



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

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Pa. Senate Passes Bill to Crack Down on Poaching
The HSUS urges House to approve measure

(March 24, 2010) — The Humane Society of the United States praised chief sponsor Sen. Richard Alloway, R-Franklin, Adams and York, and the members of the Pennsylvania Senate for passing a bill to add Pennsylvania to the nationwide law enforcement network known as the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact.

The Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact aims to prevent poachers who have lost their hunting privileges in one state from hunting in another. If the legislature passes S.B. 1200, Pennsylvania would join 33 other states in the Compact, which include neighboring New York, Ohio, West Virginia and Maryland.

“This important piece of legislation will help us ensure that violators from other states will not be able to endanger others,” Sen. Alloway said. “This legislation is vital for the state to properly manage our wildlife and aquatic resources, and I am hopeful that it will receive prompt consideration in the House of Representatives.”

“Pennsylvania is one of the few remaining states that have not signed on to this incredibly valuable law enforcement tool,” said Sarah Speed, Pennsylvania state director for The HSUS. “Pennsylvania should not be a safe haven for nonresident lawbreakers who come here to evade their home state’s anti-poaching laws.”

Facts

- Every year, thousands of poachers are arrested nationwide; however, it is estimated that only 1 to 5 percent of poachers are caught. Poachers kill wildlife anytime, anywhere and sometimes do so in particularly cruel ways. The HSUS has established a reward program offering \$2,500 for the identification, arrest and conviction of suspected wildlife poachers.
- Poachers exploit animals for personal gain or thrill, knowing they will most likely not be caught. With each enforcement officer covering hundreds of square miles, the most effective tools in stopping poaching is strong penalties and collaboration with other states.
- Pennsylvania has some of the weakest poaching penalties in the United States. The passage of another pending bill, H.B. 1859, would increase penalties for poaching and serve as a powerful deterrent to illegal hunting.

For more information on poaching, please visit: humanesociety.org/poaching.

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The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest animal protection organization — backed by 11 million Americans, or one of every 28. For more than a half-century, The HSUS has been fighting for the protection of all animals through advocacy, education, and hands-on programs. Celebrating animals and confronting cruelty — On the Web at humanesociety.org.

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Celebrating Animals, Confronting Cruelty