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## Halfway into Our Fourth 5 Years

HB643 Sponsor: Rep. George Distel (Regulatory authority of exotic animals transferred from Ohio Dept. of Agriculture to Ohio Div. of Wildlife, personal possession permits required, mandatory liability insurance.)

**Defeated**

HB606 Sponsor: Rep. Jim Hughes (Dog kennel licensing bill required a state kennel license for anyone with more than 8 breeding dogs, mandatory vendor's license, micromanagement of veterinary care and grooming, transferred regulatory authority from Dept. of Agriculture to Dept. of Commerce.)

**Defeated**

HB22 Sponsor: Rep. Brian Williams (Animal cruelty bill, increased penalties for farm livestock and other "non-companion" animals.)

**Defeated**

HB45 Sponsor: Rep. George Distel (Reintroduction of HB643 from previous General Assembly)

**Defeated**

HB223 Sponsors: Rep. Jim Hughes & Robert Hagan (Dog kennel licensing bill, mandatory state licensing & inspection of anyone possessing more than 8 breeding dogs, mandatory vendor's license, annual fees from \$150 to \$750 depending on number of breeding dogs.)

**Defeated**

SB173 Sponsor: Sen. Gary Cates (Senate version of HB223)

**Defeated**

HB71 Sponsor: Rep. John White (Introduced as a dogfighting bill which OAAO did not oppose, substitute bill contained many animal rights provisions opposed by OAAO.)

**Animal rights provisions removed, bill passed**

HB415 Sponsors: Rep. Louis Blessing & John Domenick (Animal fighting bill, increased penalties and channeled cash & proceeds from sale of confiscated equipment to impounding animal shelter.)

**Defeated**

HB418 Sponsors: Rep. Courtney Combs & Brian Williams (Animal cruelty bill, increased penalties for cruelty to farm animals.)

**Defeated**

HB446 Sponsor: Rep. Webster (Mandatory rabies vaccination of all dogs, cats & ferrets to be performed only by licensed veterinarians, kennel license fees increased as much as 600%, plus many other provisions detrimental to hobby and commercial breeders.)

**Defeated**

**Defeated** a rule proposed by Division of Wildlife to ban the ownership of wild boar (including Russian & European hogs) in Ohio.

**Defeated** a rule proposed by Division of Wildlife requiring all privately owned deer that die or are killed or slaughtered to be tested for Chronic Wasting Disease.

Published a quarterly newsletter containing legislative updates, animal care and safety tips, and other articles pertaining to animal ownership.



Why do we spend so much time and effort working to defeat animal "rights" legislation? The answer is simple - if we intend to continue having animals in our lives, we have no choice.

Over the last twenty years, we have seen a concern for the welfare of animals become increasingly intertwined with the radical philosophy of animal "rights". The difference is simple:

Animal Welfare = **Responsible Use** of animals

Animal Rights = **No use** of animals

This issue is not unique to Ohio. Radical animal rights organizations such as HSUS (Humane Society of the United States) and PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) are working feverishly to see legislation passed in every state to severely restrict (and ultimately shut down) the animal industry in all its forms.

Do not be deceived - this very vocal minority who claim to "speak for the animals" do not intend to make life better for your animals - they intend to see to it that you have no animals, because in their words, animals are not ours to eat, wear, exhibit, experiment on, or profit from in any way.

For additional information and to join OAAO, visit our website at [www.oaao.us](http://www.oaao.us) or email us at:

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An incorporated non-profit organization

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The Ohio Association of Animal Owners is currently a 10,000+ member organization in Ohio that has a three-fold mission:

1. Protect the rights of animal owners;
2. Aid in securing fair regulations and legislation;
3. Educate animal owners in their responsibilities to animal care and public safety.

The OAAO supports the responsible use of animals and animal products.

Formed in March 1990, OAAO's membership is comprised of people from every aspect of the animal industry: farmers, exotic animal owners, educators and exhibitors, dealers, medical researchers, game ranchers, pet stores, capture/transport specialists, and pet owners. The organization first formed in direct response to animal "rights" legislation sponsored by Senator Charles Horn from Montgomery County, Ohio, which would have prohibited private ownership of "potentially dangerous" animals. The list of potentially dangerous animals included pygmy goats and exotic goldfish! OAAO managed to defeat the bill and has been instrumental in defeating many other animal rights bills since that time.

The OAAO is regarded at the Statehouse as an organization that is not necessarily huge, but is painfully honest. Politically incorrect at times, OAAO does not play the political game of "I'll give you this if you'll give me that". OAAO does not believe in bargaining away the rights of one group of animal owners in order to safeguard the rights of another. OAAO members stick together and do their best to encourage other animal interest groups to do the same.

## OAAO ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Our First 5 Years

Defeated 7 major animal rights bills in Ohio during our first 5 years, and worked with county and city officials to review proposed exotic animal ordinances. These included:

SB209 Sponsor: Senator Charles Horn (Mandatory liability insurance for "potentially dangerous animals" including pygmy goats, potbellied pigs and tropical fish)  
**Defeated**

SB210 Sponsor: Senator Barry Levy (Annual license fees of \$500+ for breeding any animal from dogs to hogs.)  
**Defeated**

SB189 Sponsor: Senator Betty Montgomery (Confiscatory powers to local humane societies)  
**Defeated**

HB688 Sponsor: Rep. Frank Sawyer (Mandatory liability insurance -- Reintroduction of SB209.)  
**Defeated**

HB291 Sponsor: Rep. Frank Sawyer (Regulatory authority over privately owned exotic livestock given to Division of Wildlife along with authority to set license fees.)  
**Defeated**

HB91 Sponsor: Rep. Rhine McLin (Made animal cruelty a greater offense than child abuse.)  
**Defeated**

SB134 Sponsor: Senator Ben Gaeth (Established exotic meat inspection.)  
**Passed**

Marion County (Exotic animal ban)  
**Defeated**

City of Huber Heights (Exotic animal ban)  
**Defeated**

Worked with Ohio Farm Bureau in 1994 to write wording for SB134 to secure "exotic" meat inspection.

Published a bi-monthly newsletter containing legislative updates and animal care and safety tips.

### Our Second 5 Years

Defeated 9 major animal rights bills in Ohio during our second 5 years, and worked with township and village officials to review proposed animal ordinances. These included:

HB398 Sponsor: Rep. Diane Grendell (Allowed seller of a horse to control how buyer could use the horse.)  
**Defeated**

HB241 Sponsor: Rep. Diane Grendell (Reintroduction of HB398)  
**Defeated**

SB235 Sponsor: Sen. Richard Schafrath (Mandatory rabies vaccination of dogs, cats and ferrets; authorized local Health Commissioner to require all livestock be vaccinated.)  
**Defeated**

HB437 Sponsor: Rep. Pat Tiberi (increased penalties for animal cruelty to same or greater than crimes against people.)  
**Defeated**

SB 26 Sponsors: Sen. Doug White and Rep. Sam Bateman (Removed dogs and cats from definition of agriculture.)  
**Defeated**

HB108 Sponsor: Rep. Pat Tiberi (Reintroduction of HB437)  
**Defeated**

SB187 Sponsor: Sen. Doug White (Mandatory cage specifications for certain privately owned animals.)  
**Amended to delete this section**

SB42 Sponsor: Sen. Robert Gardner (Authorized townships to adopt noise control regulations and exempted animal husbandry operations from those regulations.)  
**Passed**

HB612 Sponsor: Rep. Gregory Jolivet (Created an exemption from the fuel use tax for trucks and trailers weighing 26,000 pounds or less.)  
**Passed**

Village of Lexington (Exotic animal ban)  
**Defeated**

Village of Greenwich (Would have banned all horses from even passing through the village.)

**Defeated**

Pike Township (Exotic animal ban)  
**Defeated**

Perry Township (Exotic animal ban)  
**Defeated**

Provided financial support in a precedent setting Ohio case concerning property owners' right to protect private property from wildlife damage. (Ohio Division of Wildlife vs. Melvin Troyer)

Published a quarterly newsletter containing legislative updates and animal care and safety tips.

Served on the Ohio Cervid Advisory Committee re: health issues in captive deer and elk.

### Our Third 5 Years

Worked with other animal interest groups to amend Ohio's animal welfare statutes.

SB221 Sponsor: Sen. Robert Goodman (animal cruelty bill)  
**Passed with OAAO supported amendment adding mandatory training of all humane officers.**

Worked with other animal interest groups to prevent introduction of 3 major animal rights bills in Ohio. These included:

Sponsor: Sen. Marilyn Reid (statewide exotic animal ban)  
**Defeated - Sponsor abandoned**

Sponsor: Sen. Steve Austria (statewide exotic animal ban)  
**Defeated - Sponsor abandoned**

Sponsor: Rep. Steve Reinhard (statewide exotic animal ban)  
**Defeated - Sponsor abandoned**

Worked with county officials to review proposed exotic animal ordinance:

Miami County (exotic animal ban)  
**Defeated**

Published a quarterly newsletter containing legislative updates and animal care and safety tips.