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We attended the Annual Day for Animals at the State House. It was hosted by the MSPCA, HSUS, ASPCA and ARL. The event was heavily attended and a few speakers remarked that the crowd was double the size of last year. A few legislators spoke to the crowd and encouraged everyone to go and visit their own legislators to advocate for these issues:

- Rep. Lori Ehrlich (D-Marblehead) discussed Sen. Hedlund's bill on elephants in circuses ([SB 1626](#)). Although it has been sent to "study," she stated they plan on working to get it passed next year. She spoke of the importance of citizen advocacy and mentioned Lewis' Farm Animal Cruelty bill. She mentioned Tarr's "Puppy Doe bill" ([SB 1914](#)) and the Puppy and Kittens bill (originally [SB 401](#), now [HB 3762](#) – in House Ways & Means)
- Sen. O'Connor-Ives (D- Newburyport) also discussed the importance of advocating on behalf of animals and specifically mentioned Sen. Hedlund's Animal Cruelty bill ([SB 741](#))
- Sen. Karen Spilka (D-Framingham) discussed her success with the Pets in Disasters bill ([SB 1172](#)) and she is also a co-sponsor of the Puppies and Kittens bill.
- Senate President Murray (D-Plymouth) told the crowd about her own experience of adopting a pet, which in turn prompted members of her staff to adopt pets as well. She did not speak to any pending bills.
- Lastly, Rep. Jason Lewis (D-Winchester) spoke about how his bill ([HB 1456](#)) would end the use of certain cruel devices used on farm animals. He said the Farm Bureau is working hard to stop the bill even though relatively few farms in the state would be affected.

Sincerely,



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