

# Protecting Animals in Massachusetts

The Humane Society of the United States  
2021 Summary



Humane Society of the United States  
Massachusetts State Director, Laura Hagen



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES**



The passage of a bill to upgrade enrichment and welfare standards for laying hens will translate into improved care for these sensitive animals.

## Legislative Wins for Massachusetts' animals in 2021

In the first year of the 2021-2022 state legislative session, the Governor signed legislation upgrading the housing standards for egg-laying hens that passed at the ballot (Question 3) in 2016. The updated law includes important enrichment and welfare upgrades for chickens, who are inquisitive, sensitive animals. The bills also expand application of Question 3 to hens raised for liquid eggs (like those used in restaurants), providing protections for two million more egg-laying hens each year. The legislature also added \$50,000 of funding to the state budget for spay, neuter, and vaccination for Massachusetts pets through the Mass. Animal Fund.

Five Massachusetts localities passed laws protecting animals. Brookline and Weston passed bans on retail fur sales, and North Adams, Springfield, and Plymouth passed bans on the sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits in pet stores.

## Protecting Animals in Massachusetts by the numbers

- 192 law enforcement officials representing 140 agencies trained on animal protection laws by the HSUS Law Enforcement Training Center.
- 137,200 pounds of pet food delivered in partnership with Chewy.
- 56,600 dollars distributed in HSUS grants and funding for food and supplies.

## Looking ahead to 2022

Working with local advocates, coalition partners, media and lawmakers, the HSUS has an ambitious agenda at the state and local level on priority initiatives to end the retail sale of fur, pet store puppy sales, and end the use of wild animals in circuses in Massachusetts. We anticipate tremendous pushback from these industries and will be fighting for more wins for animals in 2022!

## Get involved!

If you'd like to get involved with our work, visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/HSUSMassachusetts](https://www.facebook.com/HSUSMassachusetts) or reach out to your state director at [Massachusetts@humanesociety.org](mailto:Massachusetts@humanesociety.org)



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