

2008 General Election ~ State Representative ~ District 52

1. Did you grow up with animals?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes; my family had a dog and a turtle during some of my formative years.
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

2. Does your family have animals?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes; an old cat – TJ, and last year we had to euthanize our 12-year old dog Sparkie because of kidney failure.
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

3. Are you in favor of the spaying/neutering of dogs and cats to reduce overpopulation?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes; I voted in favor of HB08-1185 (Peniston/Taylor), which requires that animals adopted from shelters be sterilized.
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

4. Would you be likely to support state legislation to restrict the length of time and conditions under which a dog may be tethered outdoors?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes; I would be open to supporting such legislation but would have to see the details before I commit because there are issues of over-regulation and property rights. At the same time, we would want to protect dogs against a scenario where, for example they are left out all day with no shade and 90 degree temperature or in other dangerous conditions.
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

5. Do you believe that aggravated cruelty/violence to animals should be a felony?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes; Currently, a first time offense for aggravated cruelty to animals is a Class 6 felony and a subsequent conviction is a Class 5 felony (C.R.S. 18-9-202 (c)). I did vote for HB07-1235, "Concerning Cruelty to Animals."
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

6. During the 2008 legislative session, a bill was passed to prohibit inhumane forms of confinement, such as "veal crates" and "gestation crates," of calves and pigs raised for slaughter (SB08-201). If you are an incumbent, please indicate your level of support for this legislation. If you are not an incumbent, please indicate the position you believe you would have taken.

John M. Kefalas (D)	Supported/would have supported this legislation on its merits; I voted for SB08-201 (Isgar/Curry) concerning standards for livestock confinement.
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

7. Would you be likely to support state legislation to prohibit the confinement of egg-laying hens in "battery cages?"

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes; Yes, after seeing details of proposed legislation.
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

8. Would you be likely to support state legislation to require that educational institutions at all levels provide (and advertise to students) an alternative to animal dissection?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes; HB08-1149 "Classroom Animal Dissection Alternatives" addressed that, but lost in the House on second reading with amendments. I supported the bill.
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

9. Would you be likely to support state legislation prohibiting the use of elephants in traveling acts, such as circuses?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Undecided; I would need to see the details of such proposed legislation. A blanket prohibition may be an overreach.
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

10. Rodeos currently enjoy a blanket exemption from the state's animal cruelty statute. Would you be likely to support legislation that would limit this exemption to those events currently sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

11. Section 33-1-101 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, states, "It is the policy of the state of Colorado that the wildlife and their environment are to be protected, preserved, enhanced, and managed for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the people of this state and its visitors." Do you believe that all Colorado residents should have a voice in wildlife policy?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

12. Of the two following value statements, to which are you likely to give higher priority?
=Wildlife and their environment are to be protected and preserved
=Wildlife and their environment are to be managed

John M. Kefalas (D)	Wildlife and their environment are to be protected and preserved
Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond

13. Would you be likely to support state legislation to prohibit the hunting of captive or confined animals ("canned hunting")?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes; Intuitively, I would be likely to support legislation to prohibit "canned hunting" such as HB08-1096 - killed in the Agriculture, Livestock & Natural Resources Committee on a 12-0 vote. But after reading the testimony regarding current regulations of alternative livestock operations and seeing that only one person spoke in favor of the bill, I would want to know why all committee members opposed it.
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Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond
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14. Do you believe that Amendment 14, the anti-trapping initiative passed by Colorado voters in 1996, should be overturned or weakened in any way?

John M. Kefalas (D)	No; I do not believe Article XVIII, Section 12b of the Colorado Constitution should be overturned or weakened.
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Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond
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The following two petition-related questions will not be used for scoring.

15. Would you be likely to support state legislation to (1) require counties to allow county-level ballot initiatives and (2) establish consistent procedures and criteria for such initiatives?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes; People should be able to put initiatives on county ballots, and there should be a fair, uniform state standard for such.)
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Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond
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16. Do you think that initiating a state ballot issue should be easier, harder, or as it now is?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Harder; Amending the Colorado Constitution, through the citizen initiative process, should require a higher standard than making a statutory change as long as there are protections so that the legislature cannot modify the citizen initiative. This is the basis for my support of SCR08-003, which has been referred to the voters.
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Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond
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17. Would you be willing to consider factual documentation from CHVL on a given issue?

John M. Kefalas (D)	Yes
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Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond
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This concludes our questionnaire. Please add any general comments below.

John M. Kefalas (D)	None given
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Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond
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Questionnaire Score

John M. Kefalas (D)	92%
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Bob McCluskey (R)	Did not respond
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