



League of Humane Voters®-Wisconsin Chapter's
HUMANE SCORECARD

2013-2014
Wisconsin Legislative Session



IN RETROSPECT

7 animal protection bills were introduced into this biennium session.

THE GOOD

Woodchucks were spared a killing season in Wisconsin thanks to the concerns of everyday citizens and some legislators as well.

THE BAD

No animal-protective legislation made it to the Governor's desk.

THE UGLY

Three anti-animal pieces of legislation were signed into law and were a major setback for wildlife.

During the 2013-14 legislative session there were pro-animal bills specific to dogs; animal cruelty (reporting & increasing penalties) and exotic animals. 3/7 received a public hearing. None of those bills made it to the floor for a full vote. Four anti-animal bills were introduced (hunting) and 2/4 bills made it to the governor's desk. The most concerning and damaging bill was the expansion of crossbow use. The vote in the Assembly was unanimous other than one legislator.

Each piece of legislation has its own story too intricate and politically charged to detail completely here. The legislators' scores (%) were weighted based on their commitment to each animal protection bill in the form of authorship, sponsorship, committee and floor votes. Their votes for anti-animal legislation were also weighted in negatively as well. The grades were used to reflect the subtleties hidden in each piece of legislation.

Every state legislator has the opportunity to sign on as a sponsor of a bill. If your legislator had no opportunity for a floor vote on animal-friendly bills, then the question to ask him/her is: "Why didn't you sign on as a co-sponsor of this animal-friendly piece of legislation?"

The intent of this scorecard is to not only highlight legislators' participation in animal-friendly bills, but most importantly to engage WI citizens in the legislative process. If you don't know who your legislators are, go to www.legis.wisconsin.gov After studying this scorecard, I encourage you to visit/call/write your representatives and discuss animal legislation with them. **Let them know you are a member of the League of Humane Voters® - Wisconsin Chapter**, an organization with voting bloc members across Wisconsin. This scorecard is a powerful tool to use when discussing animal protective legislation w/ your state legislators, county officials and local municipalities.



ASSEMBLY/SENATE BILL DESCRIPTIONS

AB 223/SB 136

Possession of dogs by felons and penalties

-This bill would have limited a felon's contact with a "vicious" dog and provides penalties for violations. The intent of the word "vicious" is concerning thus LOHV's position is neutral on this bill.

Total authors, coauthors and co-sponsors = 9

LOHV position: **NEUTRAL** (Intent of language "vicious" is unclear)

Lobbying principals:

SUPPORT = WI Professional Police Ass'n;

NEUTRAL = Dog Federation of WI, Inc.;

UNDISCLOSED = City of Milwaukee

Voted out of committee =

Ayes 9, Noes 0

Outcome: Died at the end of session



2013 WI ACT 20 -

MOTION 370

Training unleashed dogs

on bears

- Motion 370 was introduced directly into the finance committee's budget bill discussions, similar to riders at the federal level. There are no public hearings for motions and if approved by committee, become law. This motion removed the DNR rule-making authority and made it statutory law that hound dog training on bears will be 60 days (7/1 thru 8/31). Sending packs of unleashed hound dogs into the woods against bears & cubs endangers not only bears but all wildlife; it is unnecessary, inhumane form of recreation.

LOHV position: **OPPOSED**

Introduced: Rep. Nygren, Sen. LeMahieu

Passed Joint Finance Committee = Ayes 16, Noes 0

Outcome: Governor Walker signed WI ACT 20 into law which included Motion 370

AB 230/SB191

Animals believed to have been involved in fighting

- This bill eliminates the provision that the animal of an owner convicted of involvement in dog fighting must be euthanized.

Total authors, coauthors and so-sponsors = 16

LOHV position: **SUPPORT**

Lobbying principals:

SUPPORT: Humane Society of the United States, City of Milwaukee; **OPPOSE:** Dog Federation of Wisconsin, Inc.;

NEUTRAL: WI Veterinary Medical Ass'n.

Voted out of committee: Ayes 7, Noes 0

Outcome: Died at the end of session

AB 94/SB93

[Prohibits] Use of dogs in hunting wolves

This bill **prohibits** the use of dogs for wolf hunting.

Total authors, co-authors, cosponsors = 22

LOHV position: **SUPPORT**

Lobbying principals:

OPPOSE = Safari Club Int'l - WI Chap., Wisconsin Bear Hunter's Ass'n, Wisconsin FORCE (WI Firearm Owners, Ranges, Clubs & Educators), Inc., WI Wildlife Federation;

SUPPORT = Humane Society of the US, Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter

Outcome: Died at the end of session

ASSEMBLY/SENATE BILL DESCRIPTIONS

AB 486/SB 399

Crimes Against Animals - Under this bill, a person who treats an animal cruelly is guilty of a Class I felony.

Total authors, co-authors, cosponsors = **20**

LOHV position: **SUPPORT**

Lobbying principals:

OPPOSE: Safari Club Int'l-WI Chapter, Wisconsin Bear Hunter's Ass'n, Wisconsin FORCE, Dog Federation of WI Inc., WI State Horse Council;

NEUTRAL = PROFS (UW-Madison faculty)

Outcome: **Died at the end of session**



SB 319

Animals taken into custody - Any animals seized e.g. strays or victims of potential abuse, cannot be returned to owner until microchip installed in addition to more seizure and release guidelines meant to protect each animal. Also eliminates euthanization of animals suspected of animal fighting.

Total authors, co-authors & co-sponsors = **8**

LOHV position: **SUPPORT**

Lobbying principals:

OPPOSED: Wisconsin Bear Hunter's Ass'n (WBHA)

Outcome: **Died at the end of session**

AB 703

Possession of exotic wild animals - This bill prohibits the possession, propagation, and sale of dangerous exotic animals including nonnative cats and bears, apes (gorillas, chimpanzees, gibbons), and crocodilians. It exempts zoos, circuses, research facilities, wildlife sanctuaries and veterinarians.

Total authors, co-authors, cosponsors = **8**

LOHV position: **SUPPORT**

Lobbying principals:

SUPPORT - Humane Society of the U.S., Milwaukee Police Ass'n, WI Counties Ass'n, WI Professional Police Ass'n

Voted out of committee: Ayes 9, Noes 0

Outcome: **Died at the end of session**

SB 199

Reporting the mistreatment of animals - A veterinarian who makes a report of animal mistreatment in good faith is immune from civil liability for making the report.

Total authors, co-authors & co-sponsors: **13**

LOHV position: **SUPPORT**

Lobbying principals:

OPPOSED - Safari Club Int'l-WI Chapter, Wisconsin Bear Hounders Ass'n, WI FORCE;

NEUTRAL - Dairy Business Ass'n

Outcome: **Died at the end of session**

ASSEMBLY/SENATE BILL DESCRIPTIONS

AB 194/SB 185

Hunting animals with a crossbow - expands the use of crossbows down to 10 yr. olds and adds seasons as well. Crossbows are guns that shoot powerful arrows. The crippling rate in animals using a crossbow is 50% (animals hit but never recovered). With inexperienced children & adults participating in crossbow hunting now, the crippling rate is certain to increase sharply. Inexperienced hunters (young or old) now attracted to this new weapon are not able to effectively track/find mortally wounded animals either. The suffering of animals (wildlife & companion) will only increase.

Total authors, co-authors, cosponsors = **60**

LOHV position: **OPPOSE**

Lobbying principals:

SUPPORT - Nat'l Rifle Ass'n (NRA), United Sportsmen of WI, Inc., WI Bear Hunter's Ass'n (WBHA), WI FORCE, WI Wildlife Federation

NEUTRAL - Safari Club Int'l (SCI) - WI Chapter

Approved by the Governor:
2013 Wisconsin Act 61



AB 137/SB164

Killing season on Woodchucks - This bill would redefine the currently "Protected" Woodchuck as a game/fur-bearing animal and establish a 10-month killing season w/ no limits on killing.

Total authors, co-authors, co-sponsors: **10**
LOHV position: **OPPOSE**

Lobby principals: **OPPOSE** - Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter;

SUPPORT - WI Wildlife Federation

Outcome: **Died at end of the session**

AB 397

Shining Wild Animals - This bill specifies that a person may use a battery operated light designed to be affixed to clothing/part of the body or mounted to the scope of a firearm while hunting on foot for wolves or for raccoons, foxes, coyotes, or other unprotected animals during the open season for the animals hunted. Previously, only handheld flashlights were allowed for such unethical activities.

Total authors, coauthors, cosponsors = 8
LOHV position = **OPPOSE** (Wild animals forage for food for themselves & young at night)

Lobbying principals:

SUPPORT - Wisconsin Bear Hunter's Ass'n (WBHA)

Outcome - Died at end of session

AB8/SB210

Restricting local governmental authority to regulate hunting - This bill removes local authority to regulate the use of longbow and crossbow for the purposes of hunting within city limits. It also allows the use of bowhunting within 100' of hospital, school or sanitorium.

Total authors, coauthors, cosponsors = 4
LOHV position = **OPPOSE** (removes local authority's ability to promote coexistence with wild animals)

Lobbying principals:

SUPPORT - NRA, SCI-WI Chapter, United Sportsmen of WI, Inc., WBHA, WI-FORCE, WI Wildlife Federation

UNDISCLOSED - WI Hospital Ass'n, Inc.

OPPOSED - League of WI Municipalities

Approved by the Governor: 2013 Wisconsin Act 71

Assembly Votes

Pro-Animal vote = Anti-Animal vote = Authored = A; Co-authored = CA; Co-Sponsored = CS

Comm. Chair did NOT hold Public Hearing = Public hearing = Committee vote = CV; Floor vote = FV

Dist.	Representative	AB 223 Dogs and Felons	AB 94 Prohibition of dogs on Wolves	AB 486 Crimes against an animal	AB 230 Dogs & dog-fighting felons	AB 137 Killing of Woodchucks	AB 703 Prohibition of exotic animals	AB 194 Xbow use	SB 210 Local gov. auth. to reg. Xbow	AB 397 Killing wild animals using lights	SB 319 Animals taken into custody	SB 199 Report mis-treatment of animals	Score	Grade
1	Garey Bies (R)	CV					CA	CV					17%	F
2	Andre Jacque (R)	A			CA	A		CA					5%	F
3	Alvin R. Ott (R)	CA					CA	CA	CV				0	F
4	Chad Weininger (R)							FV					0	F
5	Jim Steineke (R)							CA	CV				0	F
6	Gary J. Tauchen (R)							CS					0	F
7	Daniel Riemer (D)							FV			CS		2%	F
8	JoCasta Zamarripa (D)				CV			FV					1%	F
9	Josh Zepnick (D)							FV			CS		2%	F
10	Sandy Pasch (D)		CA		CA			FV					22%	Pass
11	Mandela Barnes (D)		CA					FV					5%	F
12	Frederick Kessler (D)	CV			CV			FV					14%	F
13	Rob Hutton (R)							FV					0	F
14	Dale Kooyenga (R)							FV					0	F
15	Joe Sanfelippo (R)							FV					0	F
16	Leon D. Young (D)							FV					0	F
17	LaTonya Johnson (D)	CV	CA		CA			CV	CA				48%	Pass
18	Evan Goyke (D)	CV		CA				FV				CS	33%	Pass
19	Jon Richards (D)							FV					0	F
20	Christine M. Sinicki (D)		CA		CA		CA					CS	66%	Pass
21	Jessie Rodriguez (R)	CV						FV					0	F
22	Don Pridemore (R)							FV					0	F
23	Jim Ott (R)							CV					0	F
24	Daniel Knodl (R)							FV					0	F
25	Paul Tittl (R)						CV	CA					0	F
26	Mike Endsley (R)							CA					0	F
27	Steve Kestell (R)							FV					0	F
28	Erik Severson (R)	CV						FV					0	F
29	John P. Murtha (R)				CV			CA					0	F
30	Dean Knudson (R)							FV					0	F
31	Amy Loudenberg (R)							CV					0	F
32	Tyler August (R)							CA					0	F
33	Stephen Nass (R)				CA			FV		CA			0	F
34	Rob Swearingen (R)				CV			CA	CV				0	F
35	Mary Czaja (R)					CA		A					0	F
36	Jeffrey Mursau (R)							CA	CV				0	F
37	John Jagler (R)						CV	CA					0	F
38	Joel Kleefisch	CV				CA		CA	A				0	F
39	Mark Born (R)							CA		A			0	F
40	Kevin D. Petersen (R)							CA					0	F
41	Joan Ballweg (R)							CA					0	F
42	Keith Ripp (R)					CA		FV		CA			0	F
43	Andy Jorgensen (D)							CA					0	F
44	Debra Kolste (D)							CA					0	F
45	Janis Ringhand (D)							CA					0	F
46	Gary Hebl (D)		CA					CA	CV			CS	33%	Pass
47	Robb Kahl (D)	A					CA	CA					22%	Pass
48	Melissa Sargent (D)		CA	CS				FV					20%	Pass
49	Travis Tranel (R)							CA					0	F
50	Edward Brooks (R)				CV	A		CA					0	F
51	Howard Marklein (R)							CV					0	F

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52	Jeremy Thiesfeldt (R)						CV	CA					0	F
53	Michael Schraa (R)			CA	CA			CA					17%	F
54	Gordon N. Hintz (D)		CA					CA					0	F
55	Dean R. Kaufert (R)							FV					0	F
56	David Murphy (R)					CA		CA					0	F
57	Penny B. Schaber (D)		CA					CA					0	F
58	Patricia Strachota (R)							CA		A			0	F
59	Daniel R. LeMahieu (R)							FV					0	F
60	Duey Stroebel (R)							FV					0	F
61	Samantha Kerkman (R)							CA					0	F
62	Thomas Weatherston (D)				CA		CV	CA					13%	F
63	Robin Vos (R)							FV					0	F
64	Peter Barca (D)							CA					0	F
65	Tod Ohnstad (D)	CA	CA	CS	CA			FV			A	CS	91%	A
66	Cory Mason (D)							FV					0	F
67	Thomas Larson (R)	CA		CA				CA	A				5%	F
68	Kathleen Bernier (R)	CA		A	CA			FV					44%	Pass
69	Scott Suder (R)							FV					0	F
70	Amy Sue Vruwink (D)							CA		CA			0	F
71	Katrina Shankland (D)				CA			CV	CV				17%	F
72	Scott Krug (R)							CA					0	F
73	Nick Milroy (D)			A				CA	CV				0	F
74	Janet Bewley (D)		CA	CA	CV		CA	CA					51%	Pass
75	Stephen Smith (D)							CA					0	F
76	Chris Taylor (D)		CA	CA	CA			FV				CS	53%	Pass
77	Terese Berceau (D)		CS	CA	A		A	FV				CS	80%	B
78	Brett Hulseley (D)		CA					FV				CS	20%	Pass
79	Diane Hesselbein (D)		CA	CS				CA	CV				32%	Pass
80	Sondy Pope (D)		A	CA			CV	FV				CS	55%	Pass
81	Fred Clark (D)		A					CA	CV				10%	F
82	Ken Skowronski (R)							FV	CV				0	F
83	David Craig (R)							FV					0	F
84	Mike Kuglitsch (R)							CA					0	F
85	Mandy Wright (D)	CA		CA			CV	CA				CS	50%	Pass
86	John Spiros (R)	CV			A			CA					18%	F
87	Mary Williams (R)							CV	CV				0	Pass
88	John Klenke (R)							FV					0	Pass
89	John A. Nygren (R)							CA					0	Pass
90	Eric Genrich (D)			CA				FV					5%	F
91	Dana Wachs (D)	CV	CA	CA				CA					35%	Pass
92	Chris Danou (D)							A	CV				0	F
93	Warren L. Petryk (R)						A	CA	CV				0	F
94	Steve Doyle (D)			CA				FV					5%	F
95	Jill Billings (D)							CA					0	F
96	Lee Nerison (R)						CV	CA	CV				0	F
97	Bill Kramer (R)							FV					0	F
98	Adam Neylon (R)							FV					0	F
99	Chris Kapenga (R)							FV					0	F

Senate Votes

Pro-Animal vote = Anti-Animal vote = Authored = A; Co-authored = CA; Co-Sponsored = CS

Comm. Chair did NOT hold Public Hearing = Public hearing = Committee vote = CV; Floor vote = FV

Dist.	Senator	SB 136 Dogs and Felons	SB 93 Prohib. of dogs on Wolves	SB 399 Crimes against an animal	SB 191 Dogs & dog-fighting felons	SB 319 Animals taken into custody	SB 199 Reporting mis-treatment of animals	SB 164 Killing of Woodchucks	AB 194/ SB 185 Xbow use	AB 8/ SB 210 Local gov. auth. to regulate Xbow	AB 397 Killing wild animals using lights	AB 703 Prohibition of exotic animals	Score	Grade
1	Frank Lasee (R)									FV			0	F
2	Robert L. Cowles (R)									FV			0	F
3	Tim Carpenter (D)	A	CA	CS	CA	A	A			FV			100%	A+
4	Lena C. Taylor (D)					CA		A	CS	FV	CS		0	F
5	Leah Vukmir (R)									FV			0	F
6	Nikiya Harris (D)					CA	CA			FV			46%	Pass
7	Chris Larson (D)								CV	FV			0	F
8	Alberta Darling (R)									FV			0	F
9	Joel Leibham (R)							A		FV			0	F
10	Sheila Harsdorf (R)									FV			0	F
11	Neal Kedzie (R)								CV	A			0	F
12	Tom Tiffany (D)							CA	CS	CV			0	F
13	Scott L. Fitzgerald (R)								CV	A			0	F
14	Luther S. Olsen (R)								CA	FV			0	F
15	Tim Cullen (D)									FV			12%	F
16	Mark Miller (D)		CA						CV	FV			42%	Pass
17	Dale W. Schultz (R)								CS	FV			0	F
18	Rick Gudex (R)									FV			0	F
19	Michael G. Ellis (R)								CV	FV			0	F
20	Glenn Grothman (R)								CV	FV	CS		0	F
21	John Lehman (D)					CA			CA	FV			17%	F
22	Robert W. Wirch (D)								CV	FV			0	F
23	Terry Moulton (R)								CV	CV	CS		0	F
24	Julie Lassa (D)				A				CS	FV			22%	Pass
25	Bob Jauch (D)			A						FV			34%	Pass
26	Fred A. Risser (D)		A	CA	A	A	A			FV		CS	100%	A+
27	Jon Erpenbach (D)									FV			12%	F
28	Mary Lazich (R)									FV			0	F
29	Jerry Petrowski (R)								CS	FV			0	F
30	Dave Hansen (D)	A	A	CS					CA	FV			61%	Pass
31	Kathleen Vinehout (D)							CA	CS	FV			0	F
32	Jennifer Shilling (D)									FV			12%	F
33	Paul Farrow (R)								A	FV			0	F