



Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation ~ P.O. Box 300036 ~ St. Louis, MO 63130
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SPECIAL HOLIDAY APPEAL

Please help us to continue to fight for the animals!

Dear Friend of the Alliance,

The Alliance was established to give a **voice to the animals** before our state legislators and government officials in an effort to enact laws to protect animals from abuse and neglect with a special emphasis on addressing the shameful puppy mill problem in Missouri.

Thanks to your generous support the Alliance has achieved many major accomplishments for the animals over the past years and we take great satisfaction in the numerous animal protection laws that we are responsible for enacting.

Without a doubt, the Alliance has drastically changed the environment for animals in Missouri and has helped to make the state a more humane place for the animals.

One of our most gratifying achievements was the passage of the Canine Cruelty Prevention Act which has closed down hundreds of puppy mills in Missouri. According to statistics from the Missouri Department of Agriculture, there are now **50,000 fewer breeding dogs** confined to a lifetime of misery in a puppy mill and **over 300,000 fewer puppies being churned out every year in** Missouri mills.

This past legislative session there was an all-out assault on Missouri's animal welfare laws which threatened to undo much of our past successes on behalf of the animals. The Alliance was fortunately able to defeat over a dozen bills that would have seriously weakened our existing anti-cruelty laws and undermined the welfare of animals in the state. **With your support** we were able to triumph over the puppy millers, the cattlemen, and other agricultural trade groups that exploit animals solely for monetary gain.

Our mission from the start has also included advocacy work with our government officials to ensure the effective enforcement of our laws and regulations protecting animals. One of our most pressing concerns is the failure on the part of the USDA to effectively enforce the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA).

In response, the Alliance has employed a federal lobbyist to convince Congress of the need for stronger oversight of USDA. We have had remarkable success as Congress has inserted language into the Appropriations bill instructing USDA to once again effectively enforce the AWA. **Most significantly, we were able to persuade the Office of Inspector General (OIG) to audit USDA in an effort to expose the Agency's malfeasance regarding its lack of enforcement of the AWA especially with regards to puppy mills.** This is significant as a similar audit by the OIG in 2010 resulted in substantial improvements in enforcement by USDA.

The Alliance has also filed a lawsuit against USDA for unlawfully enacting rules that permit inspectors to ignore violations of the AWA.

We are continuing to advocate for the animals at the state level by lobbying the Governor and the Missouri Attorney General to bring legal action against cruel dog breeders. **Our efforts are making a difference as some of the worst dog breeders in the state have now been closed and/or facing legal action including all of the breeders that we have highlighted in our past Newsletters.**

It is for the above reasons that it is critical that the animals have a **voice** with our lawmakers and government officials.



Please help the Alliance to continue to be the Voice of the Animals.

The Missouri Legislature will be coming back into session soon and once again the Alliance will be the prominent voice for the animals at our state capitol as we lobby in Jefferson City on a full-time basis to protect the animals.

Please help us continue our important work for the animals this coming session.

We have achieved monumental progress for the animals over the past years and especially towards ending puppy mill cruelty in Missouri. **This has only been accomplished because the animals had a presence at the Capitol.**

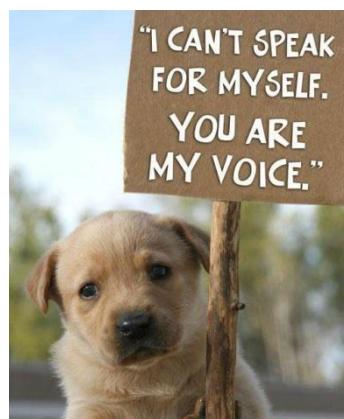
We very much need your financial support to maintain our advocacy efforts in Jefferson City as well as in Washington, D. C. and to give a voice to the animals before our lawmakers and government officials. **Please consider a donation today to help us help the animals.**

Thank you for giving a voice to the animals,



Bob Baker
Executive Director
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE ALLIANCE



To give a gift to help protect all animals, click [here](#)