



Kindness and Care for Animals®

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MA State House to Host Lobby Day for Animals

Animal welfare organizations collaborate to lobby for animal-protection legislation

BOSTON, MA – On Tuesday, April 30, the Animal Rescue League of Boston, MSPCA, and other animal welfare organizations, will gather at the Massachusetts State House for Lobby Day for Animals, to help citizen animal advocates make an impact by meeting and encouraging their elected officials to prioritize animal-protection legislation.

We invite and encourage members of the media to attend to help shed light on a number of critical pieces of legislation to further protect animals across the Commonwealth.

Media Availability When: Tuesday, April 30, 11 a.m. - Noon Where: Massachusetts State House, the Great Hall Interview Opportunities: ARL, MSPCA advocacy staff, citizen advocates, MA Legislators in attendance

ARL and MSPCA will present briefings on current pieces of legislation, set up appointments with elected officials, and staunch animal advocates Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr, Senator Adam Gomez, and Representative Sam Montaño will address those in attendance.

Priority bills include:

An Act to Increase Kennel Safety aka Ollie's Law (H.4564; S.2731)

Currently, kennels in Massachusetts have limited standards. This proposed bill would create regulations for kennels, including commercial boarding and daycares. The bill is named after Ollie, a puppy who died from injuries sustained at a pet daycare in Western Massachusetts.

An Act Relative to the Use of Elephants, Big Cats, Primates, and Bears in Traveling Exhibits (H.3245; S.2197; S.2189

If passed, this piece of legislation would end the cruel use of these types of animals in circuses and other traveling exhibits.

An Act to Maintain Stable Housing for Families with Pets in an Economic Crisis and Beyond (H.1367; S.876)

This bill would provide housing protections during states of emergency and immediately afterward, preventing animals from being used as a reason for eviction. It would also prohibit insurance companies from refusing coverage, canceling, or increasing rates on the basis of dog breed.

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high-quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2023, ARL served 20,964 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at arlboston.org; and be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

ABOUT MSPCA-ANGELL:

The MSPCA-Angell is a national and international leader in animal protection and veterinary medicine and provides direct hands-on care for thousands of animals each year. Founded in 1868, it is the second-oldest humane society in the United States. Services include animal protection and adoption, advocacy, humane education, law enforcement, and world-class veterinary care. The MSPCA-Angell is a private, non-profit organization. It does not receive any government funding nor is it funded or operated by any national humane organization. The MSPCA-Angell relies solely on the support and contributions from individuals who care about animals. Please visit <u>mspca.org</u> or follow on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>TikTok</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u> for more information.

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