definition of "dog dealer" does not include a person who sells dogs at retail to the public. Provides that a person who sells dogs at retail to the public, shall not be considered an animal shelter under the Act. Defines "at retail to the public". Requires a dog breeder to provide each dog in the dog breeder's facility with a primary enclosure that complies with certain requirements. Requires a dog breeder to provide all adult dogs in the dog breeder's facility with constant, unfettered access to an exercise area of sufficient size to ensure proper physical development, health, and socialization. Provides that the exercise area should, at a minimum, be at least twice the amount of space required for the primary enclosure. Provides that the Illinois Department of Agriculture may refuse to issue or renew or may suspend or revoke a license due to an individual operating without a proper license under the Act.</p>	1/29/26: Filed with Secretary by Sen. Linda Holmes First Reading Referred to Assignments 2/10/26: Assigned to Agriculture 3/12/26: Do Pass Agriculture; 007-006-000 Placed on Calendar Order of 2nd Reading March 24, 2026	1/3/27
IL SB 4047	Animal Welfare-Breeders	2/6/26: Filed with Secretary by Sen. Willie Preston First Reading Referred to Assignments 2/24/26: Assigned to Agriculture 3/13/26: Rule 3-9(a) / Re-referred to Assignments	1/3/27
NJ AB 2049	Prohibits sale of cats, dogs, or rabbits by pet shops; repeals "Pet Purchase Protection Act."	1/13/26: Introduced, Referred to Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee	1/11/28
NJ SB 434	Prohibits sale of cats, dogs, or rabbits by pet shops; repeals "Pet Purchase Protection Act."	1/13/26: Introduced in the Senate, Referred to Senate Economic Growth Committee	1/11/28
MA H 138	<p>This bill modifies Section 1A of Chapter 128 in Massachusetts state law by adding an exclusion that clarifies that the existing livestock regulations do not apply to certain commercial activities involving dogs and cats. Specifically, the bill exempts three types of dog and cat-related commercial activities from the existing livestock definition or regulations: breeding dogs or cats, raising or keeping dogs or cats for commercial purposes other than breeding, and commercial dog and cat grooming services. By explicitly stating these</p>	2/27/25: Referred to the Joint Committee on Agriculture Senate concurred 6/27/25: Referred, pursuant to an order adopted by the two branches, to the committee on Agriculture and Fisheries Joint Committee on Agriculture Hearing (10:00:00 9/16/2025 B-1) 11/12/25: Bill reported favorably by committee and referred to the committee on House Steering, Policy and Scheduling 12/01/25: Committee reported that the matter be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting	1/1/27

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	<p>exceptions, the bill provides clarity for businesses and individuals involved in these dog and cat-related commercial activities, ensuring they are not inadvertently regulated under existing livestock statutes. The amendment suggests that these activities will be treated differently from traditional livestock operations, recognizing the distinct nature of companion animal and pet service businesses.</p>	<p>Rules suspended Read second and ordered to a third reading</p>	
<p>MA H893</p>	<p>Relative to the sale of dogs, cats and rabbits in pet shops.</p>	<p>2/27/25: Referred to the Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Senate concurred Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Hearing (13:00:00 10/21/2025 A-1) 1/20/26: Reporting date extended to Wednesday, March 18, 2026</p>	<p>1/1/27</p>
<p>MA H967</p>	<p>For legislation to further regulate to sale of certain domestic animals</p>	<p>2/27/25: Referred to the Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Senate concurred Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Hearing (13:00:00 10/21/2025 A-1) 1/20/26: Reporting date extended to Wednesday, March 18, 2026 3/12/26: Accompanied by H893 and H943 Bill reported favorably by committee and referred to the committee on House Steering, Policy and Scheduling</p>	<p>1/1/27</p>
<p>MA H 2245</p>	<p>An Act relative to puppy mills</p>	<p>2/26/25: Introduced Referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government Senate concurred Hearing scheduled for 06/10/2025 from 01:00 PM-05:00 PM in B-1 11/17/25: Accompanied a study order, see H4732</p>	<p>1/1/27</p>
<p>MA H 2256</p>	<p>An Act to protect pets</p>	<p>2/26/25: Introduced Referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government Senate concurred Hearing scheduled for 06/10/2025 from 01:00 PM-05:00 PM in B-1 11/17/25: Accompanied a study order, see H4732</p>	<p>1/1/27</p>
<p>MA H 4319</p>	<p>An Act banning the retail sale of dogs, cats, rabbits, and guinea pigs in pet shops</p>	<p>3/26/25: Introduced Referred to the committee on House Rules 4/2/25: Reported, referred to the committee on Joint Rules, reported, rules suspended and referred to the committee on Agriculture 7/23/25: Senate concurred 9/4/25: Discharged to the committee on Environment and Natural Resources</p>	<p>1/1/27</p>

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		9/8/25: Senate concurred Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Hearing (13:00:00 10/21/2025 A-1)	
MA H 4365	An Act relative to updating animal health inspections	8/3/25: Introduced Reported from the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government New draft of H2253 Bill reported favorably by committee and referred to the committee on House Ways and Means	1/1/27
MA HD 4910	An Act to protecting Avian rights and restricting ongoing trade	7/20/25: Introduced Referred to the committee on House Rules	1/1/27
MA S 2720	This bill amends existing Massachusetts law to prohibit pet shops from selling dogs, cats, and rabbits, while allowing them to partner with animal rescue or shelter organizations to showcase animals for adoption without having an ownership interest in those animals. The legislation imposes escalating civil penalties for violations, starting at \$1,000 for the first offense, increasing to \$2,500 for the second offense, and \$5,000 for third and subsequent offenses, with potential suspension or revocation of the pet shop's license. Each individual advertisement, offer for sale, or actual sale of an animal in violation of the law would be considered a separate violation. The bill does not prevent local governments from implementing their own additional regulations regarding the sale of these animals, and it will take effect 90 days after its passage. The primary intent appears to be discouraging the commercial sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits from pet shops while promoting animal adoption through rescue and shelter organizations.	11/19/25: Reported from the committee on Environment and Natural Resources New draft of S618, S650 and S651 Bill reported favorably by committee and referred to the committee on Senate Ways and Means	1/1/27
MN HF 2627	Pet shops prohibited from selling cats and dogs.	3/20/25: Introduction and first reading, referred to Commerce Finance and Policy pg. 871Intro 3/12/26: Committee report, to adopt as amended and re-refer to Judiciary Finance and Civil Law pg. 4841a	5/18/26
MN HF 4160	Application of the Pet and Companion Animal Welfare Act expanded, and criminal penalties for maltreatment of animals increased.	3/12/26: Introduction and first reading, referred to Public Safety Finance and Policy pg. 4848Intro	5/18/26
MN SF 1943	Pet shops prohibition from selling cats and dogs	2/27/25: Introduction and first reading pg. 564Intro Referred to Commerce and Consumer Protection 3/5/26: Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Judiciary and Public Safety pg. 6496a1	5/18/26

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NH HB 1092	<p>This bill modifies existing New Hampshire law (RSA 466:31) regarding the classification of menacing and vicious dogs by adding an important exemption for guard dogs. Specifically, the bill changes the language to specify that a dog would only be considered menacing or vicious if it bites, attacks, or preys on game animals, domestic animals, fowl, or human beings when such actions occur outside of the owner's property. This means that guard dogs acting aggressively while on their owner's property would not be automatically classified as menacing or vicious, providing legal protection for property owners who use dogs for security purposes. The bill is set to take effect on January 1, 2027, which gives lawmakers, law enforcement, and dog owners ample time to understand and prepare for the new provision. By creating this exemption, the bill recognizes the potential legitimate role of guard dogs in protecting private property while still maintaining safeguards against dangerous animal behavior.</p>	<p>To Be Introduced 01/07/2026 and referred to Environment and Agriculture</p>	<p>6/30/26</p>
NH HB 1133	<p>This bill defines and establishes a comprehensive regulatory framework for livestock guardian dogs (LGDs), which are dogs specifically trained to protect livestock from predators. The bill allows owners to designate their dogs as LGDs during annual dog registration, requiring them to provide a signed statement affirming the dog's purpose and potentially proving livestock ownership. It creates special provisions that allow these dogs to run at large on parcels of at least one acre per dog (with a minimum 5-acre requirement for more than two dogs), provided they are registered, trained, and not exhibiting persistent nuisance behavior. The bill also establishes specific guidelines for acceptable LGD behavior, particularly regarding barking, which is considered excessive if it continues for more than 10 consecutive minutes without a predator present, occurs repeatedly during nighttime hours, or interferes with neighboring properties' enjoyment. Enforcement mechanisms include escalating civil penalties for repeated violations: first a warning, then \$150 and potential dog reduction requirements, followed by \$500 and a 12-month restriction on allowing dogs to run at large, and ultimately a \$1,000 penalty and referral to agricultural</p>	<p>To Be Introduced 01/07/2026 and referred to Environment and Agriculture</p>	<p>6/30/26</p>

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	<p>authorities. The bill will take effect on January 1, 2027, providing ample time for municipalities and dog owners to prepare for the new regulations.</p>		
<p>NH HB 1153</p>	<p>This bill increases dog license fees and establishes a committee to study New Hampshire's statutes related to cats and dogs. Specifically, the bill raises the annual dog license fee for spayed or neutered dogs from \$4.50 to \$4.75 for dogs between 4-7 months old, and maintains the same increase for older spayed or neutered dogs. For unneutered or unspayed dogs 7 months and older, the fee increases from \$7 to \$7.25. The bill also creates a study committee composed of three state representatives appointed by the House Speaker and one state senator appointed by the Senate President. This committee will review and assess the current statutes related to dogs and cats in New Hampshire, examining whether the laws are consistent with current regulatory needs and practices, and whether the statutory material is clear, concise, and readily available. The committee is required to report its findings and recommendations to various state officials by November 1, 2026, and members will receive standard legislative mileage reimbursement for their work. The bill's fiscal impact is estimated to generate less than \$10,000 in additional revenue per municipality, and it will take effect immediately upon passage.</p>	<p>To Be Introduced 01/07/2026 and referred to Environment and Agriculture NH House Committee on Environment and Agriculture Public Hearing: 01/20/2026 11:15 am GP 153</p>	<p>6/30/26</p>
<p>NH HB 1157</p>	<p>This bill requires that when a physical facility is used by multiple people, firms, corporations, or other entities to transfer a significant number of animals, at least one of those entities must be a licensed pet vendor. Specifically, the bill mandates licensing if the combined transfers exceed 30 dogs, 30 cats, 30 ferrets, or 50 birds or other household pets. This provision aims to regulate and oversee the transfer of large numbers of animals, likely to ensure animal welfare and prevent potential commercial breeding or selling operations from operating without proper oversight. The bill will take effect 45 days after its passage, and according to the fiscal note, it is expected to have a minimal financial impact of less than \$10,000 annually. The Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food will be responsible for implementing and enforcing this new licensing requirement.</p>	<p>To Be Introduced 01/07/2026 and referred to Environment and Agriculture Full Committee Work Session: 02/03/2026 11:15 am GP 153 Executive Session: 02/03/2026 11:15 am GP 153 Committee Report: Ought to Pass 02/03/2026 (Vote 14-0; CC) HC 7 P. 11 Ought to Pass: MA VV 02/19/2026 HJ 5 Introduced 02/19/2026 and Referred to Executive Departments and Administration; SJ 5 HEARING 03/25/2026, Room 103, SH, 09:00 am; SC 11 Senate Executive Departments and Administration</p>	<p>6/30/26</p>

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NH HB 1274	<p>This bill increases dog licensing fees in New Hampshire by raising the annual fee for different categories of dogs. For dogs at least 4 months old but less than 7 months old, and for spayed or neutered dogs 7 months or older, the fee will increase from \$4.50 to \$4.75. For unneutered male or unspayed female dogs 7 months or older, the fee will increase from \$7 to \$7.25. In addition, a companion animal population control fee of \$1.75 will continue to be collected for each dog license, with these funds being deposited into a dedicated neutering fund. For dog owners who are 65 years of age or older, the license fee will increase from \$1.75 to \$2, and they will not be required to pay the population control fee for their first dog. The bill will take effect on July 1, 2026, and is expected to generate a modest increase in local revenue, estimated to be less than \$10,000 per city or town according to the New Hampshire Municipal Association.</p>	<p>To Be Introduced 01/07/2026 and referred to Environment and Agriculture NH House Committee on Environment and Agriculture Public Hearing: 01/20/2026 10:45 am GP 153</p>	<p>6/30/26</p>
NH SB 442	<p>This bill removes certain requirements on animal shelter facilities relative to the transfer of animals. This bill is a request of the department of agriculture, markets, and food.</p>	<p>To Be Introduced 01/07/2026 and Referred to Energy and Natural Resources; Senate Journal 1</p>	<p>6/30/26</p>
NH SB 475	<p>This bill modifies the legal definition of a "foster home" in New Hampshire's state law to include a more comprehensive description that emphasizes animal welfare. Specifically, the bill defines a foster home as a private residence within New Hampshire that is associated with and inspected by an animal shelter facility, where animals can be temporarily housed when a licensed veterinarian determines it is in the best interest of the animal's health, safety, and wellbeing. The definition explicitly includes special considerations for pregnant or lactating animals, suggesting a nuanced approach to animal care that prioritizes the specific needs of different animals. The bill will take effect 60 days after its passage, allowing time for animal shelters and veterinarians to understand and implement the new definition. By explicitly linking foster home placement to a veterinarian's professional assessment of an animal's best interests, the bill aims to provide more flexible and compassionate temporary housing options for animals in need.</p>	<p>To Be Introduced 01/07/2026 and Referred to Energy and Natural Resources; Senate Journal 1 (on 11/21/2025)</p>	<p>6/30/26</p>

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
NH SB 535	Defining residential breeder and imported animal for the purposes of animal transfers. This bill modifies existing state law by adding two new definitions to clarify terms related to animal breeding and transfers. First, a "residential breeder" is defined as an individual who breeds dogs or cats within their primary home, not in a separate facility, and who transfers no more than 50 dogs and/or cats in a calendar year. The residential breeder must raise litters in a household setting, integrated into the family environment, and is prohibited from importing animals for transfer. Second, an "imported animal" is defined as the offspring of any animal that was imported into the state while pregnant, with the stipulation that if the pregnant female meets importation requirements, her offspring will also be considered to have met those requirements. The bill will take effect 60 days after its passage, providing a short transition period for breeders and animal transfer professionals to understand and comply with the new definitions.	To Be Introduced 01/07/2026 and Referred to Energy and Natural Resources; Senate Journal 1	6/30/26
NJ S 419	Prohibits sale of cats, dogs, or rabbits by pet shops; prohibits certain transactions between animal shelters, pounds, animal rescue organizations, and animal breeders or brokers; repeals "Pet Purchase Protection Act."	1/13/26: Introduced in the Senate, Referred to Senate Economic Growth Committee	1/11/28
NJ S 2501	Establishes certain animal abuse offenses committed in manner manifesting extreme indifference to value of animal's life as crime of second degree; designated as "River's Law."	1/13/26: Introduced in the Senate, Referred to Senate Economic Growth Committee	1/11/28
NY A 107	Relates to establishing animals as sentient beings	1/7/25: Introduced REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 1/7/26: Referred to Ag	1/1/27
NY A 165	Relates to outdoor restraints of dogs	1/7/25: Introduced REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 1/7/26: Referred to Ag	1/1/27
NY A 181	Creates a task force on animal laws; requires reporting to the governor and legislature of recommendations on how to increase statewide uniformity of such.	1/7/25: Introduced REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 1/7/26: Referred to Ag	1/1/27
NY A 1966	Includes wildlife animals as those subject to the animal cruelty provisions of the agriculture and markets law.	1/13/25: Introduced REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 3/10/25: REPORTED REFERRED TO CODES 1/7/26: Referred To Codes	1/1/27

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
NY A 6145	Relates to dog tethering and restraint restrictions and outdoor shelter requirements for dogs that are left outdoors.	2/26/25: Referred to Ag 1/7/26: Referred to Ag	1/1/27
NY A 7342	Establishes the New York state equine industry board, to advise and make recommendations to the state agencies on state government plans, policies and programs affecting all aspects of equine industry, and in such areas as its experience and studies may indicate to be appropriate.	3/24/25: Introduced REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 4/3/25: AMEND AND RECOMMIT TO AGRICULTURE PRINT NUMBER 7342A 4/9/25: AMEND AND RECOMMIT TO AGRICULTURE PRINT NUMBER 7342B 5/14/25: Amend And Recommit To Agriculture Print Number 7342C 5/20/25: Reported Referred To Ways And Means 5/22/25: Amend (T) And Recommit To Ways And Means Print Number 7342D 1/7/26: Referred To Ways And Means	1/1/27
NY A 7388	Enacts "Peanut's law: humane animal protection act" to provide humane treatment, safeguard animal welfare and strengthen the rights of animal sanctuaries and responsible owners in retaining custody, implementing due process safeguards, and guaranteeing public safety while an appeal is pending; requires an administrative hearing before the seizure or euthanization of an animal under the care of a wildlife sanctuary, unless there is documented evidence that the animal presents an immediate threat to public safety; further provides that any animal seized by the department of environmental conservation for testing or public concerns is subject to a 72-hour waiting period prior to euthanization; makes related provisions.	3/24/25: Introduced Referred to Environmental Conservation 5/20/25: Held For Consideration In Environmental Conservation 1/7/26: Referred To Environmental Conservation	1/1/27
NY A 8327	Prohibits the sale of certain birds at retail	5/12/25: Introduced REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 1/7/26: Referred To Agriculture	1/1/27
NY A 8653A	Relates to pet breeders; changes the term "pet dealer" to "pet breeder"; amends the definitions of pet breeders; repeals certain provisions of law related thereto.	5/22/25: Referred To Agriculture 1/7/26: Referred To Agriculture 3/9/26: Amend (T) And Recommit To Agriculture Print Number 8653A	1/1/27
NY S 391	Requires a disclosure form for the surrender of a dog to a shelter, pound or dog protective association detailing the reasons for surrender and any aggressive tendencies of such dog.	1/7/25: Introduced REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 1/7/26: Referred To Agriculture	1/1/27
NY S 3651	Relates to the sale of dogs, cats and rabbits by pet dealers in the state and those that sell such animals through an online platform.	1/28/25: Introduced REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION 1/7/26: Referred To Consumer Protection	1/1/27

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
NY S 6380	Relates to outdoor restraints of dogs; prohibits tethering under cruel or inhumane conditions, including during dangerous weather conditions when a weather alert, advisory or warning is in effect; provides for civil penalties for violations.	3/11/25: Introduced REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 1/7/26: Referred To Agriculture	1/1/27
NY S 8211	Clarifies the standard of care for animals held in or being transported by animal shelters; repealer	5/20/25: Introduced REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 1/7/26: Referred To Agriculture	1/1/27
NY S 8252	Relates to pet dealers, brokers and retail pet shops; repealer	5/26/25: Introduced REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 6/7/25: AMEND AND RECOMMIT TO AGRICULTURE PRINT NUMBER 8252A 6/10/25: COMMITTEE DISCHARGED AND COMMITTED TO RULES 1/7/26: Referred To Agriculture	1/1/27
NY S08293	This bill, named "Penny's law," introduces comprehensive regulations for dog handling and restraint in New York City and State, creating new legal offenses and requirements for dog owners. The bill establishes three levels of dog-handling offenses: negligent handling (three or more violations of leash laws), reckless handling in the third degree (causing injury to a person, cat, or another dog), reckless handling in the second degree (causing injury requiring hospitalization or resulting in death), and reckless handling in the first degree (intentionally instructing a dog to injure someone). Penalties range from violations to misdemeanors, and can include mandatory dog impoundment, license revocation, and liability for medical expenses. The bill also requires the Department of Parks and Recreation to place signs at park entrances mandating dog restraint, with specific rules about off-leash hours and signage placement. Additionally, the law expands dangerous dog provisions to include companion animals and requires more comprehensive reporting of dog-related incidents. The bill aims to improve public safety by creating clearer legal standards for responsible dog ownership, with specific provisions for tracking repeat offenders and ensuring appropriate consequences for dog-related injuries. The law will take effect 90 days after becoming law, with some provisions taking effect one year after enactment.	5/30/25: REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE 12/03/25: AMEND (T) AND RECOMMIT TO AGRICULTURE PRINT NUMBER 8293A 1/7/26: Referred To Agriculture	1/1/27

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
NC H657	Duke's Rescue Act establishes minimum care standards for companion animals in North Carolina, with specific requirements and penalties for non-compliance,	4/1/25: Filed 4/2/25: Passed 1st Reading Ref to the Com on Wildlife Resources, if favorable, Judiciary 2, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	7/31/26
OH HB 621	To amend section 956.181 and to repeal section 956.23 of the Revised Code to alter the law governing the regulation of pet stores.	12/3/25: Introduced 2/4/26: Referred to committee Agriculture	12/31/26
OH SB232	Revise the law governing high volume dog breeders	7/9/25: Introduced 10/01/25: Referred to committee: Agriculture and Natural Resources 10/28/25: Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources 1st Hearing, Sponsor (15:00:00 10/28/2025 North Hearing Room)	12/31/26
OK HB 4335	Animals; regulatory power; pet shops; animal shelter operators and commercial pet breeders;	2/2/26: First Reading 2/3/26: Referred to County and Municipal Government Second Reading referred to Government Oversight 2/12/26: Policy recommendation to the Government Oversight committee; Do Pass, amended by committee substitute County and Municipal Government 2/25/26: CR; Do Pass, amended by committee substitute Government Oversight Committee 3/4/26: General Order Third Reading, Measure passed: Ayes: 68 Nays: 26 Referred for engrossment 3/5/26: Engrossed, signed, to Senate 3/5/26: First Reading	5/29/26
PA HB 296	An Act providing for prohibition on sale of dogs and cats bred by certain persons, for duty of persons, kennels and animal testing facilities to offer dogs and cats for adoption and for whistleblower protection; and imposing penalties.	1/22/25: Introduced Referred to Agriculture & Rural Affairs	11/30/26
PA HB 1074	An Act amending the act of December 7, 1982 (P.L.784, No.225), known as the Dog Law, in injury to dogs, providing for contracts for sale of dogs and cats. Prohibits "pet leasing"	3/30/25: Introduced Referred to Agriculture & Rural Affairs	11/30/26
PA HB 1816	An Act providing for prohibited and required actions regarding pet shop-kennels for dogs, cats and rabbits; imposing duties on the Department of Agriculture; and imposing penalties.	8/22/25: Referred to Consumer Protection, Technology & Utilities	11/30/26
RI HB 7334	Bans the sale of parrots at pet stores from a breeder or broker. The pet store may sell parrots obtained from animal care facilities or animal rescue organizations. The sale	1/28/26: Introduced, referred to House Corporations Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration (02/11/2026) 2/11/26: Committee recommended measure be held for further study	6/30/26

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
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	also prohibits at any outdoor markets or retail parking lots		
SC S0720	<p>This bill establishes the South Carolina Humane Dog Breeding Act, which creates comprehensive regulations for professional dog breeders in the state. The legislation requires any person who maintains ten or more intact female adult dogs or sells more than fifteen puppies or two litters per year to obtain a license from the Department of Agriculture. Licensees must be at least 18 years old and undergo an initial on-site inspection to ensure their facilities meet specific standards of animal care. The bill mandates detailed record-keeping, including veterinary records, breeding history, and individual dog information, and requires breeders to provide consumers with a comprehensive disclosure statement at the time of sale. Key provisions include restrictions on breeding frequency (no more than two litters per female in 18 months), limitations on crate confinement, mandatory daily exercise, and annual veterinary examinations. The act also establishes penalties for non-compliance, including fines ranging from \$500 to \$3,000, potential imprisonment, and the possibility of license suspension or revocation. Additionally, the bill provides mechanisms for seizure of dogs kept in violation of the act and empowers the Department of Agriculture to promulgate specific regulations to implement these standards, ultimately aiming to improve the welfare of dogs in commercial breeding operations.</p>	<p>12/10/25: Prefiled Referred to Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources 1/13/26: Introduced and read first time Referred to Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources 1/14/26: Scrivener's error corrected 1/14/26: Scrivener's error corrected</p>	5/7/26
VA HB 1238	<p>Local ordinances; regulation of pet shops. Authorizes the governing body of any locality to regulate or restrict by ordinance the acquisition, marketing, and sale of animals in a pet shop, provided that such ordinance is consistent with state law. Such ordinance may distinguish between certain types of pet shops and include provisions for special licensing, inspections, reporting, or restrictions on the sale of certain types of animals. The bill also includes certain existing statewide provisions related to pet shops in the list of sections for which a locality may adopt parallel or more stringent ordinances.</p>	<p>1/14/26: Prefiled and ordered printed; Offered 01-14-2026 26103643D Referred to Committee on H-Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources</p>	3/25/26

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
VA SB 792	Pet shops; sale of puppy mill dogs prohibited; civil penalty. Makes it unlawful for any pet shop to knowingly sell, offer for sale, or transfer any puppy mill dog, as defined in the bill. Any pet shop violating the provisions of the bill is subject to a civil penalty of \$2,000 per dog offered for sale, sold, or transferred.	1/23/26: Presented and ordered printed 26105924D Referred to Committee on S-Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources	3/25/26
WI AB 436	requiring animal testing facilities and breeders to offer certain dogs and cats for adoption to releasing agencies and providing a penalty.	9/19/25: Introduced Read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs 11/4/25: Assembly Amendment 1 offered by Representative Kitchens Representative Billings added as a coauthor 11/19/25: Representative Steffen added as a coauthor 1/8/26: Representative J. Jacobson added as a coauthor	12/31/25

Federal Legislation:

US HR 180	Endangered Species Transparency and Reasonableness Act of 2025	1/2/25: Introduced Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. Introduced in House 7/15/25: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries. 7/22/25: Subcommittee Hearings Held	10/30/26
US HR 1661	Save America's Forgotten Equines Act of 2025 or the SAFE Act of 2025 This bill permanently prohibits the slaughter of equines (e.g., horses and mules) for human consumption. (Current law prohibits the slaughter of dogs and cats for human consumption. This bill extends the prohibition to equines.)	2/26/25: Introduced Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. Introduced in House 3/27/25: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry.	1/3/27
US HR 1675	To amend the Horse Protection Act to provide increased protection for horses participating in shows, exhibitions, sales, and auctions, and for other purposes. Reintroduced by Congressman Scott DesJarlais (R-TN-04)	2/26/25: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Introduced in House	1/3/27
US HR 1897	ESA Amendments Act of 2025	3/5/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. Introduced in House 3/17/25: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries. 3/24/25: Subcommittee Hearings Held	1/3/27
US HR 2185	To protect public health and human safety by prohibiting the farming of mink for their	3/17/25: Introduced	

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
	fur, to compensate farmers as they transition out of the industry, and for other purposes.	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. 4/17/25: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry.	
US HR 2253	To amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide for the humane treatment of dogs, and for other purposes.	3/20/25: Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. Introduced in House	1/3/27
US HR 2626	To amend the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit the confinement of pregnant pigs, and for other purposes.	4/2/25: Introduced Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. 4/17/25: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry.	
US HR 2976	To amend the Animal Welfare Act to include cold-blooded species as animals, and for other purposes.	4/20/25: Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. Introduced in House	1/3/27
US HR 3188	To amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to affirm that the prohibition on the unauthorized take or killing of migratory birds of that Act includes incidental take, and to direct the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to authorize such incidental take, and for other purposes.	5/4/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. Introduced in House	1/3/27
US HR 3199	To amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit certain activities involving prohibited primate species, and for other purposes.	5/4/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. Introduced in House	1/3/27
US HR 3684	To establish an Animal Cruelty Crimes Taskforce within the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and for other purposes.	6/2/25: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. Introduced in House	10/30/26
US HR 4850	Endangered Species Recovery Act of 2025	8/1/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. Introduced in House	10/30/26
US HR 5017	Greyhound Protection Act of 2025	8/22/25: Introduced in House Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.	
US HR 5020	Supporting Our Shelters Act	8/22/25: Introduced in House Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.	
US S ____	To amend the Animal Health Protection Act with respect to the importation of live dogs, and for other purposes.		

Local Ordinances:

Bill No.	Summary	Latest Action	Adjourn
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Regulations State and Federal:

USDA APHIS	Horse Protection Amendments APHIS-2022-0004-8793	Publication Date: May 08, 2024 Effective Date: February 01, 2025 Postponed to 2026	
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