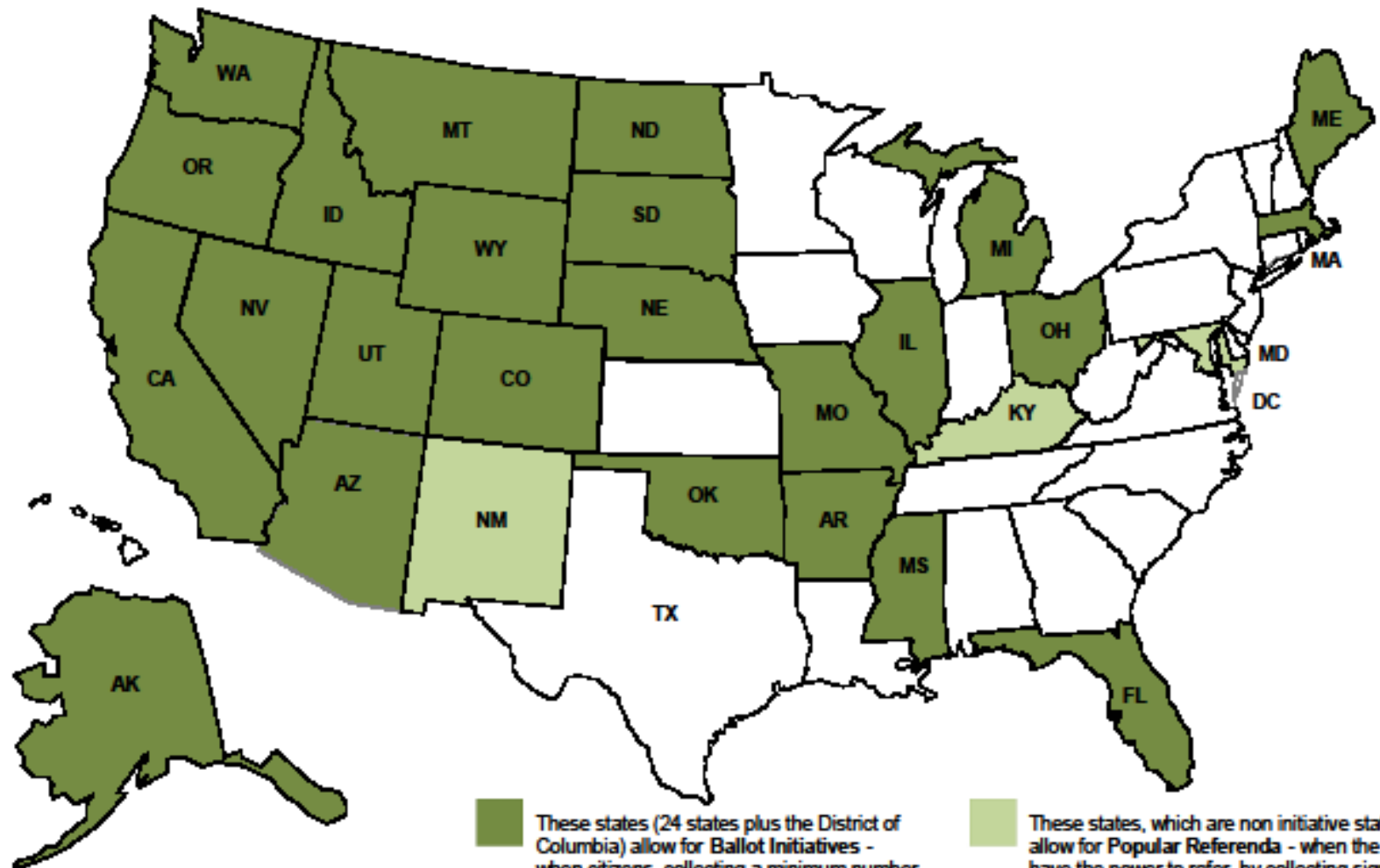


# Recent Animal Rights/Animal Welfare Activity in NC

## States that Allow for the Ballot Initiative Process



These states (24 states plus the District of Columbia) allow for Ballot Initiatives - when citizens, collecting a minimum number of signatures on a petition within a specified time, place advisory questions, memorials, statutes or constitutional amendments on the ballot for the citizens to adopt or reject. *NOTE: MS and FL only allow ballot initiative constitutional amendments, not statutes. AK, DC, ID, ME, UT, WA, and WY only allow statutory initiatives. IL only allows non-binding ballot initiatives.*

These states, which are non initiative states, allow for Popular Referenda - when the people have the power to refer, by collecting signatures on a petition, specific legislation that was enacted by their legislature for the people to either accept or reject (this process is used much less frequently). *NOTE: Popular referenda are allowed in all of the dark green states as well, except for Florida and Mississippi.*



Ballot Initiative  
**STRATEGY CENTER**

1825 K Street, NW Suite 411 Washington DC 20006  
(202) 223-2373 | [www.ballot.org](http://www.ballot.org) | [Info@ballot.org](mailto:Info@ballot.org)

# 2007: Animal Protection Institute/Born Free USA

API/Born Free USA Hires Lobbyist in NC

Seeks Legislation Regulating Ownership of “Inherently Dangerous Animals”

# SB 1477: Inherently Dangerous Animals

Bill would have made it unlawful to import, possess, breed, etc, (except in certain circumstances) a number of different species including big cats, bears, wolves, venomous snakes, and primates.

# SB 1477: Inherently Dangerous Animals

## NCPC Opposition

- API/Born Free “works to increase public awareness about the plight of farmed animals, encourages legislation aimed at protecting farmed animals, and promotes a plant-based diet.”

# SB 1477: Inherently Dangerous Animals

## Other opposition

- Private zoos, breeders, other agriculture organizations

Legislation did not pass

# 2009-2010 Legislative Session

API/Born Free  
USA

- Inherently Dangerous Animals revisited

Local  
Organizations

- Regulation of practices at local shelters
- “Susie’s Law”

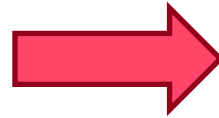
HSUS

- “Puppy Mills”

# API/Born Free USA

---

Inherently  
Dangerous  
Animals



SB 807: Public  
Safety Registration

# API/Born Free USA

Inherently  
Dangerous  
Animals



SB 807: Public  
Safety Registration

Would have required  
registration of "certain  
characteristically wild  
animals

Legislation did not pass

# API/Born Free USA

---

Inherently  
Dangerous  
Animals

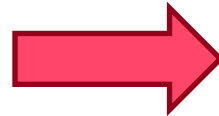


SB 807: Public  
Safety Registration

SB 307: Regulate  
Ownership and Use  
of Certain Reptiles

# API/Born Free USA

Inherently  
Dangerous  
Animals



Regulation of handling,  
ownership, possession, use,  
etc of certain reptiles

Legislation signed into law

**SB 307: Regulate  
Ownership and Use  
of Certain Reptiles**

# Activity by Local Organizations

## Euthanasia Practices at Local Shelters

- New rules adopted by NC Dept of Agriculture in 2008
- Allowed use of both lethal injection and carbon monoxide

# Activity by Local Organizations

## Euthanasia Practices at Local Shelters

- New rules adopted by NC Dept of Agriculture in 2008
- Allowed use of both lethal injection and carbon monoxide

- In 2009, SB199 AND HB6 - Davie's Law/Humane Euthanasia introduced
- Would have banned the use of carbon monoxide at local shelters

# Activity by Local Organizations

## Euthanasia Practices at Local Shelters

- New rules adopted by NC Dept of Agriculture in 2008
- Allowed use of both lethal injection and carbon monoxide

- In 2009, SB199 AND HB6 - Davie's Law/Humane Euthanasia introduced
- Would have banned the use of carbon monoxide at local shelters

- County employees, some veterinarians opposed.
- Legislation was defeated

# Activity by Local Organizations

Increased penalty for “the malicious abuse, torture or killing of an animal.”

SB 254 -  
Susie’s Law

# Activity by Local Organizations

Increased penalty for “the malicious abuse, torture or killing of an animal.”

Named for a puppy named Susie found last summer in a Greensboro park beaten and burned almost to death.

SB 254 -  
Susie’s Law

# Activity by Local Organizations

Increased penalty for “the malicious abuse, torture or killing of an animal.”

Named for an abused puppy named Susie found last summer in a Greensboro park beaten and burned almost to death.

Massive grassroots campaign by NC Voters for Animal Welfare though there was no known opposition.

SB 254 -  
Susie's Law

# Activity by Local Organizations

Increased penalty for “the malicious abuse, torture or killing of an animal.”

Named for an abused puppy named Susie found last summer in a Greensboro park beaten and burned almost to death.

Massive grassroots campaign by NC Voters for Animal Welfare though there was no known opposition.

Legislation passed.

SB 254 -  
Susie's Law

“Today, we make our homes better and our streets safer for the people who inhabit this state,” said Perdue. “No matter if they have two legs or four legs.”



# HSUS

Full-time lobbyist hired in NC for the first time

Successful getting 3 bills introduced

# HSUS- NC Legislative Agenda in 2009



Commercial  
Dog Breeders

Restraining of  
Dogs

Prohibit Penning  
of Wildlife

# Commercial Dog Breeders

- February 2009 - Authorities raided a “puppy mill” in eastern NC.
- Local authorities were accompanied by several representatives from HSUS.
- Media coverage of the early morning raid was widespread and a YouTube video documented a portion of the rescue efforts.

# Commercial Dog Breeders

- February 2009 - Authorities raided a “puppy mill” in eastern NC.
- Local authorities were accompanied by several representatives from HSUS.
- Media coverage of the early morning raid was widespread and a YouTube video documented a portion of the rescue efforts.



Introduction of  
SB 460 –  
Regulation of  
Commercial Dog  
Breeders

# Commercial Dog Breeders

## Opposition to Bill

- NRA
- AKC
- NC Agribusiness Council
- NC Pork Council

# Commercial Dog Breeders

## Opposition to Bill

- Many other groups expressed “concern” both publicly and privately.
- Some groups changed their position once, twice, even several times.

# Commercial Dog Breeders

## 2009 Legislative Session

- Passed by only a couple of votes in the Senate.
- Did not have votes to pass House Cmte

## 2010 Legislative Session

- Legislation was never again heard in the House despite enormous activity throughout the session.

# Other HSUS Agenda Items...

## Restraining of Dogs

- Would have banned “tethering” of dogs. Died in committee

## Prohibit Penning of Wildlife

- Would have banned “canned hunts” of foxes and coyotes. Died in committee

# Additional Legislative Activity

## Sustainable Local Food Policy Council

- Animal agriculture producers using alternative production methods.

# Additional Legislative Activity

Sustainable Local Food Policy Council

Feral Swine

- Pasture pork producers at greater risk of disease from feral swine