



2023 Scorecard

for the Colorado General Assembly

The 2023 session of the Colorado General Assembly saw an unprecedented number of animal-related bills introduced. CVA tracked ten bills this year, all of which were ultimately used for scoring. Among the successes this year were two important bills that increased penalties for animal cruelty in Colorado.

2023 Bills

SB-038 **Prohibit Equine Slaughter for Human Consumption**

Position: **Support**

Outcome: **amended and lost on second reading in the Senate**

Colorado Voters for Animals supported the initial version of this bill, which would have made it illegal to buy a horse, mule or burro if the buyer knew the animal would be sent out of the country to be slaughtered for human consumption. Although CVA testified in support of the bill, the version that was passed by the Senate Agriculture committee had been amended in such a way that we could no longer support it. The sponsor attempted to restore the original language by amending the bill on the Senate floor, but the attempt was unsuccessful. It is not uncommon for an ambitious bill such as this to fail on the first attempt, and CVA hopes the legislature will revisit this issue in the future.



SB-255 **Wolf Depredation Compensation Fund**

Position: **Support** Outcome: **signed into law**

Colorado Voters for Animals testified in support of this bill, which provides compensation to ranchers if a reintroduced wolf kills livestock or a working animal (dog, horse, etc.) Compensation reduces the risk of ranchers killing wolves to protect livestock.

SB-256 **Management Of Gray Wolves**

Position: **Oppose** Outcome: **Governor vetoed**

CVA testified in opposition to this bill, which could have delayed

the reintroduction of the Gray Wolf in Colorado by as much as six years or longer. Colorado's voters approved Gray Wolf reintroduction via a ballot measure in the 2020 election.

SB-275 **Colorado Wild Horse Project**

Position: **Support** Outcome: **signed into law**

CVA supported this bill, which creates the Colorado wild horse management project, a nonprofit state entity that will manage and operate programs benefiting wild horses and supporting wild horse management. The project's working group will study and pursue long-term solutions for wild horses, including wild horse preserves, sanctuaries, and fertility control programs.



HB-1036 **Non-lead Bullet Replacement**

Position: **Support**
Outcome: **signed into law**

Colorado Voters for Animals testified in support of this bill, which would establish

a voluntary lead bullet replacement program, allowing hunters to receive a voucher to purchase a non-lead substitute (which tend to be more expensive). Every year hundreds of animals become sick or die after ingesting toxic lead fragments left behind by hunters when they field dress animals killed with lead bullets.

HB-1041 **Prohibit Simulcast Greyhound Races**

Position: **Support** Outcome: **signed into law**

Although Colorado banned greyhound racing in 2014, a loophole in the law allowed Colorado casinos and betting facilities to simulcast races held in other states and countries. CVA testified in support of this bill that makes betting on such simulcasts illegal in Colorado, thus aligning the law with our state's ban on greyhound racing, and also reducing its profitability nationwide.

HB-1068

Pet Animal Ownership In Housing

Position: **Support** Outcome: **signed into law**

Colorado Voters for Animals testified in support of this bill that prohibits insurance companies from canceling or refusing to offer coverage based on a dog's breed. It additionally caps pet security deposits at \$300 and limits monthly fees landlords can charge to a tenant who has a pet to \$35, or 1.5% of the monthly rent, whichever is greater. Finally, it provides protections for pets if a tenant is evicted and the pet is still on the premises.

HB-1265

Wolf License Plate

Position: **Support**

Outcome: **signed into law**

This bill creates the "Born to be Wild" Colorado special license plate. The fees paid by motorists who select the plate will help fund the implementation of non-lethal means of mitigating conflicts with gray wolves.



HB-1286

Cruelty to Law Enforcement Animals

Position: **Support** Outcome: **signed into law**

CVA testified in support of this bill which would require a person convicted of aggravated cruelty to a law enforcement animal to make restitution for the cost of the animal's veterinary care, or for the cost to acquire a new law enforcement animal. Such animals can cost \$50,000 or more because of specialized and ongoing training. The law also expands the current law covering police working dogs and horses to include any service animal used in law enforcement.

HB-1293

Felony Sentencing Changes

Position: **Support** Outcome: **signed into law**

Colorado Voters for Animals supported this bill that, among various changes to felony sentencing in Colorado, brings an important increase in the penalty for aggravated cruelty to animals. Aggravated cruelty will now be a class 4 felony (the same level as vehicular homicide). Previously, aggravated cruelty was a class 6 felony, which could be plead down to a misdemeanor, or a class 5 felony on a second offense.

About the Voting Scores

The numerical score is the legislator's score on actual votes. The letter grade is our overall assessment of the legislator's performance. We considered votes, bill sponsorship, and any "behind-the-scenes" efforts affecting animal-related legislation. The "Other Factors" column recognizes some of these efforts, including sponsorship of bills that did not make it through the committee process. The CLAW column indicates which legislators attended one or more meetings of the Colorado Legislative Animal Welfare Caucus during the session.

KEY: **✓**=Pro-animal vote; **✗**=Anti-animal vote; **PS** =Prime sponsor; **S**=sponsor; **e**=excused

Colorado State Representatives			SB-255 Wolf Compensation	SB-256 Wolf Management	SB-275 Wild Horse Project	HB-1036 Non-Lead Bullets	HB-1041 Greyhound Racing	HB-1068 Pets in Housing	HB-1265 Wolf License Plate	HB-1286 Police Animals	HB-1293 Cruelty Penalties	Voting Score	Other Factors	CLAW Attendance	Letter Grade
	Party	District													
Amabile, Judy	D	49	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Armagost, Ryan	R	64	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	PS	✓	56%		✓	B
Bacon, Jennifer	D	7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	89%		✓	B+
Bird, Shannon	D	29	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	78%			B
Bockenfeld, Rod	R	56	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	44%			D+
Boesenecker, Andrew	D	53	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89%			B+
Bottoms, Scott	R	15	✓	✗	✗	✗	e	✗	✗	✓	✗	25%			D-
Bradfield, Mary	R	21	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	44%			D+
Bradley, Brandi	R	39	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	22%			F
Brown, Kyle	D	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Catlin, Marc	R	58	PS	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	56%			B
Daugherty, Lindsey	D	24	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89%			B+
DeGraaf, Ken	R	22	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	22%			F
deGruy Kennedy, Chris	D	30	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89%			B+
Dickson, Ruby	D	37	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89%		✓	B+
Duran, Monica	D	23	✓	✗	PS	✓	PS	✓	✓	PS	✓	89%		✓	A++
English, Regina	D	17	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	67%		✓	C+

Colorado State Representatives continued			SB-255 Wolf Compensation	SB-256 Wolf Management	SB-275 Wild Horse Project	HB-1036 Non-Lead Bullets	HB-1041 Greyhound Racing	HB-1068 Pets in Housing	HB-1265 Wolf License Plate	HB-1286 Police Animals	HB-1293 Cruelty Penalties	Voting Score	Other Factors	CLAW Attendance	Letter Grade
	Party	District													
Epps, Elizabeth	D	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	67%			C+
Evans, Gabe	R	48	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	44%		✓	D+
Frizell, Lisa	R	45	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	44%			D+
Froelich, Meg	D	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%		✓	A
Garcia, Lorena *	D	35	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	89%	PS	✓	A+
Gonzales-Gutierrez, Serena	D	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	e	✓	✓	✗	88%			B+
Hamrick, Eliza	D	61	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%		✓	A
Hartsook, Anthony	R	44	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	56%			C
Herod, Leslie	D	8	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	e	✓	✓	✗	88%			B+
Holtorf, Richard	R	63	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	44%		✓	D+
Jodeh, Iman	D	41	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	e	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Joseph, Junie	D	10	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	78%			B
Kipp, Cathy	D	52	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%		✓	A
Lieder, Sheila	D	28	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89%			B+
Lindsay, Mandy	D	42	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89%			B+
Lindstedt, William	D	33	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Luck, Stephanie	R	60	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	33%			D
Lukens, Meghan	D	26	✓	PS	✓	✓	✓	✗	PS	✓	✓	78%			B
Lynch, Mike	R	65	✓	✗	PS	e	PS	✗	✗	✓	✓	63%			A+
Mabrey, Javier	D	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	78%			B
Marshall, Bob	D	43	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	e	✗	✓	✓	75%			B-
Martinez, Matthew	D	62	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89%			B+
Mauro, Tisha	D	46	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	e	✓	e	✓	86%			B+
McCluskie, Julie	D	13	PS	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89%			A+
McCormick, Karen	D	11	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89%		✓	B+
McLachlan, Barbara	D	59	✓	✗	✓	PS	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	78%		✓	A
Michaelson Jenet, Dafna	D	32	e	e	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Ortiz, David	D	38	e	e	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Parenti, Jennifer	D	19	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%		✓	A
Pugliese, Rose	R	14	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	56%		✓	C
Ricks, Naquetta	D	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	e	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Sharbini, Said	D	31	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89%			B+
Sirota, Emily	D	9	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Snyder, Marc	D	18	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	78%			B
Soper, Matt	R	54	✓	PS	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	PS	56%		✓	C
Story, Tammy	D	25	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Taggart, Rick	R	55	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	56%			C
Titone, Brianna	D	27	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	78%			B
Valdez, Alex	D	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	PS	✓	✓	✓	100%		✓	A++
Velasco, Elizabeth	D	57	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	e	PS	✓	✗	75%		✓	A-
Vigil, Stephanie	D	16	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Weinberg, Ron	R	51	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	44%		✓	D+
Weissman, Mike	D	36	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	PS	89%			A+
Wilford, Jenny	D	34	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	89%		✓	B+
Wilson, Don	R	20	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	22%		✓	F
Winter, Ty	R	47	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	33%			D
Woodrow, Steven	D	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Young, Mary	D	50	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	78%		✓	B

* Rep. Garcia received credit for being the house sponsor of SB-038, even though the bill did not make it to the House.

KEY: ✓=Pro-animal vote; ✗=Anti-animal vote; **PS** = Prime sponsor; S=sponsor; e=excused

Colorado State Senators																
	Party	District	SB-038 Horse Slaughter	SB-255 Wolf Compensation	SB-256 Wolf Management	SB-275 Wild Horse Project	HB-1036 Non-Lead Bullets	HB-1041 Greyhound Racing	HB-1068 Pets in Housing	HB-1265 Wolf License Plate	HB-1286 Police Animals	HB-1293 Cruelty Penalties	Voting Score	Other Factors	CLAW Attendance	Letter Grade
Baisley, Mark	R	4	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	50%			C-
Bridges, Jeff	D	26	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	80%			B
Buckner, Janet	D	29	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	90%			B+
Coleman, James	D	33	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Cutter, Lisa	D	20	✓	✓	✓	✓	PS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A++
Danielson, Jessie	D	22	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	90%			B+
Exum, Tony	D	11	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	90%			B+
Fenberg, Stephen	D	18	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%			A
Fields, Rhonda	D	28	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	e	✓	✓	89%		✓	B+
Gardner, Bob	R	12	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	PS	PS	60%			A
Ginal, Joann	D	14	✗	✓	✗	PS	✓	PS	✗	✓	PS	✓	70%		✓	A++
Gonzales, Julie	D	34	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	PS	90%			A+
Hansen, Chris	D	31	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	80%			B
Hinrichsen, Nick	D	3	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	e	✓	✓	✓	88%			B+
Jaquez Lewis, Sonya	D	17	PS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	PS	✓	✓	✓	100%		✓	A++
Kirkmeyer, Barbara	R	23	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	60%			C
Kolker, Chris	D	16	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	90%			B+
Liston, Larry	R	10	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	60%		✓	C
Lundeen, Paul	R	9	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	40%			D
Marchman, Janice	D	15	e	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	PS	✓	✓	89%		✓	A+
Moreno, Dominick	D	21	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	90%			B+
Mullica, Kyle	D	24	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	80%			B
Pelton, Byron	R	1	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	40%			D
Pelton, Rod	R	35	✗	e	e	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	13%			F
Priola, Kevin	D	13	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	90%			B+
Rich, Janice	R	7	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	40%			D
Roberts, Dylan	D	8	✗	PS	PS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	70%			B-
Rodriguez, Robert	D	32	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	PS	✓	✓	✓	✓	80%			B
Simpson, Cleave	R	6	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	PS	✗	✓	✓	✓	70%			A-
Smallwood, Jim	R	2	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	50%			C-
Sullivan, Tom	D	27	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	90%			B+
Van Winkle, Kevin	R	30	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	40%			D
Will, Perry	R	5	✗	PS	PS	PS	✗	✓	✗	PS	✓	✓	60%		✓	A
Winter, Faith	D	25	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	PS	✓	✓	✓	100%			A++
Zenzinger, Rachel	D	19	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	70%			B-

NOTE: The scores don't tell the whole story! Sometimes a legislator is either more or less animal friendly than their score indicates. This is especially true during years when there are few animal-related bills available for scoring.

About Colorado Voters for Animals

Colorado Voters for Animals is committed to animal protection through effective legislation. We support candidates and incumbents who align with these values. We advocate for humane legislation, oppose inhumane legislation, and educate the public about issues that affect animals.

Colorado Voters for Animals has a separate Small Donor Committee, established to help get humane candidates elected.

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