



Candidate _____ State Senator Jack Harper__

State or County Office ____ State Senate

Legislative Office: District_Four_ Senate_____

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Animals play an important role in the lives of many Arizonans, who consistently demonstrate concern for animal protection. Citizens look to the government to protect animals from inhumane treatment.

Humane-minded citizens care deeply about the positions their elected officials take on animal protection issues. Humane Voters of Arizona appreciates your input on this 2008 State Candidate Questionnaire. HVA will be endorsing candidates for the upcoming election based upon voting records and response to this questionnaire.

For more information on any of the issues, please visit the following websites:

Animal Defense League of Arizona www.adlaz.org

Greyhound Network News www.greyhoundnetworknews.org

Arizona Humane Society www.azhumane.org

Humane Voters of Arizona partners with Humane USA, which determines endorsements for federal candidates. Visit www.humaneusa.org

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Have you ever been involved in any animal protection issues? If so, please name issues and any actions taken.

Are there any animal protection programs or issues of interest that you plan to address while in office?

I already made it a crime to have sex with an animal. My legislations failed at first, then Representative John Nelson “stuck” the issue onto an extra bill that he had.

Do you have, or have you had in the past, any companion animals that have had an impact on you?

I have three dogs and a horse

Do you financially or philosophically support any local or national animal protection organizations? If so, which ones?

They are all good people and I wish them the best. Please come talk to me at the Capitol when our schedules permit.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

ANIMAL ABUSE LAWS

The link between cruelty to animals and violence toward humans is well documented. People who have committed acts of violence on animals are more likely to act out violently towards people in a number of scenarios and psychological profiles.

Do you believe that laws against animal cruelty should be strongly enforced?

Abuse should be strongly enforced

FARM ANIMALS

In 2006 Arizona voters overwhelmingly passed Prop 204 which prohibits the cruel confinement of pregnant pigs and calves raised for veal. California residents will vote on a similar citizens' initiative this November, which would also ban the confinement of egg-laying hens in cages so small that they have less space than a letter size sheet of paper.

Last session the Arizona Legislature passed a bill that authorizes the State Dept. of Agriculture to set standards for poultry husbandry practices. The public rulemaking process will begin this month.

Do you believe that egg-laying hens should be provided enough space to turn around and spread their wings?

I voted against that stalking-horse of a bill that did not go as far as the CA initiative.

GREYHOUND RACING

An initiative will appear on the November ballot that would improve conditions for racing greyhounds in South Tucson. Tucson Greyhound Park (TGP) which is located within the city has a long history of greyhound injuries and deaths. Despite

efforts by animal advocates, rescue groups, and the Arizona Department of Racing there has been little progress in the care of greyhounds at TGP.

The Tucson Dog Protection Act (Prop 400) prohibits feeding dogs 4D meat, which is meat from dead, diseased, dying, and disabled animals. This substance is often contaminated with E. coli bacteria, yet is fed raw to racing dogs throughout the country. Veterinary studies confirm that 4D meat can cause "Alabama Rot", the kidney failure syndrome unique to greyhounds. *Source: Kansas State University*

Muzzled racing greyhounds at TGP are routinely locked in small cages in a windowless room for up to 23 hours each day. Prop 400 would require that dogs spend no more than 18 hours in a cage.

Prop 400 also bans the use of anabolic steroids, which are given to female greyhounds to prevent heat cycles. Veterinarians warn that regularly dosing dogs with anabolic steroids can result in serious physical disorders including deformities, infections, and liver problems

Prop 400 has been endorsed by 100 Tucson veterinarians, rescue groups, community leaders, and bipartisan lawmakers.

Do you support Prop 400 which provides protection for racing greyhounds in South Tucson?

I oppose grey hound racing and all of it's ills.

Dog racing in Arizona has been subsidized by the state and the taxpayers for the last fourteen years, since the passage of a mega-tax break bill for the failing dog tracks in 1994. Tucson Greyhound Park (TGP), the first track to benefit from the bill, has not paid any pari-mutuel taxes to the state since 1996. The Tucson track's out-of-state-owners have reaped nearly \$50 million in gross profits in the last ten years. Phoenix Greyhound Park, which paid \$5.8 million in pari-mutuel taxes in 1995, saw its tax reduced to zero by 2005. Because the tax credits are carried over from year to year, under current law it is likely that neither track will ever pay pari-mutuel taxes again.

Would you support reinstating legislation requiring that dog tracks pay pari-mutuel taxes to the state?

I support eliminating that tax credit.

WILDLIFE AND HABITAT

ARIZONA GAME & FISH COMMISSION

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission is charged with managing our state's wildlife.

Do you believe that wildlife should be managed not for the benefit of special interest groups but to produce balanced ecosystems in which all, native species may thrive?

Sure.

Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17-201 requires that members of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission must be “well informed on the subject of wildlife and its conservation.” Some people believe that holding a hunting or fishing license should be an additional defacto requirement for Arizona Game & Fish Commissioners. Three years ago a well-qualified nominee for the Commission came under criticism because she was not a hunter. The candidate is a wildlife biologist and former employee of the Arizona Game & Fish Department, and yet was denied a vote by the full Senate. This year another nominee who does not hunt or fish, but is well-qualified was again denied a confirmation vote,

Do you believe that candidates for the Arizona Game & Fish Commission should be based upon their qualifications irrespective of whether they hunt or fish?

Yes.

Enacted in 1973, the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) has been responsible for saving imperiled wildlife including the Bald Eagle, the Grizzly Bear, and Gray Whale.

On August 11, the Bush Administration has proposed a sweeping overhaul of the ESA which would eliminate independent scientific reviews of decisions made by federal agencies, enabling agencies to decide for themselves whether construction projects pose a threat to endangered species.

Arizona is home to 56 endangered species, many of which could be threatened by this proposal to weaken the ESA.

Would you support legislation establishing an Arizona Endangered Species Act?

No. - I think we need to be at the table when discussing the federal act.
