

TX-RPOA E-News

From RPOA Texas Outreach and
Responsible Pet Owners Alliance
"Animal welfare, not animal 'rights'
and, yes, there is a difference."
Permission granted to crosspost.

April 2, 2009

HSUS held their Lobby Day in Austin, TX, today with many scheduled in other states. You can be sure they've asked Texas legislators to pass the "Puppy Mill" Bill and the Mandatory Spay/Neuter Bill which are intended to end all breeding of companion animals in Texas. Bills that are not really for "puppy mills," but target ALL dog and cat breeders and all sales. Their agenda couldn't be more clear than with this legislation. Any exceptions given today can be taken away tomorrow.

After the hearing yesterday on the "Puppy Mill" Bill, some of you may be tempted to "help" Rep. Thompson amend her bill as she requested. If you do so, you'll be cutting your own throat! All across the country we joined hands to defeat CA's AB 1634 which was similar. It was almost a two year battle with 8 revisions before it died. We're fortunate our Texas Legislature only meets for six months every other year. We only have two months to go but this will take an all out effort and we must be united in our message.

The key in CA for their success was the message: "This bill is fundamentally flawed and cannot be fixed with amendments."
That must be our mantra in Texas also!
Please don't sabotage our efforts by collaborating with Rep. Thompson on her HB 3180. This bill must be killed or it will come back to haunt you. We're networking with many groups who are instrumental in our efforts.
It is encouraging that the bill did not get a vote yesterday. They could have passed it then. Let's keep up the good fight -- for our animals' sake.

RPOA has been active on the state level since 2001 and we've learned much about the political process in the Texas Legislature. It's different than other states. There is much that we do behind the scenes that cannot be published on this list. Will we win, who knows? But we will have done all we could do.

We ask for your patience as we're behind on adding new people to our email list and getting our website fully functional. We hope to be further along by Monday. We're so very appreciative of the fantastic response we're getting from everyone. Keep it up!

RPOA Texas Outreach (501C4 Nonprofit)

www.rpoatexasoutreach.org

Responsible Pet Owners Alliance (501C3 Nonprofit)

www.responsiblepetowners.org

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