



Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation

The **Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation** was founded in 1990. The following is a list of some key accomplishments the Alliance has made on behalf of animals.

- Vigorously lobbied for stricter laws involving dog fighting and the regulation of dangerous exotic animals (2008 and 2009).
- Defeated legislation that would have put farm animals (over 50 lbs.) at risk of needless suffering by requiring that only a state veterinarian can evaluate abused or neglected animals for possible impoundment (2006 - 2008).
- Defeated legislation that would have criminalized the taking of a photograph or video within an animal production facility, including puppy mills (2002 - 2006).
- Defeated legislation that would have penalized animal shelters for spaying or neutering "dogs that are regularly used for lawful hunting or livestock production/management" (2006).
- Established a pet-friendly license plate. The proceeds are used for the sole purpose of spaying and neutering dogs and cats from statewide animal shelters and animal control facilities (2002).
- Assisted efforts to outlaw bestiality (2002). In the 1970's, bestiality was inadvertently stricken from the statutes and legalized in Missouri.
- Amended the animal abuse laws to include all animals, not just mammals (2001). In 1995, the animal abuse laws were amended to apply only to mammals, thereby eliminating fighting birds from the statutes and protecting those who participate in cockfighting.
- Clarified exemptions to Proposition A while maintaining the original intent to ban cockfighting (1999).
- Played the leading role in a successful ballot initiative campaign for the passage of Proposition A, which banned cockfighting and animal baiting/fighting in Missouri (1998).
- Clarified provisions and definitions to existing law to reduce animal neglect and suffering (1997).
- Amended existing law to increase the penalty for certain animal abuse violations from a misdemeanor to a felony (1995).
- Amended existing law to aid in the prompt disposition of seized animals to avoid lengthy impoundment (1993).
- Played a leading role in the passage of a law establishing the Animal Care Facilities Act (ACFA), that requires the inspection and licensing of commercial pet breeders, pet stores and kennels (1992).

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