

Please Thank Legislators Who Stood Up for the Animals in 2013

Posted May 28, 2013 - **Please thank the Missouri Senators and Representatives who stood up for the animals during the 2013 session!**

Due to the efforts of several legislators, our animal welfare laws were protected this year in the Missouri Assembly. In the midst of the recent assault by the Legislature on our laws protecting animals, there were a few courageous legislators who fought to safeguard our anti-cruelty laws and protect future ballot initiatives on animal welfare issues and preserve regulations on factory farms.

We have received several inquiries from our supporters wishing to know who in the Missouri Legislature spoke up for the animals this past session and are particularly deserving of their appreciation. We have therefore listed below those legislators that we feel merited special acknowledgement this year.

Senator Jolie Justus (573) 751-2788 or (816) 931-5655 jolie.justus@senate.mo.gov

Senator Scott Sifton (573) 751-0220 or (314) 631-0445 scott.sifton@senate.mo.gov

Senator Paul LeVota (573) 751-3074 paul.levota@senate.mo.gov

Senator Rob Schaaf (573) 751-2183 or (855) 663-3883 rob.schaaf@senate.mo.gov

Senator Joseph Keaveny (573) 751-3599 joe.keaveny@senate.mo.gov

Senator Jamilah Nasheed (573) 751-4415 or (314) 409-5730 jamilah.nasheed@senate.mo.gov

All of the above Senators worked diligently in opposing HJR 11 as originally written and worked valiantly to amend the “Right to Farm” legislation to protect the right of citizens to vote on ballot initiatives affecting animals and protecting local control of factory farms.

Senator Maria Chappelle-Nadal (573) 751-4106 maria.chappellenadal@senate.mo.gov – successfully opposed efforts to lift regulations on factory farms in conference committee

Senator John Lamping (573) 751-2514 john.lamping@senate.mo.gov – successfully introduced amendment to HJR 11 to protect ballot initiatives for animal welfare issues.

Representative Chris Kelly (573) 751-4189 chris.kelly@house.mo.gov – successfully opposed efforts to lift regulations on factory farms in conference committee and vehemently opposed HJR 11 on floor of the House.

Representative T.J. Berry (573) 751-2238 or (816) 665-6323 tj.berry@house.mo.gov – proposed amendment to protect dogs and cats in HJR 11.

Representative Noel Torpey (573) 751-3623 or (816) 674-8444 noel.torpey@house.mo.gov – introduced bill to eliminate license fees on shelters and rescues.

Representative Jacob Hummel (573) 751-0438 jake.hummel@house.mo.gov – introduced bill to regulate care of primates.

Representative Jeanne Kirkton (573) 751-1285 or (314) 968-0124 jeanne.kirkton@house.mo.gov – introduced bill to eliminate license fees on shelters and rescues.

Representative Courtney Allen Curtis (573) 751-0855 or (314) 687-0569 courtney.curtis@house.mo.gov– fought for amendment to HJR 11 to protect dogs and cats on floor of House.

Representative Margo McNeil (573) 751-5365 or (314) 831-1340 margo.mcneil@house.mo.gov – vehemently opposed a substantial reduction in license fees on commercial breeders which would have resulted in fewer inspections of puppy mills.

Representative Gina Mitten (573) 751-2883 or (314) 646-8363 gina.mitten@house.mo.gov – opposed lifting regulations on factory farms on floor of House

Representative Kimberly Gardner (573) 571-1400 kimberly.gardner@house.mo.gov – only legislator on House Rules Committee to vote no on all laws weakening animal cruelty laws.

Representative Sheila Solon (573) 751-8636 or (816) 229-0218 sheila.solon@house.mo.gov – voted to amend HJR 11 to protect dogs and cats and introduced a bill to protect animal control officers.

Representative Charlie Norr (573) 751-3795 or (417) 831-6944 charlie.norr@house.mo.gov – opposed HJR 11 on floor of House

Representative John Wright (573) 751-1501 or (917) 968-6452 john.wright@house.mo.gov – attempted to amend a bill that would have made it more difficult to prosecute those who abuse animals.

In addition, please check out how your Representative voted on an amendment to protect dogs and cats. <http://www.maal.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/House-Amendment-to-HJR-11.pdf>

Those voting yes, voted to preserve the right to have future ballot initiatives protecting dogs and cats. While this amendment failed in the House, such protection was later preserved in the Senate. **If your state representative voted yes, you can be assured that they care about the welfare of animals.**