



Great News to Celebrate!

Thank You This Holiday Season for Helping to Save Our Wildlife.

Coyotes, foxes, bobcats, rabbits, squirrels, raccoons, woodchucks, and other small mammals and birds can finally live out their lives without becoming statistics in Wildlife Killing Contests in New York State. Such cruel events are forever banned as of November this year.

Since the bill to combat this evil originated in the Legislature, NYSHA had actively lobbied, along with like-minded representatives of other humane groups, to

bring about this reform. All who worked together to make this victory possible deserve appreciation.

Thank you to the legislators who sponsored the crucial legislation. Thank you to all of you who opened your hearts and supported NYSHA's efforts to have the bill passed by contacting your state representatives. And thank you to the Governor for signing the bill into law.



Now, people throughout the state who care about nature and wildlife will no longer have to worry about raccoons, rabbits,

coyotes and other wild animals needlessly losing their lives during these senseless and cruel contests. And no longer will there be abandoned and orphaned baby animals because of them.

> It is a wonderful gift to the people of our state to know that compassion and ethics have prevailed over wanton and wasteful cruelty. How appropriate for this time of the year!

All of us working together toward the goal of protecting the lives of innocent animals can have a happier and more peaceful heart this holiday season knowing that we have succeeded in obtaining greater protections for our forest and field creatures. Our work is not over, but we have made a huge step forward.

Not surprisingly, our values have been echoed by well-known humanitarians. The Dalai Lama said, "Life is as dear to a mute creature as it is to man. Just as one wants happiness and fears pain, just as one wants to live and not die,

so do other creatures," and Albert Einstein, "Our task must be to free ourselves by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and its beauty."

We thank you for your support throughout the past year and look forward to your continued assistance in the coming year. Your donations are crucial to our work. We could not do what we do for the animals without your help.

The Board and Staff of NYSHA wish you a joyous holiday season and a happy New Year!

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