

UPDATE

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Mission:

Colorado Humane Voters League's mission is to benefit animals by supporting and initiating humane legislation, opposing inhumane legislation, responding to proposed administrative regulations regarding animals, and supporting candidates who align with our values.

Colorado Humane Voters League is a 501(c)(4) non-profit corporation, Federal Tax ID #84-1492287. Contributions are not tax deductible.

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2006 General Election Information



Included in this newsletter is the 2006 Ballot Buddy for your congressional district. Your Ballot Buddy includes all of the races that CHVL tracked that are within, or partially within, your congressional district's boundaries. Your congressional, state senate, and state house district numbers are printed on your mailing label. (On the label, "CD" = congressional district; "SSD" = state senate district; and "SHD" = state house district.)

Ballot issue: CHVL supports Amendment 38, a voter-initiated ballot issue that would reform the petition process, allow petitions within any voting district from the state level down, and provide consistent requirements for petitions. As a grassroots group, we support this amendment because it would give voters the legal authority to place issues on a local or state ballot; for example, voters could collect signatures for a county, municipal, school district, or special tax district ballot issue.

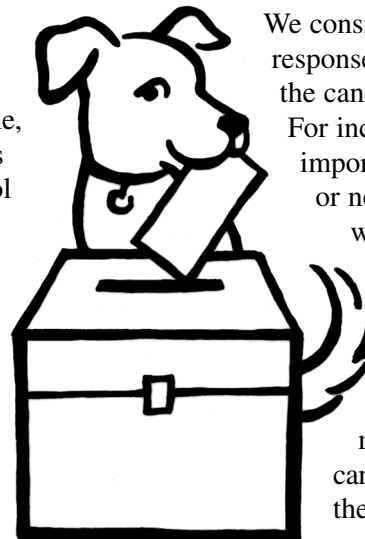
The Ballot Buddy lists all of the candidates for each race and, for each candidate, indicates party affiliation (or "unaffiliated"), voting record (for candidates with CHVL voting histories), questionnaire response score, if the candidate is a "Pro-Animal Pick," and if the candidate gets a "Paws Down" for an anti-animal voting record. For a more detailed discussion of each race, including the actual candidate questionnaire responses, please visit our web site. The response menu is at the following address:

<http://www.coloradohumanevoters.org/elecinfo/e-2006/e-2006.html>.

Once you have arrived at this address just click on the link for the race you want to read about.

As always, if you do not have access to the Internet and you would like a copy of the responses for any race, just give us a call and let us know which race(s) you want information for and we will be happy to mail the information to you.

NOTE: Our "Pro-Animal Picks" are based *solely* on the candidate's stance on *animal issues* and, for some offices, *petition rights issues*. If you have questions about a candidate's positions on other issues, please contact that candidate's campaign. (Project Vote Smart {www.vote-smart.org} also has information on some candidates.)



We consider questionnaire responses and any voting history the candidate has with CHVL. For incumbents, another very important criterion is whether or not the incumbent was willing to take a leadership role in passing pro-animal legislation. In some races there is no pro-animal candidate; in some races there is more than one pro-animal candidate; and in other races there are two or more very evenly matched candidates

and we chose to remain neutral. Finally, as stated above, we have posted a more detailed explanation of how we made specific pro-animal choices on our web site, on the same page with each set of responses (the response menu is above).

We cannot stress enough the importance of volunteering to help the campaigns of
(continued on next page)

(election information, continued)

our “Pro-Animal Picks.” This is our chance to make a difference for animals – let’s help these pro-animal candidates get elected! You don’t have to live in the candidate’s district to help him or her. Just a few hours of your time can make all the difference. Some candidate contact information is listed on our web site (on each district’s page - see the address above). Also, you can contact us at 720-855-3040 or chvl@coloradohumanevoters.org and we will put you in touch with a specific candidate's campaign office. Please mention that you are helping because of the candidate’s stance on animal issues. **Thank you!**

Changes 🐾🙌🐾🙌🐾🙌🐾🙌🐾🙌🐾🙌🐾🙌🐾🙌

We want to let you know about some changes we have decided to make in order to keep this organization going.

For the past seven and a half years, a handful of people have been doing a lot of work behind the scenes. Despite generous support from some members, as you may have realized from previous issues we have had a constant resource shortage.

We pride ourselves on being an all-volunteer organization, and our "working board" members have succeeded in running the group in the time we have left after our day jobs. The past year has been a struggle, however, and it is apparent that if we have only a handful of volunteers trying to sustain all of our activities, CHVL cannot be

effective in the role we envision for it. We few cannot do everything that we want to do for CHVL. We have been forced to come to a “make-or-break” decision about the organization's future.

A few months ago, we tried, with the generous help of our sustaining

donors, to raise enough money to hire a part-time employee for a six-month trial period. This person would have represented us as a lobbyist at the state capitol, led fundraising efforts, acted as our point of contact with the media, helped with increasing membership statewide, and, as time allowed, also performed administrative tasks. If the trial period went well, this person would have continued with these responsibilities and raised his or her own salary, in addition to other funds, on an ongoing basis. We fell short of the amount we needed to raise to pursue this avenue for obtaining ongoing help, so have let this idea go for now.

We have tried over the years to expand our areas of effort; for example, providing candidate information for more

and more elective offices. But now we have had to face the decision of whether to disband the organization or cut back on our activities.

Political advocacy is not a strategy that offers instant results, but it is ultimately necessary to improving the status of animals. We want CHVL to be in this work for the long haul. Given the lack of funds for hiring part-time help, and the lack of consistent, substantial volunteer help, we have decided that, rather than close down, we will cut back on our activities and services until we have adequate support.



We have decided to focus our efforts on the state legislature because we believe that is the area of government in which we can make the most effective use of our limited resources.

For now, we will cut back on our activities and services as follows.

- We have tried to send occasional **updates by U.S. mail**, between newsletters, for our members who do not provide an e-mail address. For the foreseeable future, we will stop sending updates by U.S. mail.
- For **elections**, we will continue to send candidate questionnaires to candidates for the state legislature (senate and house) and provide our members with candidate information for those races. After the 2006 general election, for the foreseeable future we will no longer send questionnaires or provide candidate information for U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, governor, district attorney, sheriff, county commissioner, or city offices. Whether our web site lists specific candidate responses to questionnaire questions, or just candidates’ questionnaire scores, will depend upon the resources we have for the project.
- Some time ago, we cut down from three to two **newsletters** per year. We plan to continue to produce two newsletters per year. To reduce postage costs, we will sometimes send a newsletter by e-mail to our e-mail members, unless they request a hard copy.
- For **e-mail alerts**, we are considering streamlining our process. We will notify our e-mail members if we decide to make any changes in this process.
- We will continue to provide **legislative scorecards** on our web site, but the amount of detail available on the scorecards will depend upon the resources we have for the project.

We have from time to time asked for volunteers for specific projects, and we again thank our members who have helped with tabling, yard sales, and other short-term projects.

If You Want to Help CHVL... 🐾🙌🐾🙌🐾

Even with the cutbacks we described, we need ongoing help with these major activities.

- Lobbying:** *We need a volunteer lobbyist for the 2007 legislative session.* Because we did not have a lobbyist this year, we lost several opportunities in the 2006 session. For CHVL to be as effective as we want, we need a *reliable, consistent* presence at the capitol. Please contact us by phone or e-mail if you would like to know more about this important activity. Because of the speed with which legislative developments can occur, we need a lobbyist who is available by phone and e-mail, can be at the capitol at least two days a week (more as needed), and can participate in weekly conference calls with the CHVL board of directors during the session.
- Fundraising:** We are adamant about not asking membership dues, because we don't want financial considerations to keep humane-minded people from joining our network. We rely on the generosity of individual donors. Because we don't have membership dues and are busy with other CHVL responsibilities, we are constantly in need of fundraising help. We need someone to take the lead on our fundraising efforts.
- Media relations:** We currently have no consistent interaction with the media. A media relations person could help us get the word out about animal-friendly candidates, legislative scorecards, CHVL events, and the organization itself. This in turn would enable us to grow as an organization and be much more influential in our animal advocacy.

Also, if you use **e-mail** and have not given us your e-mail address, please consider doing so. E-mail is by far our most efficient, timely, and cost-effective means of communicating

with our members. We do *not* send floods of e-mail, send "junk" e-mail, or share your e-mail address. Thank you.

Horse Slaughter Revisited 🐾🙌🐾🙌🐾

Last year Congress passed an amendment that *should* have suspended horse slaughter by eliminating funding for USDA inspections. However, the USDA defied the will of Congress by ruling that slaughter facilities could pay for the inspections themselves. Animal advocates responded by redoubling efforts to pass the Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (H.R. 503 & S. 1915), which would permanently end the slaughter of American horses for human consumption.

On September 7 the U.S House of Representatives passed H.R. 503 by a vote of 263 to 146! This victory occurred with little help from Colorado's delegation, all of whom voted "no" except for Diana DeGette (CD1), who voted "yes," and Bob Beauprez (CD7), who was absent.

The bill now moves on to the U.S. Senate. Please urge Senators Allard and Salazar to support S. 1915!

Senator Wayne Allard (202) 224-5941; Fax: (202) 224-6471
Senator Ken Salazar (202) 224-5852; Fax: (202) 228-5036

Donor Recognition 🐾🙌🐾🙌🐾

A heartfelt "THANK YOU" to the following folks who have contributed to CHVL since our last newsletter. We also wish to thank our donors who prefer to remain anonymous.

Rose Mary Allen	Mary Hill	Virginia Robbins
Tamara Baker	Susan Jones	Jane Sawvell
Bev Baker	Judy Lubow	Debby Schiffers
Sharon Balzano	Phyllis Lucero	Bernadette Sonefeld
Edith Bunch	Andrea Metzger	Terri Thaler
Deborah Carstensen	David G. Meyer	Marilyn Watson
Marcia Davis	Ardis & Mark Miller	Eleanor &
Shawn Ettingoff	Clifford A. Moser	Donald Wolf
Liz & Terry Feeney	Diane Riel	

Contributions & Address Changes

CHVL is funded entirely by private contributions. Any donation you could make at this time would be greatly appreciated! Remember that because of our work on political issues, donations to CHVL or to the Pro-Animal PAC of Colorado are not tax deductible. Also, if you are moving or want to inform us of any changes to your e-mail address, phone number, etc., please fill out this form and return it in the return envelope included in this newsletter.

NAME _____
 NEW ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE# _____ FAX# _____
 NEW E-MAIL _____

Donations to CHVL will be gratefully acknowledged in our newsletter. Check here if you do not wish to be listed.

Thank You!

I wish to donate \$ _____ to Colorado Humane Voters League (*make check payable to CHVL*)

I wish to donate \$ _____ to the Pro-Animal PAC (*make check payable to Pro-Animal PAC of Colorado*)
 Limit \$500 per election cycle. For PAC donations of \$100 or more, please provide the following additional information:

OCCUPATION _____ EMPLOYER _____

CHVL Humane Legislators' Club

CHVL would like to honor those Colorado state legislators who earned an "A" or higher grade for the 2006 session on animal-related votes. All of the legislators listed below scored 100% on actual votes. However, they had to go "above and beyond" to earn a grade of "A" or better. The letter grade is our overall assessment of the legislator's performance; we considered votes, sponsorship or co-sponsorship of legislation that CHVL supported or opposed, and how well the legislator works with CHVL. For example, a legislator who earned a voting score of 100% but did nothing else for us to consider (such as sponsoring or co-sponsoring any animal-related legislation or working with CHVL in other ways) would receive a grade of "A-".

SD: state Senate district; HD: state House of Representatives district

Legislators who scored "A":

Legislators who scored "A+":

State Senators:	
Dan Grossman (SD 32)	Steve Johnson (SD 15)
State Representatives:	
Kathleen Curry (HD 61)	Diane Hoppe (HD 65)
Judy Solano (HD 31)	Debbie Stafford (HD 40)

State Senators:	
Ken Kester (SD 2)	Nancy Spence (SD 27)
Ron Teck (SD 7)	
State Representatives:	
Bill Berens (HD 33)	Larry Liston (HD 16)
Fran Coleman (HD 1)	Michael Merrifield
Gwyn Green (HD 23)	(HD 18)
Jim Kerr (HD 28)	Andrew Romanoff (HD 6)
Mark Larson (HD 59)	Nancy Todd (HD 41)

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