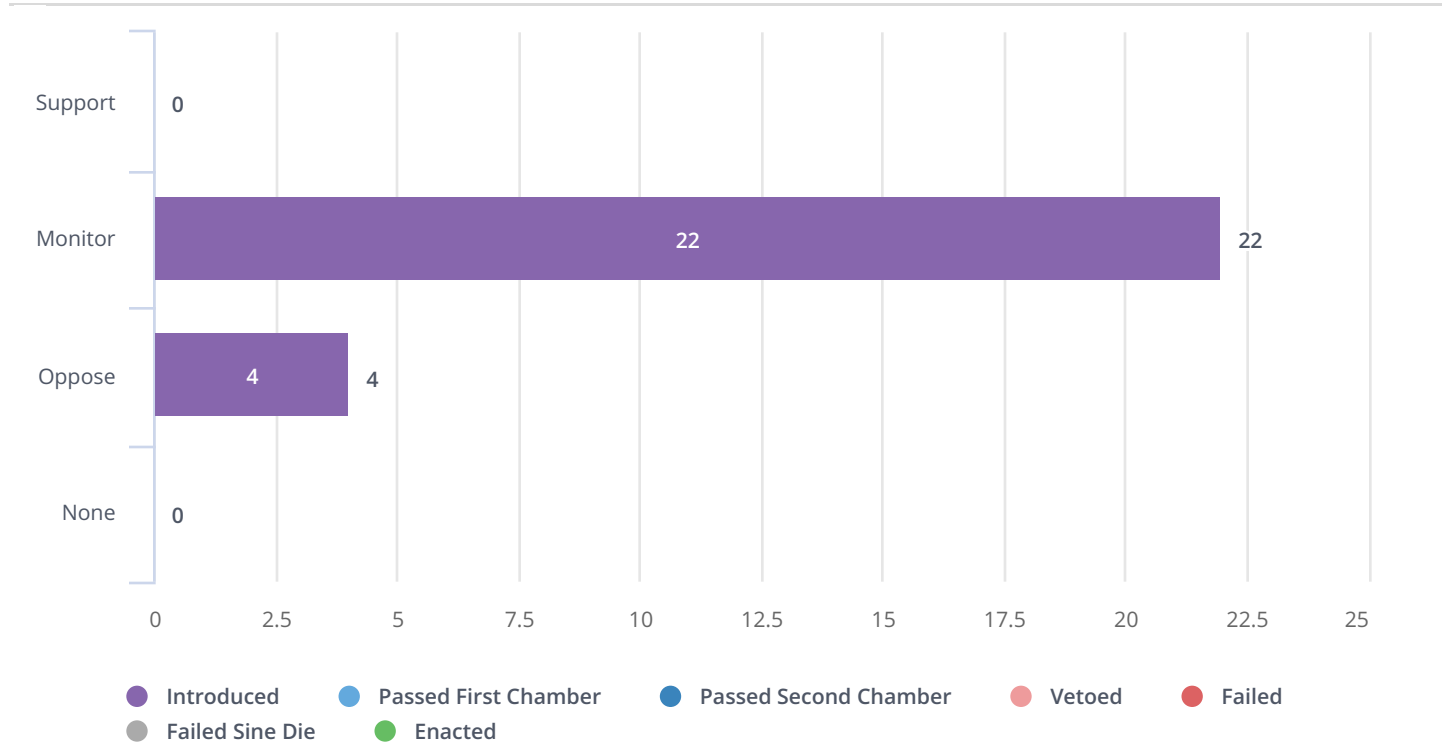


Minnesota - 2023 Legislative Overview

Last Updated: May 23, 2023

Bills by Last Status and Position



Bill State: MN (26)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 107	Introduction And First Reading Referred To Taxes 2023 01 05	In House	Monitor	Low
Title Sales and use tax provisions modified, and nonprofit animal shelter tax exemptions provided.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 6, 2023, 5:51 PM Amends Chapter 297A (General Sales & Use Taxes), Section 70 (Exemptions for Government & Nonprofit Groups) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new subdivision to provide exemptions for nonprofit animal shelters. Provides exemptions for animal shelters from the sales and use tax for: 1) Purchases made by an animal shelter used directly in the activities of rescuing, sheltering, and finding homes for unwanted animals; 2) The sale or adoption of unwanted animals and the sale of associated supplies and equipment; and 3) Sales made by and events run by an animal shelter for fund-raising purposes. For purposes of this section: "Animal shelter" means a nonprofit organization engaged in the business of rescuing, sheltering, and finding homes for unwanted animals.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 234	Committee Report To Adopt As Amended And Re Refer To Ways And Means 2023 01 26	In House	Monitor	Medium
Title Game and fish; provisions for taking turtles modified.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 12, 2023, 2:27 PM Amends Chapter 97A (Game & Fish), Section 475 (Licenses & Permits) and Chapter 97C (Fishing), Section 605 (Turtles) of Minnesota Statutes to prohibit the retail sale of turtles taken from the wild. Provides that turtles taken from the wild are for personal use only and may not be resold. Repeals section providing for a turtle seller's license. Provides that a person with an Aquatic Farm License with a turtle endorsement or a Private Fish Hatcher License with a turtle endorsement may sell, obtain, possess, transport, and propagate turtles and turtle eggs according to MN Rules, Part 6256.0900 without a Resident Angling License or a Recreational Turtle License. Provides that the Commissioner of Natural Resources must not renew or transfer a Turtle Seller's License after the effective date of this section.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 608	Introduction And First Reading Referred To Environment And Natural Resources Finance And Policy 2023 01 19	In House	Monitor	High
Title Importing minnow requirements modified.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 20, 2023, 3:27 PM Amends Chapter 97C (Fishing), Section 515 (Imported Minnows) of Minnesota Statutes to modify current requirements for importing minnows into the State. Provides that a person may import live minnows into the State with a permit from the Commissioner of Natural Resources. Provides that minnows must: 1) Be certified as healthy according to standards of the World Organisation for Animal Health or the Fish Health Section Blue Book of the American Fisheries Society. 2) Be certified free of viral hemorrhagic septicemia, infectious hematopoietic necrosis, infectious pancreatic necrosis, spring viremia of carp virus, fathead minnow nidovirus, and Heterosporis within the past 12 months. Provides that only a person that holds a minnow dealer's license issued under section 97C.501, subdivision 2, may obtain a permit to import minnows. For purposes of this section: "Minnows" means: (1) members of the minnow family, Cyprinidae, except carp and goldfish; (2) members of the mudminnow family, Umbridae; (3) members of the sucker family, Catostomidae; (4) bullheads, ciscoes, lake whitefish, goldeyes, and mooneyes, not over seven inches long; (5) leeches; and (6) tadpole madtoms (willow cats) and stonecats.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 758	Authors Added Gomez Lee K And Rehm 2023 02 16	In House	Monitor	Low
Title Landlord prohibited from taking actions that encourage or require tenant to declaw or devocalize animal, and civil penalties authorized.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 26, 2023, 2:58 PM Amends Chapter 504B (Landlord and Tenant) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 504B.114 (Pet Declawing and Devocalization Prohibited) to prohibit a landlord from taking certain actions that encourage or require a tenant to declaw or devocalize an animal. Provides that a landlord who allows an animal on the premises shall not: (1) Advertise the availability of a real property for occupancy in a manner designed to discourage application for occupancy of that real property because an applicant's animal has not been declawed or devocalized; (2) Refuse to allow the occupancy of a real property, refuse to negotiate the occupancy of a real property, or otherwise make unavailable or deny to another person the occupancy of a real property because of that person's refusal to declaw or devocalize an animal; or (3) Require a tenant or occupant of real property to declaw or devocalize an animal allowed on the premises. Violation of this section shall result in a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 per animal, to be paid to the entity that is authorized to bring the action under this section. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means every living creature except members of the human race.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 780	Author Added Curran 2023 01 30	In House	Monitor	Low
Title Pet insurance required to cover preexisting conditions.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 26, 2023, 3:31 PM Amends Chapter 325G (Consumer Protection; Solicitation of Sales) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 325G.281 (Pet Insurance) to require that pet insurance companies cover preexisting conditions. Provides that a pet insurance policy issued to a resident of Minnesota must provide coverage for preexisting conditions at the same level and in the same manner as coverage for illnesses and injuries occurring after the effective date of the policy. Provides that this section is effective August 1, 2023, and applies to policies offered, issued, or renewed on or after that date. For purposes of this section: "Pet" means a domesticated animal. "Pet insurance policy" or "policy" means an insurance policy or contract that provides reimbursement for diagnostic- and treatment-related expenses due to a pet's sickness or injury. "Preexisting condition" means an illness, injury, or behavior that occurred or showed symptoms before the effective date of the pet insurance policy.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 831	Author Added Lee K 2023 02 16	In House	Monitor	Low
Title Housing Finance Agency required to require reasonable pet policies in buildings financed by agency.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 26, 2023, 1:57 PM Amends Chapter 462A (Housing Finance Agency) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 462A.41 (Reasonable Pet Policy Requirement) to require the Housing Finance Agency to require reasonable pet policies in buildings financed by the agency. Provides that the Housing Finance Agency shall require each housing development that is financed, on or after January 1, 2024, by a grant, by a loan, or by any other money administered or otherwise provided by the agency to authorize a resident of the housing development to own or otherwise maintain one or more common household pets within the resident's dwelling unit, subject to applicable state laws and local government ordinances related to public health, animal control, and animal anticruelty, and subject to other reasonable conditions. Provides that reasonable conditions on pet maintenance or ownership include but are not limited to policies on nuisance behaviors, leashing requirements, requirements to carry liability insurance coverage, limitations on the number of animals in a unit based on the unit's size, and prohibitions on dangerous or potentially dangerous dogs. Provides that a prohibition on a breed of common household pets or a limitation on the weight of a pet is not a reasonable condition. Provides that a onetime nonrefundable or monthly fee for the ownership or maintenance of common household pets is not a reasonable condition. For purposes of this section: "Common household pet" means a domesticated animal, such as a dog, cat, bird, rodent, fish, or turtle, that is traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 911	Author Added Xiong 2023 01 30	In House	Monitor	Medium
Title Board of Animal Health modified.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 27, 2023, 4:07 PM Amends Chapter 35 (Animal Health), Section 35.02 (Board of Animal Health) of MN Statutes by changing the composition of the MN Board of Animal Health. Current Board membership consists of 5 members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, 3 of whom are producers of livestock in the state, and 2 of whom are practicing veterinarians licensed in Minnesota. This bill would increase Board membership to 9 members - 2 at-large members and 7 regional members, with no two regional members residing in the same congressional district. Provides that the Governor's appointments: 1) Must achieve gender balance among the board membership; and 2) Must be knowledgeable in animal agriculture, animal health, or pets and companion animals, with at least 2 members who represent the public and are not employed in agriculture, veterinary medicine, the pet industry, or a related field. Provides that the Governor shall appoint a veterinarian licensed in Minnesota who is not a member to be its Executive Director for a term of 1 year and until a successor qualifies.		

Title

Companion Animal Board established, duties and responsibilities provided, companion animal license plate established, duties transferred, report required, rulemaking authorized, and money appropriated.

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 2, 2023, 9:02 PM Amends Chapter 347 (Dogs and Cats) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Article 1, Section 346 (Companion Animal Board) to establish, provide duties and appropriate money for the Companion Animal Board. Provides that the Board's purpose is to promote the welfare of cats, dogs, and other pets; serve those individuals in the community who care for these animals; and support the human-animal bond. Provides that the authority of the Board is limited to cats, dogs, and other animals kept as pets, including rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, small rodents, nonnative birds, small nonvenomous amphibians and reptiles, and other nonagricultural domesticated animals. Provides that the Board be comprised of 13 members appointed by the Governor: 1) 4 members who represent the practice of veterinary medicine; 2) 4 members who represent Minnesota communities, Tribes, and local governments; 3) 3 members who represent Minnesota animal shelters and animal rescues; 4) 1 member who is a licensed Minnesota commercial cat or dog breeder; and 5) 1 member who is a licensed social worker, mental health professional, or other individual who represents human welfare issues and interactions with companion animals. Provides that board must enforce state laws that regulate companion animals as follows: (1) The licensing, enforcement, and inspection of cat and dog kennels and dealers under Sections 347.31 to 347.40 and any rules adopted pursuant to those sections; and (2) The licensing, enforcement, and inspection of commercial dog and cat breeders under Sections 347.57 to 347.65 and any rules adopted pursuant to those sections. Transfers duties currently carried out by the Board of Animal Health to the newly established Companion Animal Board, effective July 1, 2024. Adds provision that the Board of Animal Health shall provide a copy of each new Certificate of Veterinary Inspection for companion animals to the Companion Animal Board within 30 days after receipt. Provides for the establishment of a Companion Animal License Plate. For purposes of this section: "Pet or companion animal" includes any animal owned, possessed by, cared for, or controlled by a person for the present or future enjoyment of that person or another as a pet or companion, or any stray pet or stray companion animal.

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 1276	Author Added Hemmingsen Jaeger 2023 03 20	In House	Oppose	High
Title Sale of dogs and cats by retail pet shops prohibited.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 6, 2023, 11:57 PM Amends Chapter 325F (Consumer Protection; Products & Sales) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 325F.7915 (Sale of Dogs and Cats Prohibited) to prohibit the sale of dogs and cats by retail pet shops. Provides that a pet shop must not sell, offer to sell, barter, auction, or otherwise transfer ownership of an animal. Provides that a pet shop may provide space to nonprofit humane societies, animal control agencies, or animal rescue and re-homing organizations qualifying as nonprofit under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, to offer to the public dogs or cats for an adoption fee. Provides that a pet shop is prohibited from: (1) having any ownership interest in an animal offered and (2) receiving any fee for providing space for the adoption of an animal. Provides that a pet shop who violates this section is subject to a civil fine of up to \$1,000 per violation. Each dog or cat transferred in violation constitutes a separate violation. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means a dog, wholly or in part of the species <i>Canis familiaris</i> , or a cat, wholly or in part of the species <i>Felis domesticus</i> . "Pet shop" means any pet dealer that operates a physical retail store from which animals are sold or offered for sale to the general public, whether through an appointment or otherwise.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 1399	Introduction And First Reading Referred To Agriculture Finance And Policy 2023 02 08	In House	Monitor	Low
Title Over-the-counter canine bordetella vaccines authorized.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 8, 2023, 11:04 PM Amends Title 35 (Animal Health) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Chapter 35.055 (Bordetella Vaccine) to authorize certain over-the-counter canine bordetella vaccines. Provides that a person may sell or purchase a live or modified live canine bordetella vaccine without a veterinary prescription. Provides that any person who sells or offers to apply, any prescription drug, biologic preparation, including sera, vaccines, bacterins, tuberculin, mallein, johnin, or any other agent for the treatment, vaccination, or testing of any animal belonging to another, shall be engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 1532	Author Added Curran 2023 03 30	In House	Monitor	Low
Title Insurers prohibited from discriminating based on breed of dog owned.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 10, 2023, 3:12 PM Amends Chapter 65A (Fire and Related Insurance) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 65A.303 (Homeowner's Liability Insurance; Dogs) to prohibit insurers from discriminating based on the breed of dog owned. Provides that an insurer writing homeowner's insurance for property is prohibited from: 1) Refusing to issue or renew an insurance policy or contract; 2) Canceling an insurance policy or contract; or 3) Charging or imposing an increased premium or rate for an insurance policy or contract, based solely on the fact that the homeowner harbors or owns a dog of a specific breed or mixture of breeds. Provides that this section does not prohibit an insurer from: 1) Refusing to issue or renew an insurance policy or contract; 2) Canceling an insurance contract or policy; or 3) Imposing a reasonably increased premium or rate for an insurance policy or contract, based on a dog being designated as a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog under Section 347.50, or based on sound underwriting and actuarial principles that are reasonably related to actual or anticipated loss experience.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 1850	Author Added Engen 2023 02 27	In House	Monitor	Medium
Title Cruelty of animals prevented, Office of Animal Protection created, report required, and money appropriated.			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 17, 2023, 6:38 PM Amends Chapter 299A (Department of Public Safety) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 299A.86 (Office of Animal Protection) to provide that the Commissioner of Public Safety shall establish and maintain the Office of Animal Protection as an office within the Department of Public Safety. Provides that the Office of Animal Protection shall have the following duties: (1) To promote programs to protect the welfare of animals; (2) To coordinate with local law enforcement officers to enforce the requirements in Minnesota Statutes regarding animal welfare and the prevention of animal cruelty; (3) To investigate alleged crimes against animals in accordance with the requirements in Minnesota Statutes; (4) To provide training programs regarding the prevention of animal cruelty and investigation of animal cruelty allegations; (5) To provide assistance in locating shelters for displaced animals during emergencies or natural disasters; (6) To establish and maintain a statewide dangerous dog database; and (7) Upon request from local law enforcement agencies, to investigate alleged violations regarding dangerous dogs. Provides that the office must collaborate with other state agencies that are responsible for investigating, prosecuting, and adjudicating cases involving animal cruelty or welfare in the state, including the Board of Animal Health, United States Department of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Department of Natural Resources, Board of Veterinary Medicine, local and state police officers and sheriffs, city and county attorneys, and humane agents. Provides that the office shall establish and maintain a website that provides information and resources regarding animal care. Provides that, on or before November 1 of each year, the office must publish and make available an annual report on the office's efforts.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 2094	Introduction And First Reading Referred To Agriculture Finance And Policy 2023 02 21	In House	Monitor	Low

Title

Knowing euthanasia of pet or companion animals with nonanesthetic gas at facilities prohibited, and criminal penalties provided.

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 22, 2023, 1:13 PM Amends Chapter 343 (Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 343.38 (Humane Euthanasia in Animal Shelters; Pet or Companion Animals) to prohibit the knowing euthanasia of pet or companion animals with nonanesthetic gas at certain facilities. Provides that a person may not knowingly euthanize or authorize the euthanasia of any pet or companion animal in a private or public animal shelter, humane society, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, animal control facility, or pound by the use of carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, or other nonanesthetic gas. Provides that a violation of this section is a misdemeanor.

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	HF 3300	Author Added Berg 2023 05 18	In House	Monitor	None

Title

Office of Animal Protection established, peace officer and other professional training provided, working groups authorized, courtroom animal advocate procedure established, forensic laboratories support required, crime of violence definition amended, and money appropriated.

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at May 9, 2023, 7:02 PM Amends Chapter 299A (Department of Public Safety) of Minnesota Statutes by: (1) Adding a new Section 299P.02 (Office of Animal Protection; Creation; Purpose; Scope) to establish and maintain the Office of Animal Protection as an office within the Department of Public Safety which will protect animals by preventing, investigating, and prosecuting crimes of animal cruelty; and (2) Adding a new Section 299P.10 (Courtroom Animal Advocate Program) to provide an animal advocate to represent animal interests in animal cruelty cases. Provides that on or before January 15 each year, the director must submit an annual report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over public safety finance and policy on the office's operations, including data regarding the animal cruelty cases that the office investigated. Provides that the commissioner may establish an advisory committee, consisting of at least 15 members with knowledge of animal law, animal cruelty, and animal cruelty prevention. Enforcement powers granted to the office include: (1) Investigation; (2) Subpoena; (3) Cease and desist orders; (4) Disposition of dead animals; and (5) Search and seizure without a warrant. Provides that in a criminal proceeding regarding the welfare, care, or custody of an animal, the court may appoint, upon the court's initiative or upon request of a party, an advocate to represent the interests of the animal. Provides that the office shall maintain a list of attorneys who have indicated a willingness to serve as advocates under this section on a voluntary basis and are eligible to serve as advocates. Provides that in order to be eligible to serve as an advocate, an attorney must have completed training as required by the office. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means every living creature except members of the human race. "Animal cruelty" means an act, omission, or neglect that causes or permits unnecessary or unjustifiable pain or suffering to an animal, or causes or permits the unnecessary or unjustifiable death of an animal.

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 371	Referred To Housing And Homelessness Prevention 2023 01 17	In Senate	Monitor	Low

Title

Housing Finance Agency requirement of reasonable pet policies in buildings financed by the agency requirement

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 18, 2023, 6:55 PM Amends Chapter 462A (Housing Finance Agency) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 462A.41 (Reasonable Pet Policy Requirement) to require the Housing Finance Agency to require reasonable pet policies in buildings financed by the agency. Provides that the Housing Finance Agency shall require each housing development that is financed, on or after January 1, 2024, by a grant, by a loan, or by any other money administered or otherwise provided by the agency to authorize a resident of the housing development to own or otherwise maintain one or more common household pets within the resident's dwelling unit, subject to applicable state laws and local government ordinances related to public health, animal control, and animal anticruelty, and subject to other reasonable conditions. Provides that reasonable conditions on pet maintenance or ownership include but are not limited to policies on nuisance behaviors, leashing requirements, requirements to carry liability insurance coverage, limitations on the number of animals in a unit based on the unit's size, and prohibitions on dangerous or potentially dangerous dogs. Provides that a prohibition on a breed of common household pets or a limitation on the weight of a pet is not a reasonable condition. Provides that a onetime nonrefundable or monthly fee for the ownership or maintenance of common household pets is not a reasonable condition. For purposes of this section: "Common household pet" means a domesticated animal, such as a dog, cat, bird, rodent, fish, or turtle, that is traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes.

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 556	Referred To Housing And Homelessness Prevention 2023 01 23	In Senate	Monitor	Low

Title

Landlord prohibition from taking certain actions that encourage or require tenant to declaw or devocalize an animal

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 20, 2023, 10:01 PM Amends Chapter 504B (Landlord and Tenant) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 504B.114 (Pet Declawing and Devocalization Prohibited) to prohibit a landlord from taking certain actions that encourage or require a tenant to declaw or devocalize an animal. Provides that a landlord who allows an animal on the premises shall not: (1) Advertise the availability of a real property for occupancy in a manner designed to discourage application for occupancy of that real property because an applicant's animal has not been declawed or devocalized; (2) Refuse to allow the occupancy of a real property, refuse to negotiate the occupancy of a real property, or otherwise make unavailable or deny to another person the occupancy of a real property because of that person's refusal to declaw or devocalize an animal; or (3) Require a tenant or occupant of real property to declaw or devocalize an animal allowed on the premises. Violation of this section shall result in a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 per animal, to be paid to the entity that is authorized to bring the action under this section. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means every living creature except members of the human race.

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 612	Referred To Environment Climate And Legacy 2023 01 23	In Senate	Monitor	Medium
Title Taking turtles provisions modifications			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 20, 2023, 9:45 PM Amends Chapter 97A (Game & Fish), Section 475 (Licenses & Permits) and Chapter 97C (Fishing), Section 605 (Turtles) of Minnesota Statutes to prohibit the retail sale of turtles taken from the wild. Provides that turtles taken from the wild are for personal use only and may not be resold. Repeals section providing for a turtle seller's license. Provides that a person with an Aquatic Farm License with a turtle endorsement or a Private Fish Hatcher License with a turtle endorsement may sell, obtain, possess, transport, and propagate turtles and turtle eggs according to MN Rules, Part 6256.0900 without a Resident Angling License or a Recreational Turtle License. Provides that the Commissioner of Natural Resources must not renew or transfer a Turtle Seller's License after the effective date of this section.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 707	Referred To Environment Climate And Legacy 2023 01 25	In Senate	Monitor	High
Title Requirement modification for importing minnows			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 25, 2023, 12:50 PM Amends Chapter 97C (Fishing), Section 515 (Imported Minnows) of Minnesota Statutes to modify current requirements for importing minnows into the State. Provides that a person may import live minnows into the State with a permit from the Commissioner of Natural Resources. Provides that minnows must: 1) Be certified as healthy according to standards of the World Organisation for Animal Health or the Fish Health Section Blue Book of the American Fisheries Society. 2) Be certified free of viral hemorrhagic septicemia, infectious hematopoietic necrosis, infectious pancreatic necrosis, spring viremia of carp virus, fathead minnow nidovirus, and Heterosporis within the past 12 months. Provides that only a person that holds a minnow dealer's license issued under section 97C.501, subdivision 2, may obtain a permit to import minnows. For purposes of this section: "Minnows" means: (1) members of the minnow family, Cyprinidae, except carp and goldfish; (2) members of the mudminnow family, Umbridae; (3) members of the sucker family, Catostomidae; (4) bullheads, ciscoes, lake whitefish, goldeyes, and mooneyes, not over seven inches long; (5) leeches; and (6) tadpole madtoms (willow cats) and stonecats.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 762	Author Added Maye Quade 2023 02 20	In Senate	Monitor	Low
Title Insurer discrimination based on the breed of the dog owned prohibition			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Jan 26, 2023, 2:52 PM Amends Chapter 65A (Fire and Related Insurance) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 65A.303 (Homeowner's Liability Insurance; Dogs) to prohibit insurers from discriminating based on the breed of dog owned. Provides that an insurer writing homeowner's insurance for property is prohibited from: 1) Refusing to issue or renew an insurance policy or contract; 2) Canceling an insurance policy or contract; or 3) Charging or imposing an increased premium or rate for an insurance policy or contract, based solely on the fact that the homeowner harbors or owns a dog of a specific breed or mixture of breeds. Provides that this section does not prohibit an insurer from: 1) Refusing to issue or renew an insurance policy or contract; 2) Canceling an insurance contract or policy; or 3) Imposing a reasonably increased premium or rate for an insurance policy or contract, based on a dog being designated as a dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog under Section 347.50, or based on sound underwriting and actuarial principles that are reasonably related to actual or anticipated loss experience.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 1136	Author Added Marty 2023 03 30	In Senate	Oppose	High
Title Companion Animal Board establishment			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 2, 2023, 4:04 PM Amends Chapter 347 (Dogs and Cats) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Article 1, Section 346 (Companion Animal Board) to establish, provide duties and appropriate money for the Companion Animal Board. Provides that the Board's purpose is to promote the welfare of cats, dogs, and other pets; serve those individuals in the community who care for these animals; and support the human-animal bond. Provides that the authority of the Board is limited to cats, dogs, and other animals kept as pets, including rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, small rodents, nonnative birds, small nonvenomous amphibians and reptiles, and other nonagricultural domesticated animals. Provides that the Board be comprised of 13 members appointed by the Governor: 1) 4 members who represent the practice of veterinary medicine; 2) 4 members who represent Minnesota communities, Tribes, and local governments; 3) 3 members who represent Minnesota animal shelters and animal rescues; 4) 1 member who is a licensed Minnesota commercial cat or dog breeder; and 5) 1 member who is a licensed social worker, mental health professional, or other individual who represents human welfare issues and interactions with companion animals. Provides that board must enforce state laws that regulate companion animals as follows: (1) The licensing, enforcement, and inspection of cat and dog kennels and dealers under Sections 347.31 to 347.40 and any rules adopted pursuant to those sections; and (2) The licensing, enforcement, and inspection of commercial dog and cat breeders under Sections 347.57 to 347.65 and any rules adopted pursuant to those sections. Transfers duties currently carried out by the Board of Animal Health to the newly established Companion Animal Board, effective July 1, 2024. Adds provision that the Board of Animal Health shall provide a copy of each new Certificate of Veterinary Inspection for companion animals to the Companion Animal Board within 30 days after receipt. Provides for the establishment of a Companion Animal License Plate. For purposes of this section: "Pet or companion animal" includes any animal owned, possessed by, cared for, or controlled by a person for the present or future enjoyment of that person or another as a pet or companion, or any stray pet or stray companion animal.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 1139	Author Added Putnam 2023 02 09	In Senate	Monitor	Low
Title Exemptions provision for non profit animal shelters			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 2, 2023, 2:56 PM Amends Chapter 297A (General Sales & Use Taxes), Section 70 (Exemptions for Government & Nonprofit Groups) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new subdivision to provide exemptions for nonprofit animal shelters. Provides exemptions for animal shelters from the sales and use tax for: 1) Purchases made by an animal shelter used directly in the activities of rescuing, sheltering, and finding homes for unwanted animals; 2) The sale or adoption of unwanted animals and the sale of associated supplies and equipment; and 3) Sales made by and events run by an animal shelter for fund-raising purposes. For purposes of this section: "Animal shelter" means a nonprofit organization engaged in the business of rescuing, sheltering, and finding homes for unwanted animals.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 1317	Author Added Hoffman 2023 02 20	In Senate	Oppose	High
Title Sale of dogs and cats by retail pet shops prohibition			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 4, 2023, 1:46 PM Amends Chapter 325F (Consumer Protection; Products & Sales) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 325F.7915 (Sale of Dogs and Cats Prohibited) to prohibit the sale of dogs and cats by retail pet shops. Provides that a pet shop must not sell, offer to sell, barter, auction, or otherwise transfer ownership of an animal. Provides that a pet shop may provide space to nonprofit humane societies, animal control agencies, or animal rescue and re-homing organizations qualifying as nonprofit undersection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, to offer to the public dogs or cats for an adoption fee. Provides that a pet shop is prohibited from: (1) having any ownership interest in an animal offered and (2) receiving any fee for providing space for the adoption of an animal. Provides that a pet shop who violates this section is subject to a civil fine of up to \$1,000 per violation. Each dog or cat transferred in violation constitutes a separate violation. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means a dog, wholly or in part of the species Canis familiaris, or a cat, wholly or in part of the species Felis domesticus. "Pet shop" means any pet dealer that operates a physical retail store from which animals are sold or offered for sale to the general public, whether through an appointment or otherwise.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 1411	Referred To Judiciary And Public Safety 2023 02 08	In Senate	Monitor	Medium
Title Office of Animal Protection creation			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 8, 2023, 3:59 PM Amends Chapter 299A (Department of Public Safety) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 299A.86 (Office of Animal Protection) to provide that the Commissioner of Public Safety shall establish and maintain the Office of Animal Protection as an office within the Department of Public Safety. Provides that the Office of Animal Protection shall have the following duties: (1) To promote programs to protect the welfare of animals; (2) To coordinate with local law enforcement officers to enforce the requirements in Minnesota Statutes regarding animal welfare and the prevention of animal cruelty; (3) To investigate alleged crimes against animals in accordance with the requirements in Minnesota Statutes; (4) To provide training programs regarding the prevention of animal cruelty and investigation of animal cruelty allegations; (5) To provide assistance in locating shelters for displaced animals during emergencies or natural disasters; (6) To establish and maintain a statewide dangerous dog database; and (7) Upon request from local law enforcement agencies, to investigate alleged violations regarding dangerous dogs. Provides that the office must collaborate with other state agencies that are responsible for investigating, prosecuting, and adjudicating casesinvolving animal cruelty or welfare in the state, including the Board of Animal Health, United States Department of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Department of Natural Resources, Board of Veterinary Medicine, local and state police officers and sheriffs, city and county attorneys, and humane agents. Provides that the office shall establish and maintain a website that provides information and resources regarding animal care. Provides that, on or before November 1 of each year, the office must publish and make available an annual report on the office's efforts.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 1496	Referred To Agriculture Broadband And Rural Development 2023 02 09	In Senate	Monitor	Low
Title Canine bordetella vaccine over-the-counter authorization			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 9, 2023, 3:10 PM Amends Title 35 (Animal Health) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Chapter 35.055 (Bordatella Vaccine) to authorize certain over-the-counter canine bordetella vaccines. Provides that a person may sell or purchase a live or modified live canine bordetella vaccine without a veterinary prescription. Provides that any person who sells or offers to apply, any prescription drug, biologic preparation, including sera, vaccines, bacterins, tuberculin, mallein, johnin, or any other agent for the treatment, vaccination, or testing of any animal belonging to another, shall be engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 1945	Referred To Agriculture Broadband And Rural Development 2023 02 20	In Senate	Monitor	Low
Title Knowing euthanasia of pet or companion animals with nonaesthetic gas at certain facilities prohibition			Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at Feb 21, 2023, 4:30 PM Amends Chapter 343 (Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) of Minnesota Statutes by adding a new Section 343.38 (Humane Euthanasia in Animal Shelters; Pet or Companion Animals) to prohibit the knowing euthanasia of pet or companion animals with nonanesthetic gas at certain facilities. Provides that a person may not knowingly euthanize or authorize the euthanasia of any pet or companion animal in a private or public animal shelter, humane society, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, animal control facility, or pound by the use of carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, or other nonanesthetic gas. Provides that a violation of this section is a misdemeanor.		

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MN	SF 3324	Referred To Judiciary And Public Safety 2023 05 08	In Senate	Monitor	Medium

Title

Animal protection provisions modifications and appropriations

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jeff Plummer at May 23, 2023, 5:28 PM Amends Chapter 299A (Department of Public Safety) of Minnesota Statutes by: (1) Adding a new Section 299P.02 (Office of Animal Protection; Creation; Purpose; Scope) to establish and maintain the Office of Animal Protection as an office within the Department of Public Safety which will protect animals by preventing, investigating, and prosecuting crimes of animal cruelty; and (2) Adding a new Section 299P.10 (Courtroom Animal Advocate Program) to provide an animal advocate to represent animal interests in animal cruelty cases. Provides that on or before January 15 each year, the director must submit an annual report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over public safety finance and policy on the office's operations, including data regarding the animal cruelty cases that the office investigated. Provides that the commissioner may establish an advisory committee, consisting of at least 15 members with knowledge of animal law, animal cruelty, and animal cruelty prevention. Enforcement powers granted to the office include: (1) Investigation; (2) Subpoena; (3) Cease and desist orders; (4) Disposition of dead animals; and (5) Search and seizure without a warrant. Provides that in a criminal proceeding regarding the welfare, care, or custody of an animal, the court may appoint, upon the court's initiative or upon request of a party, an advocate to represent the interests of the animal. Provides that the office shall maintain a list of attorneys who have indicated a willingness to serve as advocates under this section on a voluntary basis and are eligible to serve as advocates. Provides that in order to be eligible to serve as an advocate, an attorney must have completed training as required by the office. For purposes of this section: "Animal" means every living creature except members of the human race. "Animal cruelty" means an act, omission, or neglect that causes or permits unnecessary or unjustifiable pain or suffering to an animal, or causes or permits the unnecessary or unjustifiable death of an animal.

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