

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.

Printed on recycled paper.

2008 General Election Information 🐾👉👉👉👉👉👉👉👉👉👉

Included in this newsletter is the 2008 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.)

CHVL did not send questionnaires to presidential candidates (see related article in this 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 2008 election menu is at the following address.

<http://www.coloradohumanevoters.org/election/e-2008/e-2008.html>

Once you have arrived at this address just click on the link for the race you want to read about. The main page for each race has the same information as the Ballot Buddy, plus a link to the questionnaire responses and a more detailed explanation of how we made specific pro-animal choices.

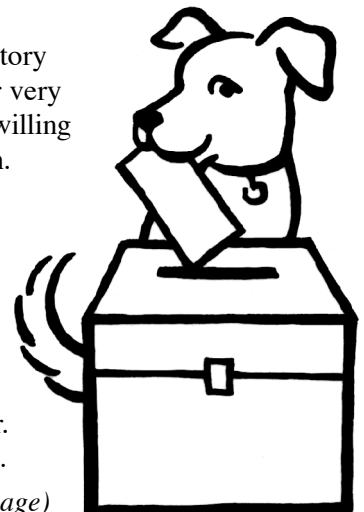
As always, if you do not have access to the Internet and you would like a copy of the responses for any race, just give us a call and let us know which race(s) you want information for and we will be happy to mail the information to you.

NOTE: Our "Pro-Animal Picks" are based *solely* on the candidate's stance on animal issues. 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. For an office there may be one, more than one, or no pro-animal candidate.

We cannot stress enough the importance of volunteering to help the campaigns of 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. Candidates' phone numbers are

(continued on next page)



listed on our web site (on each race'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.

Another way to help is to contribute to our Pro-Animal PAC of Colorado (see the contribution information on the coupon in this issue). The Pro-Animal PAC hopes to be able to contribute to all pro-animal picks, but the number of campaigns the PAC can contribute to depends on donations made to the PAC.

Thank you!

CHVL Humane Legislators club 🐾🌱🐾

CHVL would like to honor those Colorado state legislators who earned an "A" or higher grade for the 2008 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+" or higher:

Legislators who scored "A++"	
State Representative Debbie Stafford (HD 40)	
<hr/>	
Legislators who scored "A+"	
State Senators:	
Bob Bacon (SD 14)	Gail Schwartz (SD 5)
Jim Isgar (SD 6)	Jack Taylor (SD 8)
Steve Johnson (SD 15)	Lois Tochtrop (SD 24)
State Representatives:	
Kathleen Curry (HD 61)	John Soper (HD 34)
Cherylin Peniston (HD 35)	Nancy Todd (HD 41)

A Note About the Presidential Race

To avoid duplicating the effort of groups that are better positioned to research and get responses from candidates on a national level, CHVL chose not to send questionnaires to candidates for President. The Colorado Secretary of State's office indicates that there will be a total of sixteen candidates for president on the 2008 Colorado ballot. The following organizations' web sites provide candidate information that you might find useful.

- Project Vote Smart (<http://www.vote-smart.org>). At the top of the home page, point to "Candidates" and select "President" from the drop-down menu.
- HumaneUSA PAC (www.humaneusa.org). HumaneUSA PAC's leadership comprises representatives from several national animal-advocacy organizations. HumaneUSA PAC endorses candidates at the federal level.

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Legislators who scored "A":

State Senators:	
Betty Boyd (SD 21)	Chris Romer (SD 32)
Greg Brophy (SD 1)	Paula Sandoval (SD 34)
Dan Gibbs (SD 16)	Brandon Shaffer (SD 17)
Ken Gordon (SD 35)	Nancy Spence (SD 27)
Bob Hagedorn (SD 29)	Stephanie Takis (SD 25)
Ted Harvey (SD 30)	Abel Tapia (SD 3)
Moe Keller (SD 20)	Ron Tupa (SD 18)
Ken Kester (SD 2)	Jennifer Veiga (SD 31)
Mike Kopp (SD 22)	Steve Ward (SD 26)
Andy McElhany (SD 12)	Tom Wiens (SD 4)
Shawn Mitchell (SD 23)	Suzanne Williams (SD 28)
John Morse (SD 11)	Sue Windels (SD 19)
Josh Penry (SD 7)	
State Representatives:	
Debbie Benefield (HD 29)	Alice Madden (HD 10)
Alice Borodkin (HD 9)	Buffie McFadyen (HD 47)
Bernie Buescher (HD 55)	Anne McGihon (HD 3)
Edward Casso (HD 32)	Frank McNulty (HD 43)
Mark Ferrandino (HD 2)	Michael Merrifield (HD 18)
Randy Fischer (HD 53)	Karen Middleton (HD 42)
K. Jerry Frangas (HD 4)	Dianne Primavera (HD 33)
Rafael Gallegos (HD 62)	Joe Rice (HD 38)
Gwyn Green (HD 23)	Andrew Romanoff (HD 6)
Mary Hodge (HD 30)	Christine Scanlan (HD 56)
Andrew Kerr (HD 26)	Judy Solano (HD 31)
Jeanne Labuda (HD 1)	
Marsha Looper (HD 19)	

Only the major-party candidates have animal-related records that are fairly easy to obtain, and we do not have the resources to research federal candidates exhaustively. Here is a summary of what we know about the history of the major-party candidates on animal issues.

Presidential candidate John McCain has had an uneven record on humane legislation, averaging a 42% score from national animal protection groups since 1993. One exception was during the 2001-2002 session, when he earned a 100% score from several organizations. In more recent years his ratings have been 20%-40%. He has been a co-sponsor of bills opposing horse slaughter, cockfighting, and bear poaching. Senator McCain failed to respond to a questionnaire sent by the Humane Society Legislative Fund.

McCain's choice for vice president, Alaska governor Sarah Palin, has a terrible record on animal issues, especially regarding wildlife. As governor, she pushed a bill to make it easier for her state's game department to conduct aerial shooting of wolves and bears, and also proposed to pay hunters a \$150 bounty on each dead wolf. She wrote a New York Times opinion piece opposing endangered status for polar bears, and filed a lawsuit seeking to revoke the species' recently granted "threatened" status. Most recently, Palin directed a state agency to spend \$400,000 in public funds to help defeat an initiative that would have outlawed the shooting of wolves and other wildlife from planes and helicopters. Palin is an unabashed hunter herself, and an ally of the trophy hunting organization Safari Club International.



Presidential candidate Barack Obama has had an average record in the U.S. Senate, scoring an average of 54% on

ratings from national animal groups. However, during his tenure in the Illinois legislature he was a consistent supporter of pro-animal bills, including several improvements to animal cruelty laws and a bill to ban horse slaughter in the state (where it was still occurring at the time). Senator Obama's response to the Humane Society Legislative Fund's questionnaire indicates his support for nearly every animal protection measure currently under consideration by Congress.

Obama's vice-presidential pick, Senator Joe Biden, has been a strong supporter of humane legislation during his tenure in the U.S. Senate, earning an average 85% score from animal protection groups since 1993. He has even taken a leadership role on issues such as canned hunting and protecting dolphins from tuna nets. In the current congressional session he has co-sponsored four pro-animal bills.

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.

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|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Larry & Rose Mary Allen | Shelley Hoffmann | Susan Sauve |
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| | Virginia Robbins | |

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.

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 _____

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!

Yard Sale Thanks 🐾👉👉👉👉👉👉👉👉👉👉

We had beautiful weather and a mountain of donated items for this year's CHVL yard sale, which was a big success! A big "thank you" to all of our yard sale volunteers: Carole, Diana, Diane, Jackie, Liz & Terry. Thanks also to everyone who donated items for the sale.

Vote Early! 🐾👉👉👉👉👉👉👉👉👉👉

The 2008 general election will be held Tuesday, November 4. Voter turnout is expected to be high for this election and Colorado will have an unusually long ballot. The combination of these factors may lead to long lines on election day. To avoid this, voters are strongly encouraged to vote by mail or to vote early at an early voting location.

You can download a mail ballot application on the Colorado Secretary of State's website at www.elections.colorado.gov, or you can obtain one by calling the county clerk's office for your county.

The last day to request a mail ballot if you would like the ballot mailed to you is October 28, 2008. Mail ballots may be obtained in person at your county clerk's office through October 31.

For information about how to vote early in your county, call your county clerk's office or visit the Colorado Secretary of State's web site at <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=147>. From here you can link to the county clerk's web site for your county.

Voting at early voting centers begins on October 20 and ends on October 31.

If you choose to wait until election day to vote at your local polling place, be prepared to wait in line and remember to bring some form of identification with you. The polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM on election day.



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