

Paw PAC

California's Political Action Committee for Animals

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MAY 6, 2018 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Dear Friends,

We are sending this update with a new hearing date for AB 1487 and other new details.

Please contact your legislator to support these bills, which are listed in priority order. As the top bills move through committees, we will inform you of hearing dates and committee members. In a short time, as hearings take place, the list of bills will be reduced along with the frequency of alerts. Thank you for the important work that you do, and for using your voice for those who have none.

AB 1487, the Iconic African Species Protection Act—designed to dismantle trophy hunting—is scheduled for a hearing in Senate Appropriations May 14.

SB 1017, a program to phase out drift gill nets, will bring California into rank with the other 49 states that have already banned these "walls of death." The bill has passed one committee and is awaiting hearing in Senate Appropriations.

Please contact your legislator to support these important bills. See below for details.

How to contact your legislator:

- A brief, polite and specific letter or email.
- Email forms are on your representatives' websites rather than an email address.
- Assembly members regarding Assembly bills and Senators regarding Senate bills.

In order to locate your California Assembly and Senate districts and legislator, please visit this web page:

www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators/your_legislator.html

★ SB 1487 (Stern) - Iconic African Species Protection Act



An act to add Section 2351 to the Fish and Game Code, relating to African species.

Hearing May 14 in Sen. APPR. Previously passed two committees.

Support.

ACTION: CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR. Tell them that:

This bill is intended to create a legal obstacle to the importation of iconic African trophy species into California. The planet is currently experiencing a sixth mass extinction in the past half-billion years. The current rate of extinction is 1,000 to 10,000 times that of past eras, with dozens of species going extinct every day. Despite the urgency of the situation, we are failing to save even our most iconic species, such as the African Elephant, Rhinoceros, Lion, Zebras, Hippos, among others.

POWER ACTION

**CONTACT THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
BY FRIDAY, MAY 11:**

Senate Appropriations Committee Members

- Call Senator Jim Nielsen* (R-4) at 916-651-4004
- Call Senator Patricia Bates* (R-36) at 916-651-4036
- Call Senator Steven Bradford (D-35) at 916-651-4035
- Call Senator Jim Beall (D-15) at 916-651-4015
- Call Senator Jerry Hill (D-13) at 916-651-4013
- Call Senator Scott Wiener (D-11) at 916-651-4011
- Call Senator Ricardo Lara (D-33) at 916-651-4033

- [Email Senator Jim Nielsen*](#) (R-4).
- [Email Senator Patricia Bates*](#) (R-36).
- [Email Senator Steven Bradford](#) (D-35).
- [Email Senator Jim Beall](#) (D-15).
- [Email Senator Jerry Hill](#) (D-13).
- [Email Senator Scott Wiener](#) (D-11).
- [Email Senator Ricardo Lara](#) (D-33).

**Based on voting history, needs considerable persuasion.*

TRACK BILL

★ SB 1017 (Allen) - Commercial fishing: drift gill nets



An act to amend, repeal and add sections to the Fish and Game Code, relating to fisheries.

4-30 Re-referred to Com. on APPR. Previously passed Com. on Natural Resources.

Support.

ACTION: CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR. Tell them that:

California is the last state in the U.S. that allows fishermen to use drift gill nets in the swordfish fishery. This particular gear type has been banned in many locations worldwide because of the impacts on marine wildlife. The author said that according to the latest federal estimates, from 2001-15 California swordfish gill nets were responsible for the death of an estimated 6 Pacific leatherback sea turtles, 4 loggerhead sea turtles, and seven sperm whales. During the same period, the fishery caught over 1,300 marine mammals and threw overboard more than 140,000 fish and sharks.

SB 1017 will create an incentive for the California swordfish fishing industry to transition away from drift gill nets to more sustainable gear types such as deep-set buoy systems by establishing a program to buy back state drift gill net permits with public and private funds.

TRACK BILL

★ AB 2528 (Bloom, Kalra) - Climate adaptation

An act to amend sections of the Public Resources Code, relating to climate change.



April 25: Re-referred to Com. on APPR. Previously passed Committee on Natural Resources.

Support.

ACTION: CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR. Tell them that:

California's climate is expected to become hotter, drier, and more variable in the coming years, and may shift habitat boundaries for thousands of wildlife species across the state. Water is a vital and precious resource for humans and wildlife in California, where precipitation and water availability varies widely between years and seasons. The impacts of climate change on California's water resources mean that precipitation is likely to become more variable and droughts are likely to get more extreme, which would threaten the resilience of sensitive species and ecosystems.

TRACK BILL

Prevent Cruelty California (HSUS et al)

A California ballot measure to protect farm animals.



After gathering more than 600,000 votes on its petition, the [Prevent Cruelty Act](#) will be assigned a property number sometime in June and will appear as a state measure in the November, 2018 ballot.

Support.

ACTION: BE INFORMED & SPREAD THE WORD

It's common sense that forcing animals to live in cramped cages is inhumane and unsafe. Breeding pigs, egg laying hens, and veal calves need our help. Activists should become familiar with the [Prevent Cruelty resources](#) and inform others about the upcoming ballot.

READ PROP

SB 1249 (Galgiani) - Animal testing: cosmetics

An act to add Section 1834.9.5 to the Civil Code, relating to animal testing.



April 30 - read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Support.

ACTION: CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR. Tell them that:

Animal testing is cruel and unconscionable, especially when alternative methods of testing have become increasingly available. In fact, the European Union now prohibits the importation and sale of cosmetics that have been tested on animals. Just as we take pride in the clean and organic content of our cosmetics, we should insist that the ethical value of our products is also 100% clean.

TRACK BILL

SB 1138 (Skinner) - Food options: plant-based meals



An act to add Section 1265.10 to the Health and Safety Code, and to amend Section 2084 of the Penal Code, relating to nutrition.

April 30 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Support.

ACTION: CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR. Tell them that:

Most people have the option to prepare at home or bring a meal to work, school or elsewhere that suits our religious, ethical, and dietary needs. Those in an institutional setting such as a licensed health care facility or a state prison do not have that option. While many public institutions already provide vegetarian or vegan options, it is not yet required at hospitals and prisons. Providing a plant-based meal option not only ensures that religious, ethical, or dietary needs are respected, plant-based meals, if properly selected, can also be healthier.

TRACK BILL

SB 1024 (Wilk) - Animal abuse: mandatory mental health evaluation



An act to amend and add sections to the Penal Code, relating to animal abuse.

May 1 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. Previously passed Committee on Public Safety.

Support.

ACTION: CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR. Tell them that:

Currently, sentencing options for animal abuse crimes are limited and judges are afforded little discretion in appropriate treatment or education for offenders. The

link between animal abuse and violence towards humans is well documented. Offenders who display violence towards animals often commit violent acts towards humans whether it be domestic violence, child abuse or--as we saw tragically in Parkland FL this year--mass shootings. Early mental health intervention is often the key to stopping this progression and escalation of violent behavior.

TRACK BILL

SB 1305 (Glazer, Baker & Steinorth) - Emergency medical services providers: dogs and cats: immunity



An act to add Section 1799.109 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to emergency medical services providers.

April 26 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. Previously passed Committee on Judiciary.

Support.

ACTION: CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR. Tell them that:

Current law does not allow personnel of fire districts and other first responder agencies to provide stabilizing, life-saving emergency care to dogs and cats. As a result, some first responders are hesitant to provide assistance due to liability for civil damages, criminal prosecution, or professional disciplinary action. This bill would provide this form of limited immunity to the provision of basic first aid to dogs and cats. These protections would address any hesitance on the part of emergency medical services providers to provide basic care to dogs and cats encountered in emergency situations.

TRACK BILL

AB 2791 (Muratsuchi, Cervantes) - Stray animals: impoundment: puppies and kittens



An act to amend sections of the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to animals.

April 26 - In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on Rules for assignment.

Support.

ACTION: CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR. Tell them that:

Dogs and cats admitted into public shelters continue to experience poor outcomes. Kittens are at a high risk of euthanasia in many public animal shelters. This bill

allows puppies and kittens to be made immediately available to nonprofit rescue groups to pull from a shelter, waiving the three day hold period, which will increase their odds of a positive outcome.

TRACK BILL

AB 3040 (Nazarian) - Sexual abuse of animals

An act to amend the Business and Professions Code, and to amend, repeal and add sections of the Penal Code, relating to sexual abuse of animals.



May 3 - Read second time in APPR. Ordered to Consent Calendar. Previously unanimously passed Com. on APPR.

Support.

ACTION: CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR. Tell them that:

Protecting animals, including our pets, from sexual abuse should be an important goal in California and across the nation. Currently the law only prohibits sexual assault with an animal, but not other acts related to sexual assault—a major loophole in the law that has caused local authorities difficulty in achieving convictions. In addition, California's animal cruelty law only applies in cases where there is provable physical injury to the animal. Many acts of animal sexual abuse are filmed and discovered well after the incident occurs, so the requisite demonstrable harm to the animal or medical evidence to substantiate physical injury cannot be recovered. Finally, similar to children and women, animals are trafficked, sold, and traded for sex. Whether it is because of the special bond between pets and humans, or because there is a need to protect those who can't speak for themselves, animal sexual abuse laws are a very important part of keeping our public safe.

TRACK BILL

AB 2349 (Chen) - Humane Officers

An act to amend the Business and Professions Code, and to amend, repeal and add sections of the Penal Code, relating to sexual abuse of animals.



May 3 - Read second time in APPR. Ordered to Consent Calendar. Previously unanimously passed Com. on APPR.

Support.

ACTION: CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR. Tell them that:

In many instances, Animal Control Officers respond to dangerous situations involving people and animals, and may have limited means to protect themselves. Batons, when used properly by trained professionals, can be a matter of preventing severe injury or even death. We need to protect our Animal Control Officers, who risk so much to protect the animals.

TRACK BILL



Priority Bills (Failed or Stalled)

★ [SB 3159 \(Thurmond\) - Animal slaughter: poultry](#)
Failed passage in committee. **Support.**

[AB 2422 \(Bloom, Friedman\) - Pesticides: coagulants](#)
May hearing canceled at Asm. Bloom's request.*
Look for future updates. **Support.**

[SB 911 \(Gaines, et al\) - Police dog or horse](#)
Failed passage in committee. **Support.**

[AB 1939 \(Steinorth, Atkins\) - Domestic violence: pet housing](#)
Suspense file. **Support.**

[AB 3128 \(Chen\) - Tax credit: service dogs](#)
Suspense file. **Support.**

Additional Bills

[SCR 139 \(Monning\) - No Straw November](#)
4-30 Introduced. Referred to Com. on Rules. **Support.**

[AB 3021 \(Levine, et al\) - Egg-laying hens](#)
4-25 Suspense file. **Oppose.**

[ACR 153 \(Santiago\) - Pet adoptions](#)
Unanimously passed Senate. Sent to Rules. **Support.**

[AB 2445 \(O'Donnell\) - Retail sale of pets](#)
5-3 re-referred to Business & Professions. **Support.**

[AB 1780 \(Maienschein, Wilk\) - Importation of diseased dogs and cats](#)
4-4 Suspense file. **Support.**

[AB 2774 \(Limón, Low\) - Animal abuse registry](#)
5-3 Amended & re-referred to Com. on Public Safety. Amendments have rendered the bill's impact virtually useless. **Watch.**



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