Supreme Court Upholds Horse Protection

On June 30, 1976, the Supreme Court of the United States upheld the constitutionality of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971. It placed all wild horses and burros on federal lands under the protection and management of the Department of Interior and Agriculture in an effort to eliminate the indiscriminate slaughter and commercial exploitation of these animals. HSUS had filed a brief as amicus curiae (friend of the Court) in support of the landmark animal protection legislation.

Dolphin Slaughter

In a continuing effort to prevent the slaughter of dolphins during commercial tuna fishing operations, HSUS filed an amicus curiae brief on July 2, 1976 in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. See page 23 for follow-up story.

Endangered Species

The Department of Interior had added 159 animals to the official list of endangered species. Effective June 14, 1976, they can not be traded in interstate commerce.

Greyhound Training

HSUS Chief Investigator Frantz Dantzler was invited to testify before a Florida Legislative Committee in Tallahassee regarding the use of live bait to train greyhounds. Unfortunately, the bill was defeated and the use of live animals, particularly rabbits, continues as a method of training greyhounds in Florida.

Animal Fighting

Florida's governor signed the "Animal Fighting Act of 1976" banning bear, bull, or dog fighting.

Persons found promoting and conducting animal fighting events in Florida are subject to a misdemeanor of the first degree punishable by a year in jail and a fine up to $5000. Persons arrested for betting and attending these events are subject to a second degree misdemeanor punishable to sixty days in jail and a fine up to $1000.

Cockfighting Spectators Arrested

Approximately 250 spectators at a cockfight in Virginia were charged under a state law making it a misdemeanor to watch or stage a cockfight.

Killer Whales

After passage in the U.S. Senate, a House Bill (H.R. 12460) is pending before the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries which would limit the capture of any killer whale. The bill is in response to the capture and subsequent release of five killer whales in Puget Sound, Washington. If it becomes law no zoo or aquarium would be able to capture any more killer whales for display.

Horse Protection Act Enforced

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports an Alabama horse trainer, Baine Lee, was convicted on criminal charges of entering a sore horse in the Kosciusko, Mississippi Walking Horse Show on May 19, 1972. This is a violation of the Horse Protection Act which HSUS has continually demanded to be enforced.

Wishes of Deceased

In a recent submission to a Florida Probate Court, HSUS General Counsel Murdough Stuart Madden expressed HSUS's concern over the callousness of banks and trust officers in dealing with the precise wishes of persons with respect to their animals following their death. Madden's pleading stated that in ignoring the wishes of the deceased, professional trust officers increasingly were substituting "their own impersonal computerized ideas of the way wills, estates, and trusts should be administered."

Decompression Chamber Restricted

Massachusetts has restricted the use of the decompression chamber for the purpose of killing dogs and cats. However, this law would not prevent a decompression chamber from being used if an owner voluntarily surrendered his animal for euthanasia. The Massachusetts society for the prevention of cruelty to animals has also opposed the use of the high altitude decompression chamber.

N.Y. Spay and Neuter Clinics

The New York State Legislation has approved legislation authorizing municipalities to establish and operate spay and neuter clinics. If individual towns decide the surplus animal population is a priority item, they may provide funds to operate clinics. However, New York state has made no provisions to provide such funds.

Virginia Cruelty Laws Enforced

The revised Virginia State Code "authorizes all law enforcement officers to enforce" anti-cruelty and other animal laws. Its passage has resulted in the convicting and fining of an Arlington man not properly caring for his pet.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports an Alabama horse trainer, Baine Lee, was convicted on criminal charges of entering a sore horse in the Kosciusko, Mississippi Walking Horse Show on May 19, 1972. This is a violation of the Horse Protection Act which HSUS has continually demanded to be enforced.

The Department of Interior had added 159 animals to the official list of endangered species. Effective June 14, 1976, they can not be traded in interstate commerce.

Endangered Species

The Department of Interior added 159 animals to the official list of endangered species. Effective June 14, 1976, they can not be traded in interstate commerce.

Greyhound Training

HSUS Chief Investigator Frantz Dantzler was invited to testify before a Florida Legislative Committee in Tallahassee regarding the use of live bait to train greyhounds. Unfortunately, the bill was defeated and the use of live animals, particularly rabbits, continues as a method of training greyhounds in Florida.

Animal Fighting

Florida's governor signed the "Animal Fighting Act of 1976" banning bear, bull, or dog fighting.

Persons found promoting and conducting animal fighting events in Florida are subject to a misdemeanor of the first degree punishable by a year in jail and a fine up to $5000. Persons arrested for betting and attending these events are subject to a second degree misdemeanor punishable to sixty days in jail and a fine up to $1000.

Killer Whales

After passage in the U.S. Senate, a House Bill (H.R. 12460) is pending before the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries which would limit the capture of any killer whale. The bill is in response to the capture and subsequent release of five killer whales in Puget Sound, Washington. If it becomes law no zoo or aquarium would be able to capture any more killer whales for display.

Horse Protection Act Enforced

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports an Alabama horse trainer, Baine Lee, was convicted on criminal charges of entering a sore horse in the Kosciusko, Mississippi Walking Horse Show on May 19, 1972. This is a violation of the Horse Protection Act which HSUS has continually demanded to be enforced.

Wishes of Deceased

In a recent submission to a Florida Probate Court, HSUS General Counsel Murdough Stuart Madden expressed HSUS's concern over the callousness of banks and trust officers in dealing with the precise wishes of persons with respect to their animals following their death. Madden's pleading stated that in ignoring the wishes of the deceased, professional trust officers increasingly were substituting "their own impersonal computerized ideas of the way wills, estates, and trusts should be administered."

Decompression Chamber Restricted

Massachusetts has restricted the use of the decompression chamber for the purpose of killing dogs and cats. However, this law would not prevent a decompression chamber from being used if an owner voluntarily surrendered his animal for euthanasia. The Massachusetts society for the prevention of cruelty to animals has also opposed the use of the high altitude decompression chamber.

N.Y. Spay and Neuter Clinics

The New York State Legislation has approved legislation authorizing municipalities to establish and operate spay and neuter clinics. If individual towns decide the surplus animal population is a priority item, they may provide funds to operate clinics. However, New York state has made no provisions to provide such funds.

Virginia Cruelty Laws Enforced

The revised Virginia State Code "authorizes all law enforcement officers to enforce" anti-cruelty and other animal laws. Its passage has resulted in the convicting and fining of an Arlington man not properly caring for his pet.

Supreme Court Upholds Horse Protection

On June 30, 1976, the Supreme Court of the United States upheld the constitutionality of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971. It placed all wild horses and burros on federal lands under the protection and management of the Department of Interior and Agriculture in an effort to eliminate the indiscriminate slaughter and commercial exploitation of these animals. HSUS had filed a brief as amicus curiae (friend of the Court) in support of this landmark animal protection legislation.

Dolphin Slaughter

In a continuing effort to prevent the slaughter of dolphins during commercial tuna fishing operations, HSUS filed an amicus curiae brief on July 2, 1976 in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. See page 23 for follow-up story.

Endangered Species

The Department of Interior had added 159 animals to the official list of endangered species. Effective June 14, 1976, they can not be traded in interstate commerce.

Greyhound Training

HSUS Chief Investigator Frantz Dantzler was invited to testify before a Florida Legislative Committee in Tallahassee regarding the use of live bait to train greyhounds. Unfortunately, the bill was defeated and the use of live animals, particularly rabbits, continues as a method of training greyhounds in Florida.

Animal Fighting

Florida's governor signed the "Animal Fighting Act of 1976" banning bear, bull, or dog fighting.

Persons found promoting and conducting animal fighting events in Florida are subject to a misdemeanor of the first degree punishable by a year in jail and a fine up to $5000. Persons arrested for betting and attending these events are subject to a second degree misdemeanor punishable to sixty days in jail and a fine up to $1000.

Killer Whales

After passage in the U.S. Senate, a House Bill (H.R. 12460) is pending before the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries which would limit the capture of any killer whale. The bill is in response to the capture and subsequent release of five killer whales in Puget Sound, Washington. If it becomes law no zoo or aquarium would be able to capture any more killer whales for display.

Horse Protection Act Enforced

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports an Alabama horse trainer, Baine Lee, was convicted on criminal charges of entering a sore horse in the Kosciusko, Mississippi Walking Horse Show on May 19, 1972. This is a violation of the Horse Protection Act which HSUS has continually demanded to be enforced.

Wishes of Deceased

In a recent submission to a Florida Probate Court, HSUS General Counsel Murdough Stuart Madden expressed HSUS's concern over the callousness of banks and trust officers in dealing with the precise wishes of persons with respect to their animals following their death. Madden's pleading stated that in ignoring the wishes of the deceased, professional trust officers increasingly were substituting "their own impersonal computerized ideas of the way wills, estates, and trusts should be administered."

Decompression Chamber Restricted

Massachusetts has restricted the use of the decompression chamber for the purpose of killing dogs and cats. However, this law would not prevent a decompression chamber from being used if an owner voluntarily surrendered his animal for euthanasia. The Massachusetts society for the prevention of cruelty to animals has also opposed the use of the high altitude decompression chamber.

N.Y. Spay and Neuter Clinics

The New York State Legislation has approved legislation authorizing municipalities to establish and operate spay and neuter clinics. If individual towns decide the surplus animal population is a priority item, they may provide funds to operate clinics. However, New York state has made no provisions to provide such funds.

Virginia Cruelty Laws Enforced

The revised Virginia State Code "authorizes all law enforcement officers to enforce" anti-cruelty and other animal laws. Its passage has resulted in the convicting and fining of an Arlington man not properly caring for his pet.
by a ten-year moratorium on killing whales, the U.S. tuna industry continues to kill hundreds of thousands of these small whales (dolphins) annually.

TUNA BAN

There is little hope for saving the dolphins either in the Courts or in Congress. As long as the tuna industry claims they have to kill dolphins to catch tuna fish, it is unlikely the Government will make them stop. However, the consumer can effectively influence the tuna industry by refusing to buy any tuna products until they solve this problem. The tuna industry will find it cheaper to devise new fishing techniques than it is to sell any tuna. Patricia Forkan, HSUS program coordinator, stated in her testimony before the House Subcommittee that HSUS constituents were taking steps on their own to save dolphins by boycotting all tuna products. 

"It is the only path left open to us."

Although it is only the yellowfin tuna (labeled as "light" meat) which is caught by killing dolphins, HSUS believes if the ban is to be truly effective, the economic sanction must be felt across the board. What good does it do to buy tuna not caught on dolphins such as white Albacore, or dark Skip Jack from the same boats. Realize the major reason they reduced mortality in 1976 by more than 60% was mother nature rather than improved fishing practices and "dolphin rescue" efforts. With tuna readily available this year, setting on dolphins at all, the tuna industry only set on them half as often as in 1975. Therefore, dolphin mortality is down. If fishing conditions had been normal this year it is estimated the total kill would have been reduced by only 19% from 1975 levels meaning the U.S. tuna fleet would have killed 109,000 dolphins in 1976.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. Join with HSUS in our fight to keep dolphins out of tuna nets.
2. Help educate your neighbors by handing out this leaflet, writing letters to the editor, calling radio shows, talking at your next humane society meeting or other local organizations, getting school clubs to help. Some student groups have convinced their board of education not to serve tuna in school cafeterias.
3. Let your Congressmen know how you feel.
4. Write to President Ford and ask him to support our campaign to save dolphins.
5. Join with HSUS in our fight to keep dolphins out of tuna nets.

TUNA INDUSTRY'S TASKS

- Develop new fishing gear and techniques that will truly reduce mortality and injury to near zero. This is crucial not only for U.S. fleets but also foreign fleets which have begun to use purse seine nets.
- Some tuna boat captains have better records than others. Regulations and a training course for them are needed to insure they comply with new methods. Captains who continue to kill dolphins should be fined.
- Allow Government observers aboard all large tuna vessels to insure they are following regulations, to count the number of dolphins killed, and to help determine the total population of dolphins.
- Provide a full time research vessel to the Federal Government for continued testing.
- Be more concerned about conservation of the stocks of yellowfin tuna being rapidly depleted by the increasing numbers of big purse seine boats.

Because of the expense involved in printing a special Annual Report for 1975, we have chosen to include in this issue of The Humane Society News the financial report for the calendar year 1975. We are pleased to report that the income for 1975 was an increase over the previous year of $376,026. Expenses for our various programs and activities also increased during 1975 in the amount of $60,286.

The scope of our programs and activities has been presented in the various issues of The Humane Society News and Special Reports. However, a printed copy of The President's Report for 1975 is available upon request.

We are grateful for your continuing support and encouragement as we expand our outreach and efforts to ensure protection from cruelty and abuse for our fellow creatures. Though this is a never ending battle, we are confident there is a growing awareness and commitment to the welfare of animals. We urge you to join us in enlisting the commitment and support of all citizens of our nation in advancing this great cause.

John A. Hoyt
HSUS President

The Humane Society News • Summer/Fall 1976

25