



“It’s well past time to create a national standard that promotes more humane conditions everywhere.”

—The New York Times on legislation that would ratify a landmark agreement between The HSUS and the United Egg Producers to phase out barren battery cages (above) that confine egg-laying hens so tightly they can’t spread their wings. The legislative effort builds on The HSUS’s 2008 Proposition 2 campaign in California, which banned extreme confinement for laying hens, breeding sows, and veal calves. HSUS attorneys successfully defended the law in 2012, with a federal judge noting that the standards “are clearly not excessive in relation to the legitimate state interest in preventing cruelty to animals.”

We're There *Attacking Root Causes*

Recognizing that legislation, regulations, and litigation are among the most effective tools for confronting cruelty, we work to broaden and strengthen animal protection policies while ensuring that they are enforced.

The Great Ape Escape

The chimpanzees greeted the newcomers in the sanctuary’s play yard with boisterous vocalizations and hair standing on end. Chimps faced off, charged, chased, fled. But eventually, everyone calmed down and shared chimpanzee-style greetings: touching, smelling, and sizing each other up. One pair sat nose to nose, grooming. “It’s great to watch them express behaviors that are normal for chimpanzees,” says Kathleen Conlee, HSUS vice president of animal research issues.

It was the first day outside at Chimp Haven for 4 of the 111 federally owned chimps declared permanently ineligible for research in 2012. Under an agreement The HSUS and Chimp Haven helped bring about in December, the National Institutes of Health is moving the animals one small group at a time from Louisiana’s New Iberia Research Center to the national sanctuary.

The HSUS, which provided \$500,000 to help expand Chimp Haven for the new arrivals (thanks to one of our most generous supporters), has for years pushed the NIH to retire federally owned chimps. In 2009, an HSUS undercover investigation at New Iberia revealed chimpanzees kept in bare cages, some in isolation for months, and screaming in fear as they were forcibly sedated for experiments. Then in 2011, The HSUS successfully petitioned the federal government to stop illegal breeding of chimps at New Iberia.

Three biomedical research facilities recently ended their use of chimps, and several pharmaceutical companies have agreed to no longer use them.

The recent retirements may be just the beginning. In January 2013, an NIH committee recommended the government retire all but 50 of the remaining 350 federally owned chimps, including many who were caught in the wild and have spent half a century in labs.

Sored No More

Startling images shot during an undercover HSUS investigation helped spark a critically important year in the battle against soring. Under this cruel and illegal practice, trainers deliberately inflict pain to a Tennessee walking horse’s legs or hooves in an effort to exaggerate his high-stepping gait, all for the sake of winning prizes. In the HSUS video, horses were shocked with cattle prods and irritating chemicals were applied to their lower legs. One horse was smacked in the face with a wooden pole, while another, too injured to stand, was whipped in his stall.

The 49-day investigation dispelled the Tennessee walking horse industry’s contention that soring is a thing of the past, and the fallout came fast and furious. State and federal charges were filed against noted trainer Jackie McConnell and three of his associates, with McConnell pleading guilty to a felony. After ABC’s *Nightline* aired the footage, Pepsi and Ford withdrew their sponsorship of the annual Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration. In an interview with The HSUS, former trainer Barney Davis shed more light on the scope of the problem: “You’re not going to win if you don’t sore.” And the U.S. Equestrian Federation—the nation’s largest horse show sanctioning body—banned the use of devices typically associated with soring.

Federal policymakers took action as well.



Finally Freed

Penny spent decades in a lab before retiring to sanctuary in 2011. An HSUS campaign to end invasive experiments on chimpanzees has seen significant strides.

PREVIOUS SPREAD: BACKGROUND: GREG LATZ/FOR THE HSUS; JOHN MACKAY: HA LAW/WHOLE FOODS MARKET. THIS PAGE: THE HSUS. OPPOSITE PAGE: MICHELLE RILEY/THE HSUS



Rescued by an animal lover, Flicka narrowly avoided being sold to slaughter and now lives at a Texas sanctuary run by The Fund for Animals in partnership with The HSUS. In 2012, 160,000 American horses were shipped to their deaths in Canada and Mexico. The HSUS is working to bring about more happy endings like Flicka's, backing anti-slaughter legislation and supporting efforts to continue defunding inspections of U.S. slaughter plants.

“Human dignity must be ... extended to animals.”

—Costa Rica's constitutional court, in siding with Humane Society International and others seeking to block a Pamplona-style running of the bulls.

In 2012, the USDA established minimum penalties for violations of the federal law against sporting, while a bill was introduced in Congress to strengthen those penalties and eliminate self-policing in the industry. It all adds up to what HSUS equine protection director Keith Dane calls “the most significant year we’ve ever had—I would call it a tipping point year.” Writes Roy Exum, columnist with *The Chattanooga* and The HSUS’s 2012 Humane Horseman of the Year: “The outcry is reaching a nationwide crescendo after years of abuse that has been hidden, ignored, shunned, and mocked.”

Hounds Aground

Hunting mountain lions with dogs has been illegal in California since 1990. The practice causes suffering both for the mountain lions, who are chased into trees and shot or torn apart, and for the hounds, who can be killed or hurt and are often treated more like hunting equipment than family members.

So last February, when then-president of the state Fish and Game Commission Dan Richards traveled to Idaho to hound and kill a mountain lion, The HSUS and the public were rightly outraged. The incident prompted a closer look at the related but still-lawful practices of bear and bobcat hounding, with The HSUS mounting an exhaustive campaign for a statewide ban, sending alerts that generated more than 55,000 supportive emails to California lawmakers.

Jake Sinclair joined the fight after receiving one of those alerts. The San Francisco Bay area pediatrician had once enjoyed watching bears near his family’s cabin in the central Sierra Nevada Mountains. But sightings became rare after hound hunters found the peaceful valley. Sinclair and his children detailed these experiences in a letter they hand-delivered to state legislators, later dropping off home-baked cookies in gratitude for the lawmakers’ support.

In late September, after The HSUS fended off a series of challenges by hound hunters, Gov.

Jerry Brown signed S.B. 1221 into law. Responding to the news, Sinclair emailed: “After a few whoops, I broke down and just started crying. ... I am so, so happy right now.”

Legislate and Collaborate

In a basement corner where plywood boards helped cordon off a dogfighting pit, luminescent blue spray revealed splatters of blood everywhere, from a rolled-up carpet to the deep red walls.

It was one of two suspected Michigan dogfighting operations where The HSUS’s mobile crime lab helped gather evidence last August. Kalamazoo County Animal Services and Enforcement officials had begun cracking down on dogfighting earlier in the year after attending a Humane Society University training. To set in motion the August raids, HSUS staff provided access to a database of suspected dogfighters; they later helped obtain search warrants and ran the temporary shelter for the 46 dogs rescued. “Probably, if we didn’t have [The HSUS’s] assistance, we would put down all of the dogs,” Kalamazoo animal services director Steven Lawrence told a local TV crew. “They know what



Chained near cutout barrels that served as makeshift shelters, the dogs rescued from Michigan animal fighting operations in August just wanted to be free.

OPPOSITE PAGE: MICHELLE RILEY/THE HSUS. THIS PAGE, FROM LEFT: KATHY MILANI/THE HSUS; COURTESY OF PAIGE NOLAND

BUILDING REFORM

NAME:
Paige Rense Noland



WHY SHE'S AN HSUS SUPERSTAR:
Helps stop puppy mills

For nearly 40 years, Paige Rense Noland commanded the helm of *Architectural Digest* as editor-in-chief. Her love for animals was apparent even then, in her refusal to publish photos of interiors decorated with animal trophies and fur rugs. After discovering the horrors of puppy mills—her own dog, Lucy, spent nearly a decade in one—she donated \$100,000 to establish The HSUS’s Puppy Mill Reward Fund, then made additional gifts to further support the fight against puppy mills, including the campaign to pass tougher laws in multiple states. “It does so much for me to know I am helping,” she says. “I am benefiting as much as the animals.”

350,000

Number of letters and signatures The HSUS hand-delivered to the USDA in favor of a proposal to extend federal oversight to online puppy sellers.

MAKING CHANGE



● Puppy mill laws passed in 2012
● Laws passed in prior years

In Ohio, 1,000+ high-volume dog breeders exempt from federal licensing are now subject to state licensing and inspection thanks to a new law, one of eight HSUS-backed state puppy mill bills passed in 2012. In all, 32 states now have some sort of puppy mill law on the books. We also released a report on the American Kennel Club's weak stance on puppy mills, detailing its routine opposition to better laws, substandard inspection system, and financial ties to the industry.

they’re doing. They made this so much easier.”

The cases caught the attention of state lawmakers, who in the ensuing months passed a package of HSUS-backed bills to create more avenues for prosecuting and penalizing animal fighters. It was one of multiple victories against animal fighting in 2012: The HSUS’s litigation team also secured the first-ever private prosecution of a dogfighter in Ohio and won a court ruling upholding the federal animal fighting law. HSUS staff have led a decade-long campaign to tighten loopholes in the law, most recently spurring introduction in 2012 of a bill to crack down on spectators at animal fights. Says John Goodwin, HSUS director of animal cruelty policy: “When the USDA has the power to go into a pit and charge every single person with a federal crime, you’re going to see this problem diminish in scope to a huge degree.”