ANIMAL PROTECTION VOTERS

2026 SCORECARD

Preview

CHANGING LAWS TO CHANGE ANIMALS' LIVES IN NEW MEXICO



APV's full 2026 Scorecard will be released soon. In the meantime, it is important that you know TODAY how your current state legislators voted on animal protection bills in 2026.

Read on for information on the bills and the votes.

House Bill 51 (Spay & Neuter Fee Delayed Repeal)

Sponsors: Rep. Jenifer Jones (HD 32), Rep. Kathleen Cates (HD 44), Rep. D. Wonda Johnson (HD 5)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Deemed Not Germane

HB 51, similar to SB 38, sought to remove the repeal date from New Mexico's Spay/Neuter Law. Although this bill died awaiting action by the House Rules & Order of Business Committee, the overall goal was accomplished through SB 38.

House Bill 130 (CYFD Domestic Violence PGMS Funding)

Sponsor: Rep. Pamelya Herndon (HD 28)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Did Not Pass

HB 130 requested $5 million from the general fund for the Department of Children, Youth and Families Department to support community-based domestic violence programs, including programs assisting people with companion animals experiencing domestic violence. HB 130 passed the Health & Human Services Committee (10-0) but died awaiting action by the House Appropriations & Finance Committee.

House Bill 177 (Veteran Service Animal Services & Shelter)

Sponsors: Rep. Alan T. Martinez (HD 23), Rep. Mark Duncan (HD 2), Rep. Rebecca Dow (HD 38)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Did Not Pass

HB 177 sought to reduce barriers to veterans' well-being by supporting safe, humane, and consistent care for their service and companion animals so that veterans could access medical care, stable housing, and support services for themselves. HB 177 passed the House Labor, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee (8-0) but died awaiting action by the House Appropriations & Finance Committee.



Animal Protection Voters Priority/Lead Legislation

House Bill 243 (Equine Shelter Fund & Trust Fund)

Sponsors: Rep. Joseph L. Sanchez (HD 40), Rep. Tara L. Lujan (HD 48), Rep. G. Andrés Romero (HD 10), Rep. Cynthia Borrego (HD 17)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Did Not Pass

This bill sought to improve and provide sustained funding for the Equine Shelter Rescue Fund, which supports services provided by New Mexico's network of registered nonprofit equine shelters that assist the New Mexico Livestock Board (NMLB) and other law enforcement agencies by caring for impounded or seized equines. HB 243 received a "Do Pass" motion in the House Agriculture, Acequias & Water Resources Committee but failed on a tied vote (4-4).

House Bill 300 (Care & Management of Horses)

Sponsors: Rep. Martha Garcia (HD 6), Rep. Joseph Franklin Hernandez (HD 4), Rep. Charlotte Little (HD 68), Rep. D. Wonda Johnson (HD 5)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Did Not Pass

HB 300 asked for an appropriation of $300,000 for the care and management of free-roaming and domestic horses on tribal land in Cibola County to create a humane herd management plan. The plan included fertility control vaccines for mares, humane relocation of free-roaming horses, and veterinary clinics to vaccinate and geld domestic horses that consort with free-roaming horses. The long-term goal was to stabilize free-roaming horse populations at sustainable levels. After passing the House Agriculture, Acequias & Water Resources Committee (6-0), HB 300 died awaiting action in the House Appropriations & Finance Committee.

House Bill 315 (Free-Roaming Horse Management)

Sponsor: Rep. Matthew McQueen (HD 50)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Did Not Pass

This bill would have amended the state's free-roaming horse law by addressing gaps that prevent humane management of free-roaming horse herds. By allowing local governments to work with free-roaming horse experts, HB 315 would have supported herd management plans tailored to local populations and environmental conditions. The bill also prohibited horse slaughter, mass euthanasia for population control, and traumatic roundup methods like helicopters and motorized off-road vehicles—protections lacking under the current law. HB 315 died awaiting action by the House Agriculture, Acequias & Water Resources Committee.

IMPACTING ANIMALS

★Senate Bill 38 (Fees on Registered Pet Food)

Sponsors: Sen. Peter Wirth (SD 25), Rep. Cristina Parajón (HD 25), Rep. Joanne J. Ferrary (HD 37), Sen. Elizabeth Stefanics (SD 39), Sen. Heather Berghmans (SD 15)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Signed into Law!

SB 38 saved New Mexico's Affordable Spay/Neuter Law by removing the July 1, 2026, repeal date in the original 2020 legislation. The Law funds grants for affordable spay/neuter surgeries to reduce dog and cat overpopulation in New Mexico. As shelter overcrowding increases, tax dollars supporting municipal shelters will be spent not only on daily operations but also on the costs of euthanizing animals due to lack of space. SB 38 passed the Senate (23-15) and House (53-11) and was signed by Governor Lujan Grisham on March 5, 2026.

Senate Bill 63 (Animal Welfare Fund Spay & Neuter Subaccount)

Sponsors: Sen. Craig W. Brandt (SD 40) and Sen. Steve D. Lanier (SD 2)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Deemed Not Germane

SB 63 would have created a sub-account within the existing Animal Welfare Program Fund (established by HB 113 in 2025) for counties to contract with dog and cat spay/neuter providers. The bill was ultimately determined not germane and did not receive a committee assignment.



Senate Bill 74 (Cockfighting Penalties)

Sponsor: Sen. Craig W. Brandt (SD 40)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Deemed Not Germane

This bill would have made spectating a cockfight illegal and would have strengthened the penalties against cockfighting. Under SB 74, conviction for causing or spectating at a cockfight would be punishable as a fourth-degree felony on first offense. SB 74 died awaiting action by the Senate Committee's Committee.

Senate Bill 80 (Domestic Abuse Definitions)

Sponsor: Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez (SD 16)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Did Not Pass

SB 80 aimed to update New Mexico's law against family violence in two important ways. First, by explicitly stating animals can be included in protective orders. Second, by including language recognizing that animal abuse with the intent to harm or intimidate someone is a form of domestic violence. SB 80 died awaiting action by the Senate Committee's Committee.

Senate Bill 102 ("Search & Rescue Dog" Definition)

Sponsor: Sen. Craig W. Brandt (SD 40)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Did Not Pass

This bill would have added search-and-rescue dogs to the list of animals covered by the statute that defines crimes against animals. Additionally, it would have enhanced penalties for causing minor physical injury, or causing serious physical injury or death, to first responders' and law enforcement animals. SB 102 died awaiting action by the Senate Committee's Committee.

Senate Bill 104 (Removal of Wildlife Commission Members)

Sponsors: Sen. Peter Wirth (SD 50), Sen. Pete Campos (SD 8), Sen. Crystal Brantley (SD 40), Rep. Nathan P. Small (HD 36), Rep. Matthew McQueen (HD 50)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Passed into Law!

SB 104 completed the overhaul of the Wildlife Commission and Department of Wildlife achieved by the passage of SB 5 in 2025 by adding a clear, fair removal process to ensure Commissioners can serve without undue political influence and be removed for disqualifying behavior. SB 104 unanimously passed the Senate (36-0) and House (69-0) and became law on February 24, 2026.



2026 STATE LEGISLATION IMPACTING ANIMALS

Senate Bill 113 (Agricultural Biomass Tax Credit Amounts)

Sponsor: Sen. Antonio Maestas (SD 26)

APV Position: Opposed
Outcome: Did Not Pass

SB 113 would have doubled the tax credit for transporting manure from dairy and feedlot operations to energy production facilities. The increased credit, which encourages expansion of large-scale dairy farms and confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs), framed methane and carbon dioxide from factory farms as a sustainable solution for the environment and energy production. In reality, both are potent greenhouse gases and major drivers of climate change. APV opposed SB 113 because it would allow CAFOs and mega-dairies to expand and worsen existing problems. SB 113 died awaiting action in the Senate Tax, Business & Transportation Committee.

Senate Bill 196 (Las Vegas Animal Care Center Programs)

Sponsor: Sen. Pete Campos (SD 8)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Did Not Pass

This bill would have appropriated $2.5 million dollars for contract services for Spay/Neuter programs, veterinary care, and/or improvements to the center. SB 196 passed the Senate Conservation Committee (6-2) but died awaiting action by the Senate Finance Committee.

Senate Bill 197 (Raton Animal Shelter Services)

Sponsor: Sen. Pete Campos (SD 8)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Did Not Pass

SB 197 would have appropriated $2.5 million dollars for contract services for Spay/Neuter programs, veterinary care, and/or improvements to the shelter. SB 197 passed the Senate Conservation Committee (6-2) but died awaiting action by the Senate Finance Committee.

Senate Bill SM3 (State Agency Insect Workshop)

Sponsors: Sen. Heather Berghmans (SD 15), Rep. Kristina Ortez (HD 42)

APV Position: Support
Outcome: Signed!

SM 3 will raise awareness of the ecological importance of insects and address concerns about declining insect populations in New Mexico. SM 3 unanimously passed the Senate (27-0) and as a memorial, did not require the Governor's signature.



HOW TO READ AND USE THIS SCORECARD

Methodology

- New Mexico legislators are listed in alphabetical order by their last name for each chamber (House or Senate).
- Next to each legislator's name is their **2026 Score** based on their voting record during the 2026 legislative session, as well as their **Lifetime Score** reflecting their voting record during their tenure in the state legislature.
- An **"Excused"** mark means they were formally excused by the legislature during the vote and does not count as part of the score.
- An **"Absent"** mark counts as half a vote "against the animals."
- **However**, if the legislator's absence or excusal during a final floor vote did not kill the bill—and that legislator is on the record with a pro-animal vote on the bill in committee—then we give the legislator credit for their pro-animal vote in their score.
- Unless stated otherwise, if a legislator changes their position when voting on a bill multiple times, only the later vote will count.

Download and share APV's Scorecard
www.apvnm.org/scorecards



LEGISLATION KEY	
SB 38	Fees On Registered Pet Food
SB 104	Removal of Wildlife Commission Members
SB 196	Las Vegas Animal Care Center Programs
SB 197	Raton Animal Shelter Services
SM 3	State Agency Insect Workshop
HB 177	Veteran Service Animal Services & Shelter
HB 243	Equine Shelter Rescue & Welfare Trust Funds
HB 300	Care & Management of Horses

SCORE KEY

✔	Vote for the animals
✖	Vote against the animals
E	Excused from the vote
A	Absent for the vote
[*blank*]	Did not have an opportunity to vote (example: legislator did not sit on the committee that voted)
✔*	Given credit for a committee vote for the animals despite absence or excusal during the final floor vote

NOTE: Scores on APV Priority Bills receive double weight.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE



1. **Find your two legislators** on the scorecard—you have one in the House and one in the Senate. Please visit **www.nmlegis.gov/Members/Find_My_Legislator** if you are not sure who your legislators are.



2. **Depending on your legislators' scores, contact them** right away to either thank them for their positive votes or to politely express disappointment in any anti-animal votes, and ask for a meeting to discuss their concerns. REMEMBER: Lawmakers need to know you are paying attention to their voting record.



3. **Urge your legislators to cast pro-animal votes during the next state legislative session.**

SENATE SCORES			APV Priority Bills	Other Pro-Animal Bills			
LEGISLATOR	2026 Score	Lifetime Score	SB 38	SB 104	SB 196	SB 197	SM 3
Berghmans, Heather Jean (SD 15)	100%	100%	✔	✔			✔
Block, Jay C. (SD 12)	50%	55%	✖	✔			✔
Boone, Pat (SD 27)	50%	65%	✖	✔			✔
Brandt, Craig W. (SD 40)	50%	46%	A	E			E
Brantley, Crystal (SD 35)	38%	66%	✖	✔			A
Campos, Pete (SD 8)	100%	88%	✔	✔			✔
Cervantes, Joseph (SD 31)	100%	93%	✔	✔			✔
Charley, Angel M. (SD 30)	100%	97%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Duhigg, Katy M. (SD 10)	100%	94%	✔	✔			✔
Ezzell, Candy Spence (SD 32)	33%	44%	✖	✔	✖	✖	✔
Figueroa, Natalie (SD 18)	100%	96%	✔	✔			✔
Gallegos, David M. (SD 41)	50%	42%	✖	✔			✔
Gonzales, Roberto “Bobby” J. (SD 6)	100%	89%	✔	✔			E
Hamblen, Carrie (SD 38)	100%	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Hickey, Martin (SD 20)	50%	86%	E	A			E
Jaramillo, Leo (SD 5)	100%	91%	✔	✔			✔
Lanier, Steve D. (SD 2)	33%	52%	✖	✔			E
Lopez, Linda M. (SD 11)	100%	91%	✔	✔			✔
Maestas, Antonio (SD 26)	38%	89%	✖	✔			A
Muñoz, George K. (SD 4)*	100%	83%	E	✔			✔
Nava, Cindy (SD 9)	100%	100%	✔	✔			✔
O’Malley, Micaelita Debbie (SD 13)	92%	96%	✔	A	✔	✔	✔
Padilla, Michael (SD 14)	100%	100%	✔	✔			✔
Pinto, Shannon D. (SD 3)	100%	96%	✔	✔			✔
Pope, Harold (SD 23)	100%	100%	✔	✔			E
Ramos, Gabriel (SD 28)	100%	80%	✔*	✔			E
Sanchez, Joshua A. (SD 29)	38%	72%	✖	✔			A
Scott, Larry R. (SD 42)	33%	37%	✖	✔	✖	✖	✔*
Sedillo Lopez, Antoinette (SD 16)	100%	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔*
Sharer, William E. (SD 1)	50%	54%	✖	✔			✔
Shendo, Jr., Benny (SD 22)	88%	87%	✔	A			✔
Soules, William P. (SD 37)	100%	97%	✔	✔			✔
Stefanics, Elizabeth “Liz” (SD 39)	100%	97%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Steinborn, Jeff (SD 36)	100%	98%	✔	✔			✔
Stewart, Mimi (SD 17)	100%	97%	✔	✔			✔*
Thornton, Anthony L. (SD 19)	67%	67%	✖	✔	✔	✔	✔
Tobiassen, Nicole (SD 21)	33%	47%	✖	✔			E
Townsend, James G. (SD 34)	50%	35%	✖	✔			✔*
Trujillo, Linda M. (SD 24)	88%	98%	✔	A			✔
Wilson, Rex (SD 33)	50%	50%	✖	✔			✔
Wirth, Peter (SD 25)	100%	102%	✔	✔			✔
Woods, Pat (SD 7)	17%	54%	✖	A			E

HOUSE SCORES			APV Priority Bills				Other Pro-Animal Bills
LEGISLATOR	2026 Score	Lifetime Score	SB 38	SB 177	HB 243	HB 300	SB 104
Abeyta, Michelle Paulene (HD 69)	100%	94%	✔				✔
Anaya, Marianna (HD 18)	100%	100%	✔	✔			✔
Anyanonu, Janelle (HD 19)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Armstrong, Gail (HD 49)	67%	60%	A				✔
Baca, Brian G. (HD 8)	33%	70%	✖				✔
Block, John (HD 51)	100%	79%	✔				✔
Borrego, Cynthia (HD 17)	100%	64%	✔				✔
Brown, Cathrynn N. (HD 55)	33%	55%	✖				✔
Cadena, Micaela Lara (HD 33)	71%	93%	✔		✖	✔	✔
Cates, Kathleen (HD 44)	100%	100%	✔		✔	✔	✔
Chandler, Christine (HD 43)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Chatfield, Jack (HD 67)	33%	45%	✖				✔
Chávez, Eleanor (HD 26)	100%	98%	✔				✔
Chavez, Nichole (HD 31)	100%	89%	✔				✔
Cullen, Catherine J. (HD 57)	33%	67%	✖				✔
De La Cruz, Art (HD 12)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Dixon, Meredith A. (HD 20)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Dow, Rebecca (HD 38)	67%	50%	A				✔
Duncan, Mark (HD 2)	100%	80%	✔				✔
Ferrary, Joanne J. (HD 37)	100%	95%	✔				✔
Gallegos, Doreen Y. (HD 52)	100%	90%	✔				✔
Garcia, Martha (HD 6)	100%	86%	✔				✔
García, Miguel P. (HD 14)	100%	96%	✔	✔			✔
Garratt, Joy (HD 29)	100%	97%	✔				✔
Gonzales, Anita (HD 70)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Gurrola, Yanira (HD 16)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Hall II, William A. (HD 3)	100%	94%	✔	✔			✔
Henry, Jonathan A. (HD 54)	33%	50%	✖				✔
Hernandez, Joseph Franklin (HD 4)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Hernandez, Joshua N. (HD 60)	100%	80%	✔				✔
Herndon, Pamelya (HD 28)	100%	97%	✔				✔
Herrera, Susan K. (HD 41)	60%	86%	E		✖	✔	✔
Hochman-Vigil, Dayan (HD 15)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Johnson, D. Wonda (HD 5)	100%	93%	✔	✔			✔
Jones, Jenifer (HD 32)	100%	76%	✔				✔
Lara, Raymundo (HD 34)	100%	76%	✔				✔
Lente, Derrick J. (HD 65)	100%	84%	✔				✔
Little, Charlotte (HD 68)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Lord, Stefani (HD 22)	100%	67%	✔				✔
Lujan, Tara L. (HD 48)	100%	98%	✔				✔
Lundstrom, Patricia A. (HD 9)	100%	92%	✔				✔
Martinez, Alan T. (HD 23)	33%	51%	✖				✔
Martínez, Javier (HD 11)	100%	93%	✔				✔

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LEGISLATOR	2026 Score	Lifetime Score	SB 38	HB 177	HB 243	HB 300	SB 104
Mason, Jimmy G. (HD 66)	100%	77%	✔				✔
Matthews, Marian (HD 27)	100%	93%	✔		✔	✔	✔
McQueen, Matthew (HD 50)	100%	99%	✔				✔
Mejia, Angelita (HD 58)	60%	63%	✖	✔			✔
Mirabal Moya, Tanya (HD 7)	67%	76%	✔		✖	✔	E
Montoya, Rod (HD 1)	100%	42%	✔				✔
Murphy, Mark B. (HD 59)	100%	86%	E				✔
Ortez, Kristina (HD 42)	100%	98%	✔		✔	✔	✔
Parajón, Cristina (HD 25)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Pettigrew, Randall T. (HD 61)	20%	51%	✖		✖		✔
Reeb, Andrea (HD 64)	100%	82%	✔				✔
Romero, Andrea (HD 46)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Romero, G. Andrés (HD 10)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Roybal Caballero, Patricia (HD 13)	100%	98%	✔	✔			✔
Rubio, Angelica (HD 35)	100%	99%	✔		✔		✔
Sanchez, Joseph (HD 40)	100%	83%	✔				✔
Sariñana, Debra M. (HD 21)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Sena Cortez, Elaine (HD 62)	33%	50%	✖				✔
Serrato, Linda (HD 45)	100%	95%	✔				✔
Silva, Sara (HD 53)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Small, Nathan P. (HD 36)	100%	99%	✔				✔
Szczepanski, Reena (HD 47)	100%	100%	✔				✔
Terrazas, Luis M. (HD 39)	80%	64%	A	✔			✔
Thomson, Elizabeth "Liz" (HD 24)	100%	99%	✔*				✔
Torres-Velásquez, E. Diane (HD 30)	100%	100%	✔	✔			✔
Vincent, Harlan (HD 56)	33%	51%	✖				✔
Zamora, Martin R. (HD 63)	60%	55%	✖			✔	✔

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