

## WHAT LAWS CAN AFFECT MY ANIMALS?

The following are common types of laws that can affect your animals:

- Federal Level
  - Bills (U.S. Congress)
  - Rules (APHIS or USFWS)
- State Level
  - Bills (state legislature)
  - Rules (state agencies)
- County Level
  - Animal control ordinance (Board of County Commissioners or Board of Supervisors)
  - Health Code (Board of Health)
  - Zoning code
  - \*UNincorporated areas only
- Township Level
  - Only Zoning Code (Board of Trustees)
  - \*limited to districts allowed in, distance from items
- City/Town/Village Level
  - Animal control ordinance (city council)
  - Health Code
  - Zoning code
- Homeowner's Association
  - Association bylaws

## Want to Learn More About Lobbying or to Stay Informed About Legislation in Your State?

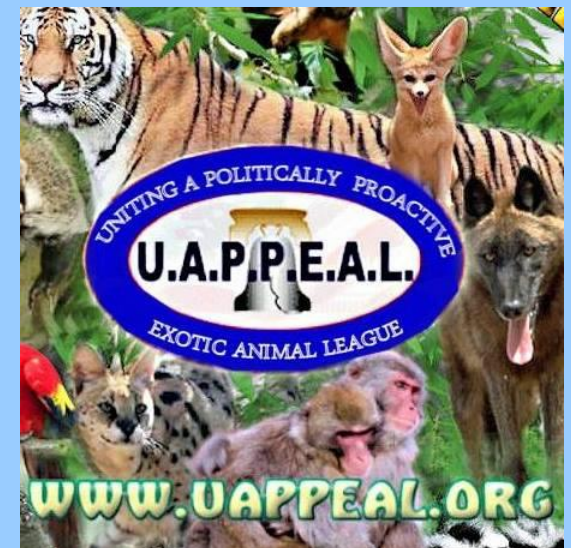
Check out our Government 101 Lobbying Guide and other lobbying information on our website and join our Facebook group for up-to-date state exotic animal legislative monitoring.

Uniting A Politically Proactive Exotic Animal League (U.A.P.P.E.A.L.) is the first non-profit 501 (c) 4 lobbying organization that represents current and future owners, handlers and enthusiasts of all species of native and exotic animals and their hybrids at both the federal and state levels.

Mission: To protect the right of responsible exotic and alternative animal ownership by lobbying to prevent unfair regulation, discouraging the casual acquisition of exotic animals through education, and furthering animal welfare through the responsible placement of animals in need.

## BECOMING A CITIZEN LOBBYIST FOR YOUR ANIMALS

## LEVELS AND SOURCES OF LEGISLATION



## What are the Main Sources of Legislation?

When it comes to the federal and state level, there are three sources of legislation:

- A. Legislature** – The federal legislature (U.S. Congress) and state legislatures can introduce and pass animal bills or resolutions.
- 1. Bills** – Bills are the actual enforceable proposals that get introduced and passed by legislatures. In addition to banning or regulating animals, bills also give certain agencies the authority to enforce the law and dictate what they have the power to do.
  - 2. Resolutions** – Resolutions just formally express the thoughts of the legislature. They have no power to require anyone to do anything. They include sympathy for loss, congratulations for accomplishments, or special requests. In the past, resolutions have encouraged the disuse of bullhooks on elephants and legalizing monkeys.

**B. Government Agencies** – The government agencies, using the authority granted to them by the legislature, pass more detailed policies to enforce them. They are formally known as either **rules** or **regulations**.

**C. Citizen Ballot** – On the state level, there are several states that allow its citizens to gather signatures for a petition and introduce a ballot to be voted on by the residents of that state. These are the ballot issues seen during an election vote. Each state varies, so be sure to learn your state's specific laws on citizen ballots.



## Differences between Bills and Agency Rules

While both bills and agency rules can regulate animals, there are some noticeable differences.

### A. Time Frame

- 1. Legislatures:** only meet during a specified period of time and pass bills
- 2. Agencies:** can meet all year long and pass rules

### B. Limitation of Legislation

- 1. Legislatures:** Limited only by federal laws or state constitution
- 2. Agencies:** Limited to the specific authority granted by the state legislature

### C. Amount of Detail

- 1. Legislatures:** Less detailed with only a generic listing of requirements
- 2. Agencies:** More detailed with specific requirements that must be followed