

2014 Scorecard

NEW MEXICO STATE LEGISLATURE



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Letter from the Director

This past session was a short but very productive one with respect to animal legislation. We were fortunate to have three pro animal protection appropriations bills funded, three bills passed, and four other bills introduced.

Because in “short legislative sessions” there are typically so few votes to warrant a robust and fair scoring system for individual legislators, this year we are using an Olympic Medal theme to recognize the efforts of those legislators who were successful in introducing pro animal protection bills and memorials. In this 2014 issue of the APV Scorecard, we are proud to highlight our “Gold,” “Silver” and “Bronze” medal winners. Their dedication and efforts during the 2014 session set the stage for the staff at Animal Protection Voters to bring about concrete and positive change for the voiceless animals of New Mexico this year, and to build momentum for additional animal protection legislation in the future.

Looking ahead to 2015, we need to make sure that wildlife-killing contests are banned statewide. With your help and support, we have been successful in exposing this barbaric activity to New Mexicans who have overwhelmingly expressed their disgust with this senseless killing of wild animals. Our elected policy makers have heard the strong outcry against these contests, and we intend to continue our efforts to get legislation passed that makes these contests against the law.

Although Roswell’s Valley Meat Company decided not to continue pursuing a horse slaughterhouse in our state, we will still work hard to ensure no legislation is passed that paves the way for this vile enterprise.

More and more New Mexicans understand the relationship between violence to animals and domestic violence in families. We will continue to work with our partners active in domestic violence prevention to pass legislation that protects and shelters the many helpless animal companions caught in the middle of domestic disputes and in need of a safe haven.

APV just issued its candidate endorsements exclusively to APV members, as required by law, and has been financially supporting select candidates through the APV Political Action Committee. We will be closely monitoring the statewide elections on November 4th in anticipation of seeing voters choose officials who understand the importance of passing strong laws to protect animals in the Land of Enchantment. Thank you for your crucial role in this lifesaving work!

Sincerely Yours,



Elisabeth Jennings
Executive Director



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Animal Protection Voters is enormously grateful to its members and supporters. We extend special thanks to Demand Printing Solutions of Albuquerque for its generous contribution of printing services for this 2014 Scorecard.

2014 Animal Protection Voters Scorecard New Mexico State Legislature

The second session of the 51st legislature of New Mexico, which finished on February 20, 2014, was a "short fiscal session." It lasted 30 days, and the main business of legislators and the Governor was to pass a state budget.

Gold Medal Winners

Animal Protection Voters is pleased to report that three animal protection initiatives were included in the state budget. The three legislators responsible for securing these allocations are awarded the APV Gold Medal for their success. They are Senator Richard Martinez (D-Española), Senator Nancy Rodriguez (D-Santa Fe), and Senator George Muñoz (D-Gallup).



Senate Amendment #378 to HAFB/HB2 (state budget), Animal Spaying & Neutering, sponsored by **Senator Richard Martinez**, appropriated funds to the Animal Sheltering Board's "Animal Care & Facility Fund" for spay-neuter services for the animals of qualifying individuals. **One hundred thousand dollars** were included in the final FY 2015 state budget approved by the legislature and signed by Governor Martínez.



Senate Bill 187, Domestic Violence Victims' Animals, sponsored by **Senator Nancy Rodríguez**, appropriated monies to the Children, Youth & Families Department for programs aimed at helping victims of domestic violence escape violent homes by providing secure, temporary homes for their animals. **Fifty thousand dollars** were included in the final 2015 state budget approved by the legislature and signed by Governor Martínez.



Senate Bill 238, Four Corners Horse Disposition, sponsored by **Senator George Muñoz**, appropriated funds to the NM Livestock Board's Horse Shelter Rescue Fund to support the feeding and humane care of horses in New Mexico. **Two hundred fifty thousand dollars** were included in the final 2015 state budget approved by the legislature and signed by Governor Martínez.





Silver Medal Winners

We are most appreciative of the legislators who introduced these successful bills and we have awarded them a Silver Medal. They are Senator Mary Kay Papen (D-Las Cruces), Representative Mimi Stewart (D-Albuquerque), and Senator Tim Keller (D-Albuquerque).



Senate Bill 116, Meaningful Sanctions for Doping Horses, introduced by **Senator Mary Kay Papen** provides the Racing Commission and the state's racetracks with the ability to impose more meaningful sanctions on persons who enter racetracks to dope horses. The bill gives racetrack owners immunity from suits arising from these sanctions.



House Memorial 3, Animal Poaching Penalties and Awareness introduced by **Representative Mimi Stewart**, recognizes the need for increased penalties for and education about trophy poaching. It also requests that the Governor declare a Trophy Poaching Awareness Day. Trophy poaching is the act of illegally killing an animal for the most valuable part of the body, such as the head or antlers, and leaving the rest to waste. The memorial passed the House 70-0 (since this was a House memorial, it only had to be approved by that chamber).



Senate Memorial 4, Beaver Population and Management Plan introduced by **Senator Tim Keller**, directs the NM Department of Game & Fish, the State Land Office and other state agencies to jointly create recommendations for a statewide beaver management plan. The memorial passed the Senate 27-11 (since this was a Senate memorial, it only had to be approved by that chamber).

Award Criteria

Gold Medal - Introduced and supported animal protection related appropriations bills that were funded during the session

Silver Medal – Introduced and supported bills or memorials that were passed during the session

Bronze Medal – Introduced and supported bills or memorials during the session



Bronze Medal Winners

Two other important animal protection bills were introduced during the 2014 legislative session. Although they were not passed during this session, each time they are considered by the Legislature, they gain momentum toward their eventual passage. Our 2014 Bronze Medal winners are Representative Elizabeth Thomson (D-Albuquerque), and Senator Jacob Candelaria (D-Albuquerque).



House Bill 121 - Prohibit Slaughter of Horses Introduced by Rep. Elizabeth Thomson

This bill was intended to ban horse slaughter or transport of horses for slaughter for human consumption, and appropriate \$100,000 for the enforcement of the law. HB 121 failed to progress through committees in the short legislative session.



Senate Bill 216 - Animal Rescue Sterilization Deposit Waivers, Introduced by Sen. Jacob R. Candelaria

If passed, this bill would have exempted 501(c)(3) animal rescue organizations from paying a sterilization deposit to the shelter from which they are rescuing an animal.



GET ACTIVE FOR ANIMALS



2015 Legislative Priorities

Ban Animal Killing Contests



APV will continue our efforts to secure a statewide ban on the dangerous and repulsive practice of thrill-killing competitions following the narrow loss of a similar measure on the House floor in 2013. We will make it

one of our 2015 priorities to introduce legislation that is more broadly written to include all commonly targeted species.

Ban Traps and Poisons on Public Lands



The ongoing cruelty, ecological destruction, risk to public safety, and waste inflicted by steel and other kill traps, snares, and lethal poisons can no longer be justified in New Mexico. More than a dozen

local New Mexico governments have passed resolutions in support of banning traps locally and statewide. Los Alamos County has now banned traps in that jurisdiction. For the 2015 session, we are supporting the introduction of a bill to ban trapping and poisons on New Mexico's public lands.

Humane Disposition Process for Equines



Currently, cruelly treated equines removed from their abusers must be sold through a public auction process. This means that equine rescue shelters must first bid on and pay for the same animals they will later spend hundreds

and sometimes thousands of dollars to rehabilitate. Shelters now compete with commercial buyers who buy and later sell the animals for slaughter in foreign countries. New Mexicans do not support horse slaughter and prefer to see a humane disposition for all equines. We look forward to working with state policy makers to develop a new process by which needy equines can be easily adopted by state-licensed shelters.

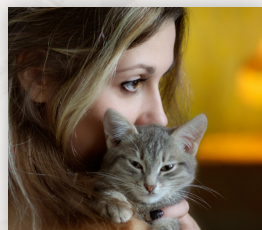
Animal Sheltering Board & Statewide Spay-Neuter Services



The Animal Sheltering Board, which resides within the New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department, needs continued funding in order to carry out its work to license humane euthanasia professionals, to

assist local shelters in implementing best practices and standards for their facilities, and to establish statewide spay-neuter plans that can save thousands of lives of companion animals. APV will also work with legislators to request a significant appropriation to continue statewide funding of spay-neuter programs in the most needy communities around the state.

Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE) Program Funding



When domestic violence occurs in a home, a family's companion animals are often among the innocent victims. APV and APNM will continue to partner with the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence and

the New Mexico Children, Youth & Families Department to seek an appropriation for programs that provide lifesaving services for victims of violence and their animals.

Horse Shelter Rescue Fund



New Mexicans value equines and want to see them treated humanely. For the first time, in 2013 the New Mexico Legislature appropriated \$250,000 to the New Mexico Livestock Board's Horse Shelter

Rescue Fund to support the state's equine rescue shelters. During the 2015 session, APV will work with lawmakers to request additional funding for shelters that rescue, rehabilitate and re-home homeless horses brought to them by the NMLB and the general public.

Save the date!

ANIMAL LOBBY DAY 2015

ANIMALS MATTER

Friday, February 20th, 2015 • New Mexico State Capitol, Santa Fe



Join APV and fellow animal advocates for this unique opportunity to polish your lobbying skills, assemble with other dedicated animal advocates, and visit your elected officials to urge them to vote “yes” on all current animal friendly legislation.

Lobby Day Press Conference — APV will hold a press conference at the Capitol Rotunda to highlight the compelling animal protection issues being debated during the 2015 legislative session. Surrounded by key lawmakers and a coalition of supporters for animal protection issues, APV and community partners will provide the latest updates on our legislative initiatives. Please join us and show your solidarity for animal protections.

Lobby Day Training — To kick off APV’s Lobby Day, we will host a fun and informative training session on how to effectively lobby your legislators.

Legislative Analysis — The APV lobbying team will provide a detailed analysis of the animal protection bills that are being considered by our state elected officials.

Please RSVP by email to lobbyday@apvnm.org





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We change the laws to change their lives.

A close-up photograph of a horse's face, focusing on its eye and a thick, blonde mane. The horse's eye is dark and looking slightly down. The background is a soft, out-of-focus brown.

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Animal Protection Voters**

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