



2025 LEGISLATIVE REPORT AND SCORECARD



Desert Nesting Bald Eagle photo by Robin Silver



ARIZONA LEGISLATIVE REPORT 2025

By Karen Michael

The 2025 Arizona Legislature faced a turbulent political climate, yet amid the gridlock, meaningful progress was made for animal welfare. Lawmakers introduced 19 animal protection bills, all supported by Humane Voters of Arizona (HVA) and the Animal Defense League of Arizona (ADLA). While only three of these measures ultimately passed, each represents a significant step forward for Arizona's animals.

One of the most impactful wins for animals was a \$500,000 budget allocation secured by Senator John Kavanagh to fund vital spay and neuter surgeries statewide. This investment will directly reduce animal suffering and overpopulation across Arizona.

Not all efforts succeeded. A bill to ban cosmetic animal testing—despite unanimous public support and a strong Senate vote—was blocked by a single legislator. Other harmful proposals targeting wildlife protections, citizen initiative rights, and agency oversight were introduced but failed.

One major victory came with the passage of SB1658, sponsored by Senator Shawwna Bolick. This long-advocated bill by the Arizona Humane Society (AHS) strengthens the state's animal cruelty laws by clarifying definitions for proper veterinary care and mandating adequate shelter for domestic animals. Despite fierce resistance from industry lobbyists and extremist lawmakers, this measure prevailed—marking a hard-fought win for compassion and accountability.



Why has it become increasingly more difficult to pass animal protection bills? It has always been the case that the primary resistance to animal protection bills is from corporate agricultural industry lobbyists. There is also more power among legislators who oppose animal welfare bills, contending that they hinder economic enterprises and represent governmental overreach. Another argument is that these laws place animal rights above human rights. However, among some animal-friendly legislators, there is a prevailing trend of criminal justice reform that affects all areas of legislation. This creates reluctance to pass bills that increase penalties or enforcement of animal cruelty crimes. Their primary argument is that some animal protection laws could disproportionately impact low-income and minority populations. Animal protection measures that passed years ago would be unlikely to succeed in this more extreme legislative climate.

The Legislature also passed SB1033, sponsored by Sen. John Kavanagh, at the request of AHS, and supported by HVA and ADLA. The bill increases the bond amount from \$25 to \$500 per animal, which a person must post to cover the costs of care for an animal that was properly seized. State law requires animal shelters to care for seized animals – many of whom need costly medical treatment. Yet alleged abusers have been required to pay only a minimal amount to cover that care. This new law provides crucial help for shelters struggling to care for abused animals.

Another important bill passed by legislators was SB1198, sponsored by Sen. Kevin Payne. The bill incorporated language from two similar measures sponsored by Senators Kavanagh and Gowan. This omnibus bill increases criminal penalties and financial liabilities for cruelty to service and law enforcement animals. The measure also resolves issues in the state animal cruelty law by increasing the felony penalty for killing or seriously harming a service animal. It also raises the penalty for killing or causing serious harm to a law enforcement animal and includes financial liability.

In the legislative arena, it's often more important to kill a harmful bill than to pass a beneficial one. This session, animal protection groups and members of other boards successfully stopped a bill that would have repealed critical funding of spay and neuter surgeries for animals across the state. HB2031, sponsored by Rep. Alexander Kolodin, would have rescinded numerous boards and commissions, including the Spaying and Neutering Special License Plate and the Companion Animal Spay Neuter Committee.



This successful program provides financial support for spay neuter surgeries across Arizona. Eliminating it would leave communities with few or no resources to fund spay/neuter programs to prevent the birth of unwanted cats and dogs. The failed bill also would have repealed the

program that allows Arizona taxpayers to make voluntary donations, which has generated millions of dollars to fund spay neuter surgeries provided by nonprofit organizations, shelters, and tribal entities. Following committee testimony from ADLA, the Humane Society of Yuma, and other commission and board members, HB2031 failed in the House by a 17-42-1 vote.

Unfortunately, the bill to ban cosmetic animal testing failed to pass, despite strong support. Sen. Kavanaugh sponsored SB1031 at the request of high school student Jordan Sucato, HVA, and ADLA. The bill banned the sale of any new cosmetic products that are produced by animal testing. Even though SB1031 passed the Senate by overwhelming margins and had absolutely no opposition (including the cosmetic industry), House Rules Chair Rep. Laurin Hendrix refused to hear the bill in his committee, which blocked it from progressing to a final vote. He refused to provide a reason for holding the bill, and was backed by House Speaker Steve Montenegro, who also would not explain his opposition to the measure.

In the 2025 session, legislators targeted wildlife with several damaging bills, including one that required a cattleman on the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, thereby giving the cattle industry even more power to manage wildlife. Another measure would have placed in law the right to use dogs for hunting. This was a response to a petition filed by animal protection groups to ban hound hunting.

Another bill would have required the Arizona Game and Fish Department to issue hunting permits to landowners, which would have privatized wildlife. And a fourth measure would have allowed hunting within an eighth of a mile from occupied residences, posing a danger to humans and domestic animals.

These harmful wildlife bills created widespread opposition among diverse stakeholders, and all four measures failed to pass the Legislature.

As with every session, legislators attempted to weaken or eradicate Arizona's citizen initiative process -- our single most important tool for protecting animals. This session legislators introduced at least four bills that would have made it even more difficult for citizens to place a measure on the ballot.



Photo by Robin Silver

Photo by Robin Silver

One of the bills referred to the ballot required initiatives amending the Arizona Constitution to pass by 60 percent of voters. Another required initiative campaigns to gather signatures from ten percent of voters in each county, instead of statewide. This would enable a single county to make decisions for the entire state. A third measure allowed strict compliance for referendums, which would enable large numbers of signatures to be disqualified on a technicality.

All of these bills aimed at our citizen initiative process failed to pass the Legislature.

Bills related to animals that HVA and ADLA worked on or tracked are discussed in detail below.

The Good Bills

Bills Passed by Legislature and Signed into Law

[Spay Neuter Funding in Budget Bill](#) (Kavanagh) One of the most important wins for animals was a \$500,000 budget allocation secured by Senator Kavanagh to fund critical spay and neuter surgeries across the state. Thanks to collaborative efforts between HVA and ADLA volunteer lobbyists and Senator Kavanagh—who championed similar funding in 2023—this allocation will be distributed through the Arizona Spay Neuter Fund, largely supported by AZ Pet Plates. Spay/neuter programs help control pet overpopulation, ease the burden on crowded shelters, support feral cat colonies and caregivers, and help entire communities address this important issue.



The Spay Neuter Funding allocation was included in the 2026 Budget measure, which passed the Legislature and was signed by Governor Hobbs.

[SB1033 - animal seizure; bond amount](#) (Kavanagh), addresses a critical gap in our animal protection framework by increasing the bond amount from \$25 to \$500 per animal, which a person must post with the court to cover the costs of care for an animal that was properly seized. Under current law, animal shelters are mandated to care for seized animals for at least ten days, often at significant cost—while the individuals responsible pay only a modest fee. This imbalance places a heavy financial strain on shelters doing critical work.

According to Tracey Miiller, Director of Field Operations at the Arizona Humane Society, the average cost of care per animal is approximately \$1400, a figure that can climb much higher with extensive medical treatment. SB1033 will ensure that individuals whose animals are seized due to substantiated cruelty are held more accountable for those costs. The bond amount is credited toward the total cost of care if a guilty verdict is reached, ensuring fairness and avoiding double payment.

Contrary to assertions by bill opponents, this legislation does not target low-income persons: it applies only in the most egregious cases of cruelty, neglect, or abandonment. The burden of proof lies with the seizing agency, and if a court finds the seizure unwarranted, both the animal and bond are returned to the owner.

Animal abuse negatively impacts not only shelters but entire communities. By reducing the financial burden on shelters, SB1033 enables them to allocate more resources to life-saving services—such as spay/neuter programs and support for responsible pet ownership.

HVA supported this measure.

SB1033 passed the House 19-9-2 and passed the Senate for a final vote of 23-5-2 and was signed by Governor Hobbs.

[SB1198 - animal cruelty; felony classification](#) (Payne), increases criminal penalties and financial liabilities for certain animal cruelty offenses against service and working animals. Originally three separate bills sponsored by Senators Kavanagh, Gowan, and Payne were introduced to increase penalties for injuring or killing a police dog.



AZ K9 Kenzo, killed in the line of duty

These measures were in response to several Arizona Police K9s who were killed in the line of duty. Language from bills sponsored by Senators Kavanagh and Gowan were integrated into Senator Payne's measure. Marie Isaacson representing the Fraternal Order of Police led the campaign to pass SB1198. Senator Kavanagh, Representatives Blackman, Livingston, other legislators, and lobbyist Sam Richard worked with criminal justice advocates ACLU and AACJ to add a provision that provides a defense for victims of unprovoked service or working animal attacks.

HVA and ADLA were both heavily involved in amendments addressing longstanding issues in the animal cruelty statute. Before the passage of SB1198, under Arizona's animal cruelty statute, shooting a police dog carried the same penalty as interfering with a person's service animal. ARS 13-2910 (A-10) required the same felony 6 penalty for intentionally or knowingly 'interfering with' as for 'injuring or killing' a service animal or working animal (defined as a trained law enforcement dog or horse). SB1198 increases the penalty for intentionally or knowingly killing or seriously harming a service animal from a class 6 to a class 5 felony. It also adds that intentionally or knowingly killing or causing serious harm to a law enforcement animal is a class 5 felony and makes the offender financially liable for costs.

HVA supported this measure.

SB1198 as amended passed the House 50-5-5 and passed the Senate for a final vote of 27-2-1 and was signed by Governor Hobbs.

[SB1658 - failure to treat; animal cruelty](#) "Jerry's Law" (Bolick), expands the definition of animal cruelty to include failure to provide medical attention and broadens the definition of cruel neglect as failure to provide a domestic animal with access to shelter that meets specified requirements.

Over the past two legislative sessions, HVA and ADLA have helped Arizona Humane Society (AHS) to advance efforts that clarify the standards of care required under the existing animal cruelty statute (ARS 13-2910). SB1658 is a modest but crucial clarification that addresses two key areas: veterinary care and adequate shelter.

These clarifications are urgently needed. In the 2023 Chandler case, 55 neglected dogs were rescued from deplorable conditions. Had SB1658 been law at that time, authorities would have been better equipped to intervene sooner—and save more lives. Bill sponsor Senator Bolick named "Jerry's Law" in honor of a Chandler 55 survivor and paraplegic dog who was rescued and treated by AHS and is thriving in his adopted family.



Photo of Jerry courtesy of AZ Humane Society

The 2025 session was the second attempt for AHS to pass this very reasonable legislation, which ran into the same obstacles as in 2024. Introduced as SB1234, the original bill would have clarified definitions of food, water, shelter, and medical care. The measure passed the Senate 22-4-3. However, when the bill reached the House, special interests including the agricultural industry lobby and political extremists perpetuated misconceptions regarding bill language, including the false contention that it was a new law with increased felony penalties.

Despite strong support from veterinarians, animal protection groups, and citizens, the bill stalled before reaching a House vote. It was then replaced with a strike-everything amendment to SB1658, an AHS bill that allowed on-the-job training as an alternative route of certification for vet techs. In order to pass, the striker bill was amended to remove definitions of food and water, but requirements for medical care and shelter remained intact. When the bill stalled again, AHS held a rally at the Capitol with a large number of advocates. AHS also generated a significant number of constituent calls and positive media coverage. HVA and ADLA aided in those efforts. Despite continued opposition from special-interest industries, SB1658 passed the House and Senate and was signed into law by Governor Hobbs.

Jerry's Law represents a moderate but meaningful step toward clearer, more enforceable standards. It empowers law enforcement and cruelty investigators to act sooner—preventing suffering and reducing the burden on shelters and communities.

HVA supported this measure.

SB1658 as amended passed the House 34-18-8 and passed the Senate for a final vote of 25-5 and was signed by Governor Hobbs.

Good Bills that Failed to Pass the Legislature

[SB1031 - cosmetics sales; animal testing; prohibitions](#) (Kavanagh), would have banned manufacturers from selling cosmetics developed or manufactured using animal testing in Arizona after January 1, 2026, with limited exceptions. Senator Kavanagh reintroduced this legislation from the 2024 session, where it was refused a committee hearing.



Jordan Sucato testifies in support of SB1031

Testing cosmetics on animals is inhumane, outdated, and completely unnecessary. There are no animal testing requirements for cosmetic safety substantiation in the US. These tests involve harmful procedures with no pain relief before the animals are killed. These outdated methods can be unreliable predictors of human safety. Fortunately, many effective, affordable non-animal testing methods are now available, including in-vitro tests and computer modeling.

There is strong corporate support for ending this outdated practice. The Federal bipartisan bill to ban cosmetic animal testing is supported by the umbrella group that represents 90 percent of the U.S. cosmetics industry. SB1031 was drafted to mirror provisions in the federal

legislation. There is also substantial public support for ending cosmetic animal testing. A 2019 [poll](#) indicated that nearly 8 out of 10 Americans support a law to prohibit cosmetic animal testing. Moreover, Arizonans across the political spectrum have consistently supported animal protection and denounced cruelty to animals.

The bill was requested by Jordan Sucato, a local high school student and “2025 Time Magazine Kid of the Year”. Jordan was concerned about animals being used for testing cosmetics and reached out to Sen. Kavanagh, who agreed to sponsor the bill. HVA worked with Cruelty Free International and Humane World for Animals, which provided significant research and information on the issue. Jordan testified in support of the bill in Senate and House committees. Sam Richard also testified for the bill.

There was no industry opposition to SB1031 and no cosmetics manufacturer has opposed any of the bills passed in other states. The bill easily passed the Senate 20-6-3 and passed its House committee hearing unanimously. Despite all this, the House Rules Chair Laurin Hendrix refused to hear the bill in his committee, which blocked it from progressing to a final vote. Even with pleas from constituents, other legislators, and animal protection groups, Hendrix refused to state his reason for holding the bill. His unconventional actions were backed by House Speaker Steve Montenegro, who also did not provide a reason for killing the measure. All bills must pass the Rules Committee, whose primary role is to review bills for constitutionality and proper form, and it is highly unusual for Rules Chairs to refuse to hear bills for political reasons. In this case, Chair Hendrix used his power to kill an unopposed bill with strong bipartisan support.



Photo courtesy of Cruelty Free International

HVA supported this measure.

SB1031 passed the Senate 20-6-3 but was held by the House Rules Chair, so the bill died.

[SB1038 - aggravated assault; commission; certain officials](#) (Kavanagh), added Animal Control Officers to the state aggravated assault statute to address concerns on the rising incidents of aggression, verbal abuse, and threats that ACOs face regularly. Sen. Kavanagh agreed to sponsor SB1038, which added animal control officers (ACOs) and elected officials to the list of protected persons under the aggravated assault criminal classification. ACOs often work behind the scenes to prevent cruelty and ensure humane treatment. Their role is multifaceted, blending law enforcement, emergency response, education, and compassion. In communities across the state, these officers are the first line of

defense against abuse and neglect, acting not only as enforcers of animal welfare laws but also as advocates for the voiceless.

One of the most critical responsibilities of an ACO is investigating reports of animal cruelty. When a tip comes in—whether from a concerned neighbor or a passerby—officers conduct welfare checks to assess the situation. These investigations require observation, education, documentation, and often collaboration with law enforcement to build cases that can lead to prosecution. In instances of hoarding, neglect, or physical abuse, ACOs must navigate emotionally charged environments, balancing the need for swift intervention with the legal protocols required to protect both animals and due process.

In his letter to Senate committee members, Lake Havasu City Animal Control Officer Chris Lutgen, the vice president of the Arizona Animal Control Association, stated that ACOs face significant risks similar to those encountered by law enforcement but with limited means of self-defense. Their responsibilities often require investigating animal cruelty cases and, when necessary, seizing abused animals from hostile owners—situations that can escalate rapidly. He provided a recent example of a Mohave County ACO who was struck in the head while working at a shelter, resulting in ongoing injuries. Lutgen reported that he has dealt with aggressive individuals, verbal abuse, and death threats throughout his career.



Photo by Maricopa CO Animal Care & Control

In response to incidents involving elected officials, SB1038 also extended protections to elected government officials who are increasingly subjected to serious threats and violence, including notable Arizona cases. These include threats

against former Maricopa County Recorder Stephen Richer, former AZ House Speaker Rusty Bowers, Governor Katie Hobbs, former Maricopa County Supervisor Bill Gates, and others.



ACOs Alex Robinson & Maura McGuckin

There was significant confusion with extra language that the bill included. As the Legislative Council attorney explained, there were three versions of the statute already on the books (ARS 13-1204), complicated by the passage of Prop 311 (Back the Blue Act). SB1038 consolidated and clarified the existing statutes by repealing one version and combining the others. However, some legislators expressed objections to the existing aggravated assault statutes. Currently the law includes as aggravated assault, “knowingly touching another person with the intent to injure the person.” In Senate Third Read, Sen. Kavanagh promised to work with stakeholders to amend the bill by removing the objectionable existing language. Passing SB1038 would have provided the opportunity to address objections and protect ACOs and elected officials. The bill passed the Senate but failed in the House Judiciary Committee. Pinal County ACO Alex Robinson

testified in support of the bill.

HVA supported this measure.

SB1038 passed the Senate 16-11-3 but failed in the House Judiciary Committee, so the bill died.

[SB1270 - driving; animals on lap; prohibition](#) (Rogers), prohibited operating a vehicle with an animal on the driver’s lap and included civil penalties for violations. Senator Kavanagh sponsored the same legislation in 2018, which was held in committee. A volunteer lobbyist for HVA and ADLA commented in support of SB1270 in an AZ Republic [article](#).

HVA supported this measure.

HB1270 was held before Senate Third Read, so the bill died.

The following animal protection bills died without being granted a committee hearing:

Please note that in the past we have not included bills that were not heard in committee. This year we have elected to include these measures as evidence of the importance of effective sponsorship, and the power leadership holds on whether or not bills are granted hearings.

[HB2186 - prohibition; cat declawing; exceptions](#) (Gress: Martinez, Kavanagh), banned inhumane, unnecessary declawing of cats.

[HB2211 - severe threat order of protection](#) (Gutierrez: Aguilar, Austin, Caverro, et al), added animal cruelty under severe threat orders of protection statute.



Photo courtesy of Animal Legal Defense Fund

[HB2530 - homelessness rights; criminal liability](#) (Austin: Abeytia, Liguori, Sandoval, et al), allowed service animals in shelters for unhoused persons.

[SB1173 - landlord tenant; late period; notice](#) (Ortiz: Alston, Kuby, et al), extended time from 5 to 15 days for unpaid rent before landlord can remove tenant property or animals.

[SB1277 - rental property; dog breeds](#) (Fernandez), banned dog breed discrimination in rental properties.

[SB1412 - domestic violence; definition; animal abuse](#) (Kuby: Alston, Ortiz, Garcia, et al), added egregious felony cruelty violations in cruelty statute to the definition of domestic violence.

[SB1456 - dog breeders; permit required; fee](#) (Fernandez), required county boards of supervisors to establish commercial dog breeder permits to anyone who maintains female dogs for breeding.

[SB1457 - companion animals; welfare; health](#) (Fernandez), established a Domestic Animal Welfare & Health office under the state veterinarian and required a permit for all backyard & hobby breeders; set a \$1000 fee for failing to register.

[SB1545 - pet stores; pet dealers](#) (Kuby: Epstein, Ortiz, Garcia, et al), repealed the 2016 law that preempted local pet store ordinances (more info in [HVA 2016 legislative report](#)).

The Bad Bills

[HB2031 - boards and commissions; state departments](#) (Kolodin: Chaplick), would have repealed a number of state boards and commissions including the committee that oversees spay neuter funding through Pet-Friendly License Plates.

The most damaging measure of the session was HB2031. Sponsored by Rep. Alexander Kolodin, the bill proposed the repeal of essential boards and commissions. Included on the HB2031 chopping block were the Spaying and Neutering [Special License Plate](#), Companion Animal Spay Neuter Committee (CASNC), and the opportunity for Arizona residents and taxpayers to make voluntary contributions.

All would have been terminated, ending this very successful and effective program, initiated in 2004 with the creation of the Pet Plate that displays a graphic with "Pets Enrich our Lives." The program allows plate purchases to contribute \$17 per year to spay/neuter funds while allocating \$8 to administrative costs.



Annette Lagunas provides background info on CASNC

In 2017, Arizona taxpayers were allowed to make voluntary donations through their tax returns. Since its inception, this program has generated and distributed over \$4 million in grants to non-profit organizations, municipal animal shelters,

and tribal entities, all working to reduce unnecessary euthanasia and control pet overpopulation. These initiatives have played a crucial role in reducing the number of unwanted animals across the state. Eliminating this program would have dismantled a highly effective initiative that provides essential financial support for spay/neuter services statewide. Moreover, the valuable statewide communication and coordination provided by CASNC, which promotes best practices and shares critical information on spay/neuter resources, would be lost.

HB2031 was heard in the House Regulatory and Oversight Committee, where Sponsor Kolodin inaccurately touted the bill as a cost saver for the state. ADLA president Stephanie Nichols-Young (who is a volunteer) testified against the bill,



Stephanie Nichols-Young testifies against HB2031

explaining that these are not state funds but voluntary donations, and that Committee members are appointed by the governor and serve as volunteers. CASNC Chair Annette Lagunas provided background information on the work of CASNC or Pet Plate Committee. They clarified that state administrative costs are reimbursed from donations from Fund sources.

Repealing this program that provides financial support for spay/neuters across our state would have been eliminated, leaving communities with few, or no, resources to fund spay/neuter programs to prevent the birth of unwanted cats and dogs. Local shelters would face higher costs and greater challenges as they handle the overflow of litters that would

otherwise have been prevented. Rep. Kolodin responded by accusing nonprofit groups (many of whose board members are volunteers) of “lining their pockets at the expense of taxpayers.” You can watch the committee hearing [here](#) (testimony from Lagunas and Nichols-Young start at around the 6:20 and 33-minute marks).

Thanks to the efforts of animal protection groups, shelter leaders, veterinarians, the Arts Commission, Cosmetology Board and others, HB2031 failed in the House of Representatives by a landslide vote of 17-42-1. However, following the failed vote, bill supporters used a procedural maneuver that would have allowed HB2031 to be reconsidered. A motion for reconsideration passed, but the measure was not returned to the House floor for a revote before the session ended.

This misguided attempt to repeal the spay-neuter funding program would have been a devastating blow to efforts aimed at controlling overpopulation. For further bill information see ADLA’s HB2031 [Action Alert](#).

HVA opposed this measure.

HB2031 failed in the House 17-42-1 and did not receive a reconsideration vote, so the bill died.

Taking Aim at Wildlife

[HB2083 - game and fish commission; membership](#) (Griffin: Diaz, Hendrix, Nguyen, et al), required at least one member of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission (Commission) to be a cattleman or rancher. This would give the animal agricultural industry even more power to manage Arizona's wildlife and impede policies determined by the Department's biologists and other experts.

Background: In 2010 the Legislature passed a law that created the AZ Game and Fish Commission Appointment Recommendation Board (CARB) to appoint candidates to the Commission. This board was chaired by a rancher from 2011 to 2024. The 2010 law requires that the governor is limited to selecting only “board-endorsed” candidates. Since then, very few wildlife biologists, women, or non-hunters have been appointed to the Commission. This has given ranchers and cattlemen, who view predators as threat to their livelihood, a disproportionate amount of power to manage our state's wildlife. Legislators have sponsored numerous bills to repeal CARB, but none have even been granted a committee hearing.



Photo courtesy of Lobos of the Southwest

This measure passed the House but was held in the Senate before Third Read.

HVA opposed this measure.

HB203 passed the House 36-22-2 but was held in the Senate, so the bill died.

HB2552 - dogs; hunting; rules; prohibition (Diaz: Carter, Griffin, Heap, et al), placed in Arizona statutes the right to use hounds for hunting wildlife. In February 2025, animal protection groups led by the Center for Biological Diversity petitioned the Arizona Game and Fish Commission to ban inhumane hound hunting, where GPS-collared dogs are used to track and pursue mountain lions, bears, and other wildlife. HB 2552 would have killed the petition and stripped the Commission's ability to regulate hound hunting, which gives legislators — not the public or experts — total control over the policy process. The bill was supported by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and Commission.

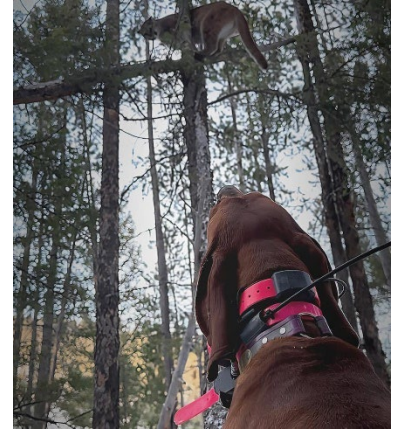


Photo courtesy of Wildlife for All

Background: Hound hunting lets hunters follow their packs remotely while the dogs run uncontrolled on public lands in pursuit of wildlife. Between 2020 and 2023, hunting practices like this led to the deaths of at least 748 mountain lions, 323 bears, and countless bobcats, coatis, and foxes. Hound hunting also disrupts ecosystems, risks harmful encounters with people and pets, and jeopardizes imperiled jaguars, ocelots, and Mexican gray wolves. This practice does not adhere to Arizona Game and Fish's mission of Fair Chase. Some Arizona hunters have raised concerns about hound hunting, questioning its fairness and ethics, and unfair advantage.

HB2552 failed the House by one vote. A motion for reconsideration passed but the bill was not brought back to the floor for a revote.

HVA opposed this measure.

HB2552 failed in the House 30-21-2 and did not receive a reconsideration vote, so the bill died.

HB2588 - wildlife; taking; landowner permits; rules (Griffin), required Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) to issue landowners permits to hunt elk, antelope, oryx and deer on private lands. (AZ Sierra Club's Sandy Bahr pointed out that there are no oryx in Arizona). The bill allowed the Department to adopt rules to expand the use of landowner permits to other species of wildlife. It also required the Department, if the Commission determined it necessary, to issue landowners permits to reduce human and wildlife conflict and to provide sport hunting opportunities.

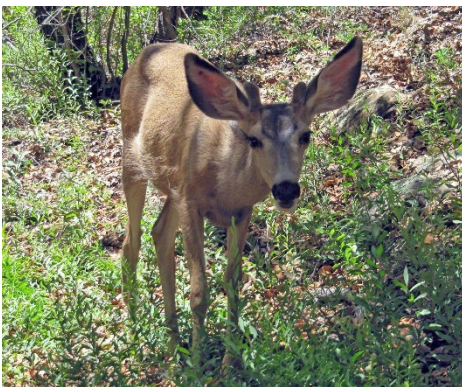


Photo by Karen Michael

Arizona's wildlife is held in public trust for the benefit of all citizens, both present and future. HB2588 contradicted this doctrine by privatizing wildlife.

HVA opposed this measure.

HB2588 failed in the House 30-40, so the bill died.

SB1053 - wildlife; firearms discharge; structures; distance (Rogers: Gillette), decreased the distance for hunting wildlife with shotguns and arrows from a quarter mile to an eighth of a mile away from an occupied residence without permission of the owner. This measure posed a public safety threat to citizens, domestic animals, and nontarget wildlife. It was opposed by the AZ Game and Fish Department and Commission.

The bill passed the Senate and passed the House by a single vote but failed in the Senate on Final Read.

HVA opposed this measure.

SB1053 passed the Senate 17-10-3 and passed the House 31-24-5 but failed the Senate Final Read 14-14-2, so the bill died.

[SB1284 - fireworks; aeriels; licensure; penalties](#) (Gowan), legalized combination fireworks. Cake fireworks, also known as multi-shot aerial repeaters, shoot up to 200 feet into the air and explode. These devices pose risks of tipping over, fire hazards, and injuries. They also increase the already frightening effects of fireworks on pets, animal shelters, wildlife, and veterans with PTSD. Sen. Gowan has sponsored versions of this legislation several times over past sessions, which have consistently failed due to strong opposition from animal protection groups, firefighters, veterans, and concerned citizens. Sen. Gowan owns a business that sells fireworks, and in 2019, he sponsored the law that expanded days for fireworks sales.

Just weeks before SB1284 was introduced, A New Year's Eve [fireworks explosion](#) in Hawaii killed a final total of six people and seriously injured 20 others. The explosion was caused by an illegal aerial cake firework – the same device that the Arizona bill sought to legalize. Six victims of the explosion had to be [flown](#) to a Phoenix burn center for treatment.

SB1284 was assigned to the House RAGE Committee but died without being granted a hearing.

HVA opposed this measure.

SB1248 was held in committee, so the bill died.

[SB1721 - egg-laying hens; housing size standards](#) (Bolick), prohibited the Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) from adopting rules that require minimum housing size standards for egg-laying hens. This would have overturned the AZDA rule requiring that eggs produced and sold in Arizona must come from hens free from cage confinement by 2026.



Photo courtesy of Animal Legal Defense Fund

Humane World for Animals (HWA), ADLA, HVA and other groups helped to get the Cage-Free Egg Rule passed by the AZDA as a state regulation after bills to provide more humane requirements for egg-laying hens failed. ADLA and HVA submitted these [comments](#) in support of the Cage-Free Egg Rule.

In his committee testimony supporting SB1721, an agriculture industry lobbyist used high egg prices as the rationale for the bill. However, HWA, HVA, and ADLA lobbyist Sam Richard argued that overturning laws to provide more humane treatment of animals is shortsighted and counterproductive. He explained that the rising cost of eggs is primarily related to the avian flu epidemic, not cage-free egg requirements. The extreme confinement of hens in battery cages where they cannot turn around or even move a few inches is not only inhumane, but it also increases the spread of avian flu and other contagious viruses.

On a related note, this year a bill to repeal the cage-free egg law failed in Colorado, with the state agriculture commissioner asserting that the state's cage-free law is not a significant factor in the shortages or price spikes. The head of the trade group Colorado Egg Producers told local media that the repeal bill "would actually harm our farmers here in the State of Colorado, and it would jeopardize the investments they've already made" in cage-free egg farming.

A letter from HVA and ADLA to legislators emphasized that Arizonans strongly support humane treatment of animals raised for food. Many of our supporters volunteered on the 2006 citizen initiative that banned inhumane confinement of pregnant pigs and calves raised for veal in large agricultural facilities. Voters passed the ballot measure by a landslide vote of 62% to 38%.



In March, Governor Hobbs directed AZDA to undertake rulemaking to delay the cage-free egg law by seven years to avoid price increases during cage conversion. Despite that extension, the Legislature passed SB1721, removing AZDA's power to require more humane housing for laying hens.



On April 15, Gov. Hobbs vetoed SB1721. In her veto letter she stressed the importance of AZDA to retain its ability to regulate the space standard for laying hens. She stated, "Removing this ability entirely could have serious implications in the future if action is needed to protect human health or animal welfare."

HVA opposed this measure.

SB1721 passed the Senate 16-11-3 and passed the House 31-21-8 but was vetoed by Governor Hobbs.

Attack on Citizen Initiative Rights

Arizona's [citizen ballot measure process](#) is the single most important tool for protecting Arizona's animals. Our initiative process is a constitutional right enacted at statehood in 1912. One of our founders' biggest concerns was the right to pass laws through citizen initiatives. The first initiative passed in Arizona recognized women's right to vote. Thanks to grassroots citizen ballot measures, voters banned indiscriminate leghold traps, snares, and poisons on public lands in 1994. Cockfighting was outlawed in 1998. In 2006, voters prohibited the inhumane confinement of pregnant pigs and calves raised for veal in industrial agriculture operations.

All these measures failed in the Legislature yet were passed by Arizona voters. In 1998, the Voter Protection Act was passed to prevent the legislature from undermining initiatives passed by voters. The Legislature has placed several referenda on the ballot that could have destroyed the public initiative process, but voters overwhelmingly defeated most of the measures, indicating the strong determination of citizens to defend voting rights.

As polls consistently indicate, Arizona voters strongly support animal protection and our public initiative process. However, each session legislators continue to run bills to weaken or dismantle this important right. The issue of citizen initiatives could be related to any number of issues unrelated to animal protection and it is possible that otherwise animal-friendly legislators are considering a bigger picture when supporting these bills. That is why one of HVA's priority goals is to continually educate legislators on the importance of citizen initiatives for protecting large numbers of Arizona's animals.



Photo by Animal Wellness Action

2025 Anti-Initiative Bills

[HCR2025 - constitutional amendments; sixty percent vote](#) (Kolodin: Kupper, Marshall), referred to the ballot a measure that increased the percentage of votes required for an initiative or referendum that amends the Arizona Constitution to be approved by voters by a supermajority of 60 percent, instead of the current simple majority. This measure, if passed by voters, would have created a difficult threshold to meet, especially for grassroots citizen initiative campaigns. The bill passed the House but was held in the Senate.

HVA opposed this measure.

HCR2025 passed the House 31-26-3 but was held in the Senate, so the bill died.

[HCR2057 - initiatives; referendums; signature requirement; counties](#) (Keshel), referred to the ballot a measure to require citizen initiative campaigns to collect signatures from ten percent of electors from each county. Currently, initiative campaigns must submit signatures from ten percent of all voters statewide, not from 10 percent of each county. This would have made it virtually unobtainable for grassroots groups to place citizen initiatives on the ballot, especially for campaigns that rely primarily on volunteers. The other factor is that an initiative could be blocked by a small number of residents in one or more counties who can gather enough opposition. This would allow a small minority to make decisions for the majority of voters. The bill passed the House but was held in the Senate.



Photo by Animal Legal Defense Fund

A similar measure was referred to the ballot in 2024, which would have required ten percent of initiative signatures from each legislative district. Voters defeated [Prop 134](#) by a substantial 58% to 42% margin, which should have sent a strong message to legislators.

HVA opposed this measure.

HCR2057 passed the House 32-26-2 but was held in the Senate, so the bill died.

[SB1560 - referendums; strict compliance](#) (Leach), allowed the Secretary of State (SOS) to enforce strict compliance for referendums, as are required for citizen initiative measures. In 2017, the Legislature passed two bills that changed the state's standard for citizen initiatives to 'strict compliance', which could result in valid signatures being tossed out for the smallest technical mistakes. These laws have severely damaged our public initiative process by driving up the cost of hiring petition circulators, who are necessary even for ballot measure campaigns with large numbers of volunteers. SB1560, if passed, would have created the same hurdles for Arizona's referendum process – the only recourse that citizens have for preventing damaging bills passed by legislators from becoming state law.

HVA opposed this measure.

SB1560 passed the Senate 17-10-3 but was held in the House, so the bill died.

Superstar Legislators

HVA wishes to thank those special (we call them) “Superstar Legislators”, who expended efforts to protect animals during the session:



Senator. Kavanagh with Lewis and Clark

Senator Kavanagh continues to be a strong, committed advocate for animals and sponsored four animal protection bills this session, including the seizure bond increase that was signed into law.

Most importantly, he secured a \$500,000 budget allocation to fund spay/neuter surgeries statewide. Thanks to Sen. Kavanagh's efforts, this funding will transform the lives of thousands of dogs, cats, and entire neighborhoods throughout Arizona. He has passed 19 animal protection bills since 2013, more than any legislator in state history.

Legislators with Excellent Voting Records

The following legislators voted against all key measures harmful to animals and citizen initiatives and voted for all animal protection bills and were present for all votes or missed no more than one vote. Some legislators took other actions

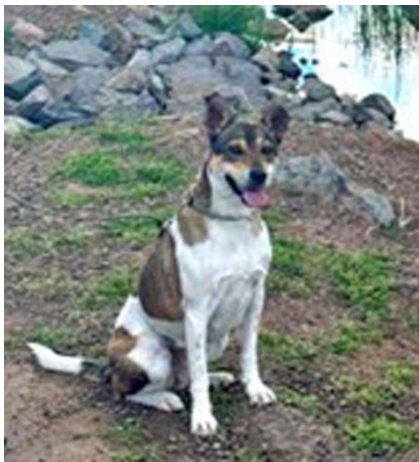
such as sponsoring pro-animal bills, speaking out against harmful bills and defending beneficial measures in committee, caucuses, and on the floor (see HVA scorecards for details):

Representatives Seth Blattman, Janeen Connolly, Lupe Contreras, Oscar De Los Santos, Nancy Gutierrez, Consuelo Hernandez, Lydia Hernandez, Aaron Marquez, Christopher Mathis, Elda Luna-Nájera, Marcelino Quiñonez, Stephanie Simacek, Stacey Travers, and Kevin Volk

Legislators who helped with specific animal-related measures

HVA greatly appreciates the efforts of the following elected officials who sponsored or helped with measures affecting animals:

Senator Kevin Payne sponsored SB1198, which increases penalties for killing or injuring service and law enforcement animals. Senator Kavanagh also helped with the bill.



'Dolly' (photo by Martha German)

Senator Shannna Bolick sponsored SB1658 to clarify definitions for adequate veterinary care and shelter for domestic animals. She publicly refuted arguments from the agriculture industry lobbyist and other bill opponents. However, it was disappointing that she sponsored SB1721, which would have removed AZDA's authority to require humane housing standards for laying hens.

Representative Matt Gress sponsored HB2186 which banned the inhumane declawing of cats. He also spoke strongly in support of SB1658 on the House floor, refuting inaccurate information from agricultural lobbyists and other bill opponents.

Senator Brian Fernandez sponsored three bills – two of which regulated dog breeding, and one that banned breed discrimination in rental housing. Due to the difficult legislative climate, the measures were not granted committee hearings.

Representative Walt Blackman played an instrumental role in helping several animal protection bills. He spoke in support of those measures, sponsored amendments, and took other actions to facilitate their progress. As Chair of the House Government Committee, he treated speakers and other legislators with dignity and respect.

Special thanks to Governor Katie Hobbs for signing animal protection measures SB1033, SB1198, and SB1658 into law, and approving the budget with its \$500,000 allocation to fund spay neuter surgeries. We also thank her for vetoing the damaging egg-laying hen bill SB1721.

Advocates

HVA wishes to thank the following advocates who expended efforts to protect animals through the legislative process.

Special thanks to HVA board member and volunteer lobbyist Martha German for her tireless efforts not only during legislative sessions but throughout the entire year.

ADLA President and volunteer lobbyist Stephanie Nichols-Young for all her help on legislation, bill testimony, and legal issues.

The HVA board and team members: Martha German, Stephanie Nichols-Young, Scott Bonsall-Cargill, Tom Krepitch, Michelle Lukasiewicz, and Heather Moos.

CASNC Chair and Humane Society of Yuma President Annette Lagunas for speaking on HB2031, providing information on the Arizona Pet Plate's history, purpose and statutory funding sources and explaining how the money serves Arizona animals and their people all over the state. Also thanks to Fix Adopt Save Director Sonia Hernandez, CASNC board members, and Arizona Veterinary Medical Association Director Mittie Williams.



Marie Isaacson, lobbyist for the Fraternal Order of Police, was instrumental in obtaining the passage of SB1198 which strengthens protections for service animals and police dogs and horses. She spent a great deal of time and effort in overcoming obstacles, building support with stakeholder groups, and finding common ground with legislators and interested parties. Without her efforts, this measure would not have succeeded. We appreciate Sam Richard's help on the bill. Also thanks to ACLU and AZ Attorneys for Criminal Justice for their agreement on the amended language.

Kelsea Patton, Steve Hansen, DVM, ED, Tracey Miiller, and others with Arizona Humane Society and their lobbyists Liz Goodman and Cole Libera for their successful efforts to pass SB1658 and SB1033.

Monica Engebretson with Cruelty Free International on the cosmetic animal testing bill. Thanks to Vicki Katrinak with HWA for her help, and Jordan Sucato for her efforts and testimony. We also thank HVA/ADLA lobbyist Sam Richard for his efforts and testimony.

Lake Havasu City Animal Control Officer Chris Lutgen, Arizona Animal Control Association, Pima County Detective Ted Noon, and Pinal County ACO Alex Robinson

The many advocates across Arizona who shared their time and expertise on legislation, including attorneys Elizabeth Maupin with ADLA, Chris DuPont, and MJ Simpson. Also Nancy Bradley-Siemens DVM, County Attorney Rachel Mitchell and attorney Rebecca Baker with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, Dena Jones with Animal Welfare Institute, Stacy Pearson with Lumen Strategies, Deb Thompson, former Rep Nancy Young Wright, Dawn Vandaveer, Mike Duffey, and the hundreds of advocates who contacted their legislators regarding animal-related bills.

Newly appointed HWA Arizona Director Bri Romero, who used her past experience as a lobbyist and legislative staffer to influence SB1031 and other measures in the latter part of the session. Also thanks to former HWA Arizona Director Gabe Wigtil for all his legislative efforts over the past several years.

Sandy Bahr, Sierra Club Arizona Director, for her ongoing efforts and dedication to protecting our state's wildlife, habitat, and citizen initiative rights.

Martha German, Stephanie Nichols-Young, Tom Krepitch, and Heather Moos for their valuable input on this report.

For more information on legislation visit the HVA [website](#).



Photo of Mac by Stephanie Nichols-Young

Legislative Scorecard

Voting records are provided on key bills affecting animals, including citizen initiative measures. There are no actual points or grades assigned.

Animal Bills

A checkmark ✓ indicates a vote in favor of animal protection, while an “x” represents a vote that negatively impacts animals. Votes on the most important bills that HVA supported or opposed are in **bold** type.

Voting/Initiative Bills

A checkmark ✓ indicates a vote that supports citizen initiative rights, while an “x” represents a vote that negatively affects the initiative process and in turn voters’ ability to protect animals.

All Bills

An asterisk * indicates that the legislator’s vote was for the purpose of reconsideration. After a bill vote takes place, a legislator who voted with the prevailing side may move to reconsider it. This tactic is a final attempt to save a bill that failed the House or Senate but can also be used to kill a bill that passed. The asterisk will follow symbols based on whether HVA supports or opposes the bill: * or x*

NV indicates that the legislator did not vote on a bill. This could be because the legislator was absent, or that they refrained from voting to affect the outcome of the bill vote.

A blank column under a bill indicates that the legislator did not have the opportunity to vote on that measure. This applies to legislators who replaced another one who left office during the session. In that case the new legislator is included in the scorecard but will have a blank column for bills voted on before the replacement.

Bill voting records represent one public aspect of the legislative process. However, many factors that affect measures are not subject to public scrutiny and are sometimes beyond the scope of this legislative report. The efforts of lawmakers, lobbyists, and others to influence legislation largely take place within the “hidden” political process. That is why some additional actions by lawmakers are also taken into consideration, such as sponsoring bills or influencing the passage or defeat of animal-related measures.

Those actions are represented in the OTHER column by positive icon 😊 or negative icon ☹️. In the COMMENTS column, PS indicates that the legislator was the primary sponsor of the bill. Cosponsors are not included in the scorecard. Bold icons indicate high priority bills that HVA/ADLA strongly supported or opposed.

Please click on the bill number in the main legislative report for all information including status, primary and co-sponsors, amendments, committee and floor votes, and videos. Bill positions registered by organizations and individuals are listed under RTS Bill Positions.

Although animal protection and initiative bills provide a gauge for reviewing lawmakers, other bills that impact animals are those that affect wildlife habitat in Arizona. For legislative information on conservation measures, including voting records and scorecards visit the Arizona Sierra Club’s [legislative](#) page.

For more information on this legislative report please email info@humanevotersaz.org

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2025 SCORECARD (Page 1 of 2)

Animal Bills

Initiative Bills

NAME	LD	PTY	HB 2031	HB 2552	SB 1033	SB 1198	SB 1658	SB 1721	HCR 2025	HCR 2057	OTHER	COMMENTS
Selina Bliss	1	R	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Quang H Nguyen	1	R	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Stephanie Simacek	2	D	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Justin Wilmeth	2	R	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Joseph Chaplik	3	R	✗	✗	✗	NV	✗	NV	NV	✗		
Alexander Kolodin	3	R	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	☹☹	PS HB2031; HCR2025
Pamela Carter	4	R	✓	✓	✗	NV	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Matt Gress	4	R	✓	✗	✓*	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	😊😊	PS HB2186; Helped on several bills
Sarah Liguori	5	D	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Aaron Márquez	5	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Mae Peshlakai	6	D	✓	✓	NV	✓	✗	NV	✓	✓		
Myron Tsosie	6	D	✓	✓	✗	✓	NV	NV	NV	✓		
Walt Blackman	7	R	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	😊	Helped on several bills
David Marshall, Sr.	7	R	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗		
Janeen Connolly	8	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓		
Brian Garcia	8	D	✓	NV	✗	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓		
Lorena Austin	9	D	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	😊	PS HB2530
Seth Blattman	9	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓		
Ralph Heap	10	R	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	NV	✗		
Justin Olson	10	R	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗		
Junelle Caverio	11	D	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	NV	✓	NV		
Oscar De Los Santos	11	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Patty Contreras	12	D	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Stacey Travers	12	D	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Jeff Weninger	13	R	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Julie Willoughby	13	R	✓	✗	✓	✓	NV	✗	✗	✗		
Laurin Hendrix	14	R	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	☹	Blocked/Killed SB1031 in Rules
Khyi Powell	14	R	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗		
Neal Carter	15	R	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗		
Michael Way	15	R	✗	✗	✗	✓	NV	✗	✗	✗		

Animal Bills

HB2031: repeals spay neuter funding from pet license plates

HB2552: places in AZ statutes the right to use hounds for hunting wildlife

SB1033: increases bond from \$25 to \$500 per animal in abuse seizure cases

SB1198: raises penalties for injuring or killing service or law enforcement animals

SB1658: clarifies definitions/requirements for shelter & medical treatment

SB1721: repeals & preempts AZ Dept of Ag rule for humane care of hens

Initiative Bills

HCR2025: requires 60% vote margin for constitutional amendments

HCR2057: requires 10% initiative petition signatures from each county

Vote Symbols

Vote supporting animal protection or initiative rights ✓

Vote opposing animal protection or initiative rights ✗

Vote changed for purpose of reconsideration of bill ✓* or ✗*

PS = prime sponsor (cosponsors are not included)

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2025 SCORECARD (Page 2 of 2)

Animal Bills

Initiative Bills

NAME	LD	PTY	HB 2031	HB 2552	SB 1033	SB 1198	SB 1658	SB 1721	HCR 2025	HCR 2057	OTHER	COMMENTS
Chris Lopez	16	R	✖	✖	✓	✓	✓	✖	✖	✖		
Teresa Martinez	16	R	NV	✖	✓	✓	✖	✖	✖	✖		
Kevin Volk	17	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Rachel Keshel	17	R	✖	✖	✖	✓	✖	✖	✖	✖	⊗	PS HCR2025
Nancy Gutierrez	18	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☺	PS HB2211
Christopher Mathis	18	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Lupe Diaz	19	R	✓	✖	✓	✓	✖	✖	✖	✖	⊗	PS HB2552
Gail Griffin	19	R	✓	NV	✓	✓	✖	✖	✖	NV	⊗⊗	PS HB2083; HB2558
Alma Hernandez	20	D	✓	✓	NV	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓		
Betty J Villegas	20	D	✓	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Consuelo Hernandez	21	D	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Stephanie Stahl Hamilton	21	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Lupe Contreras	22	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Elda Luna-Nájera	22	D	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Mariana Sandoval	23	D	✓	✓	✖	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Michele Peña	23	R	✓	✖	✓	✓	✓	✖	✖	✖		
Anna Abeytia	24	D	✓	✓	✖	✖	✓	NV	✓	✓		
Lydia Hernandez	24	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓		
Michael Carbone	25	R	✓	✖	✓	✓	✓	✖	✖	✖		
Nick Kupper	25	R	✓	✖	✓	✓	✖	✖	✖	✖		
Cesar Aguilar	26	D	✓	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Quantá Crews	26	D	✓	✓	✖	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Lisa Fink	27	R	✖	✖	✖	✓	✖	✖	✖	✖		
Tony Rivero	27	R	✖	✖	✓	✓	NV	✖	✖	✖		
David Livingston	28	R	✖	✖	✖	✓	✓	✖	✖	✖		
Beverly Pingerelli	28	R	✖	✖	✖	✓	✖	✖	✖	✖		
Steve Montenegro	29	R	✖	✖	✖	✓	✓	✖	✖	✖	⊗	Impeded SB1658
James Taylor	29	R	✓	✖	✓	✓	NV	✖	✖	✖		
Leo Biasiucci	30	R	✓*	✖	✓	✓	✖	NV	✖	✖		
John Gillette	30	R	✖	✖	✓	✓	✖	✖	✖	✖		

Animal Bills

HB2031: repeals spay neuter funding from pet license plates
 SB1033: increases bond from \$25 to \$500 per animal in abuse seizure cases
 HB2552: places in AZ statutes the right to use hounds for hunting
 SB1198: raises penalties for injuring or killing service or law enforcement animals
 SB1658: clarifies definitions/requirements for shelter & medical treatment
 SB1721: repeals & preempts AZ Dept of Ag rule for humane housing of hens

Initiative Bills

HCR2025: requires 60% vote margin for constitutional amendments
 HCR2057: requires 10% initiative petition signatures from each county

Vote Symbols

Vote supporting animal protection or initiative rights ✓
 Vote opposing animal protection or initiative rights ✖
 Vote changed for purpose of reconsideration of bill ✓* or ✖*
 PS = prime sponsor (cosponsors are not included)

ARIZONA STATE SENATE 2025 SCORECARD

Animal Bills

Initiative Bills

NAME	LD	PTY	SB 1031	SB 1033	SB 1038	SB 1198	SB 1658	SB 1721	SB 1560	OTHER	COMMENTS
Mark Finchem	1	R	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗		
Shawnna Bolick	2	R	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗		
John Kavanagh	3	R	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV	NV	☺☺☺☺	Obtained \$500,000 for spay/neuter; PS several animal protection bills
Carine Werner	4	R	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗		
Lela Alston	5	D	✓	NV	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Theresa Hatathlie	6	D	✓	NV	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Wendy Rogers	7	R	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	☹☺	PS SB1053 allows hunting near buildings; SB1270 bans driving with pets on lap
Lauren Kuby	8	D	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	☺	PS SB1545 overturns preemption on pet store sale of puppy mill dog ordinances
Kiana Sears	9	D					✓	✓	✓		Assumed Office 3/31/25
Eva Burch	9	D	NV	✓	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV		Resigned 3/14/25
David C. Farnsworth	10	R	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗		
Catherine Miranda	11	D	NV	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Denise "Mitzi" Epstein	12	D	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓		
J.D. Mesnard	13	R	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗		
Warren Petersen	14	R	NV	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗		
Jake Hoffman	15	R	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗		
Thomas "T.J." Shope	16	R	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗		
Venden "Vince" Leach	17	R	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	☹	PS SB1560 allows strict compliance for citizen referendums
Priya Sundareshan	18	D	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓		
David Gowan	19	R	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	☹☺	PS SB1284 allows aerial fireworks; original bill which was included in SB1198
Sally Ann Gonzales	20	D	NV	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Rosanna Gabaldón	21	D	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	NV	NV		
Eva Diaz	22	D	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗		
Brian Fernandez	23	D	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	☺	PS bills to ban breed discrimination and regulate dog breeders
Analise Ortiz	24	D	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	☺	PS SB1173 extends time before landlord can remove animals for unpaid rent
Timothy "Tim" Dunn	25	R	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Flavio Bravo	26	D	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Kevin Payne	27	R	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	☺	PS SB1198 increases penalties for killing or injuring service or police animals
Frank Carroll	28	R	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Janae Shamp	29	R	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗		
Hildy Angius	30	R	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗		

Animal Bills

SB1031: bans use of animals for cosmetic testing
 SB1033: increases bond from \$25 to \$500 per animal in abuse seizures
 SB1038: Adds animal control officers to felony assault statutes
 SB1198: raises penalties for abuse of service or law enforcement animals
 SB1658: clarifies definitions/requirements for shelter & medical treatment
 SB1721: repeals & preempts AZ Dept of Ag rule for humane care of hens

Initiative Bills

SB1560: requires strict compliance for referendums

Vote Symbols

Vote supporting animal protection or initiative rights ✓
 Vote opposing animal protection or initiative rights ✗
 Vote changed for purpose of reconsideration of bill ✓* or ✗*
 PS = prime sponsor (cosponsors are not included)