

MESSAGE FROM OAAO, THE OHIO ASSOCIATION OF ANIMAL OWNERS, REGARDING HSUS'S INVASION OF THEIR STATE AND FARM BUREAU'S BETRAYAL OF DOG AND EXOTIC ANIMAL OWNERS

Summer 2010

In order to get the phone numbers of your State Senator and Representative, it may be quicker to call the Legislative Information hotline at (800) 282-0253. If you give them your address, they will give you the phone number for your Senator and Representative. The number for the Governor's office is (614) 466-3555.

Again, here is what we need you to do:

In light of the "agreement" reached earlier this week between our Governor, Ohio Farm Bureau and HSUS, we urgently need EVERY OAAO member (and anyone else you can get to do it) to call the Governor, their State Senator and their State Representative. To locate their phone numbers, go to <http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/>

You will need to address the following 4 points below. Keep your call brief and to the point, try to avoid any lengthy discussion. You may want to follow up with an email, but we need to flood the Statehouse switchboard with phone calls immediately.

One of our corporate members has furnished us with a list of contacts at the Ohio Farm Bureau. This is not a complete list, but if you are a Farm Bureau member in any of these counties, we are asking you to please contact the appropriate person (below) to let them know of the negative impact of SB95, and also of the plan to prohibit the possession and sale of certain exotic animals. If you live in one of the counties not listed below, you may need to contact your county Farm Bureau office to get the name and contact information for your Organizational Director.

Again, our talking points are:

- Any Executive Order by the Governor prohibiting possession/sale of certain exotic animals is a violation of the US Constitution, as it takes away our right to use our own private property without paying us for it. It's no different than taking away our guns or our farms and not paying us. Most of these animal owners are federally licensed and inspected breeders and exhibitors who MAKE THEIR LIVING from these animals. **I will not vote for Governor Strickland if he signs this Executive Order, and will urge everyone I know to do the same.**
- Senate Bill 95 would require federally licensed and inspected dog breeders to tear down their existing facilities and rebuild them at 3 times the cost, plus it creates another state agency that Ohio cannot afford. **I will not vote for any Senator or Representative who votes for SB95, and I will not vote for Governor Strickland if he continues to support SB95.**
- Ohio Farm Bureau had no right to enter into any agreement concerning dogs or exotic animals, as those animals are not livestock. The groups representing dog breeders and exotic animal owners were not included in the discussions leading up to this agreement. It is unacceptable for dog breeders and exotic animal

owners to be used as pawns to get HSUS off the backs of Ohio farmers. Ohio Farm Bureau is a private organization representing farmers, not dog breeders or exotic animal owners. They have repeatedly refused to even take a position on legislation concerning exotic animals and dogs, specifically because those animals are not livestock. Farm Bureau has no right to enter into any agreements concerning non-livestock animals, and I intend to suggest to everyone I know that they reconsider their membership to Farm Bureau.

- HB108 (cockfighting bill) places higher penalties on fighting birds than on comparable offenses against human beings. **I will not vote for any Senator or Representative who votes for HB108 in its current form, and I will not vote for Governor Strickland if he continues to support the felony provisions in this bill.**

Polly Britton
Legislative Agent
Ohio Association of Animal Owners
<http://www.oaao.us/>

For more info see: <http://www.rexano.org/StatePages/OhioFrame.htm>

Farm Bureau contacts:

Ohio Farm Bureau Federation
Executive Vice President Jack Fisher
280 North High St, 6th floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Phone: (614) 249-2400
Fax: (614) 249-2200

Holmes & Coshocton County Farm Bureau Organizational Director:

Susan Brinker

Phone:
800-641-7648

Fax:
740-452-1846

Email:
mucfb@sbcglobal.net

Ashland & Wayne County Farm Bureau Organizational Director:

John Fitzpatrick

Phone:
330-263-7456

Fax:
330-263-7416

Email:

wcfb@sssnet.com

Stark County Farm Bureau Organizational Director:

Nick Kennedy

Phone:

330-456-4889

Fax:

330-456-7064

Email:

nkennedy@ofbf.org

Tuscarawas County Farm Bureau President:

Steve Quillin

Phone:

330-339-7211

Fax:

330-308-9026

Email:

farmbureau@tusco.net

Richland County Farm Bureau Organizational Director:

Korre Boyer

Phone:

419-747-7488

Fax:

419-747-7554

Email:

richlandfb@neohio.twcbc.com

<http://www.rexano.org/>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/REXANOEXOTICS>

<http://www.cafepress.com/rexano>

<http://www.myspace.com/rexanoexotics>