

RPOA Texas Outreach
And
Responsible Pet Owners Alliance
sponsor
“Responsible Pet Owners Lobby Day”
Thursday, February 24, 2011

Dialogue for Texas Legislators:

Several people have requested information regarding what to say to their legislators. Following are some suggestions to start the conversation when you meet with them. Your meeting will be short. Be well prepared!

1. Introduce yourself, tell a little about your animal interest. Tell them that HSUS, Texas Humane Legislation Network, PETA and ASPCA do not represent you.
2. Ask the legislator or aide with whom you are meeting: “Do you own a pet?” Focus on their pet a little if they have one. Ask if they are aware of the difference between Animal “Rights” and Animal “Welfare.” Explain the differences briefly and leave them the RPOA flyer on Animal Welfare vs Animal Rights.
3. Tell them the “animal rights” extremists are attempting to stop all breeding and sales of pets in the U.S. – not only in Texas. Austin and El Paso have banned pet store sales of puppies and kittens in their cities and closed the Petland stores. San Francisco, CA, was considering banning all pet sales in pet stores. San Antonio “animal rights” activists say all dog and cat sales in the city should be banned.
4. Point out the economic impact of pet ownership. No Breeding means No Pets, No Sales, No Vets, No Pet Supplies and how that would be a major blow to our Texas economy besides the loss of the human/animal bond. In these stressful times our pets mean more to us than ever before.
5. If you are new to politics, tell them so and why you are here now. Be sure to note which bills are House Bills or Senate Bills for the meeting with your representative or senator. Don’t get them confused!
6. Choose the most important bill or two and state briefly why you oppose them. Leave them a copy of the RPOA Bills Summary with our positions.
7. Tell them we defeated mandatory sterilization of all dogs and cats and the HSUS/Texas Humane Legislation Network anti-breeding bills last session. It doesn’t take a rocket scientist to see that there’ll be no dogs/cats in 10 years if all are sterilized and no breeding allowed. Bloodlines and gene pools will be lost in working dog breeds forever.
8. Thank them for their time and ask that they oppose any Anti-Pet Bills sponsored by Humane Society of the United States, Texas Humane Legislation Network, and other “animal rights” groups. Tell them to contact Responsible Pet Owners Alliance of Texas if they ever need our advice. We’re the experts with animal issues – not the fanatical “animal rights” activists.