



2019 Annual Report

**New York State Standing Committee On
Domestic Animal Welfare**

**Senator Monica R. Martinez
Chairperson**



**NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE**



SENATOR MONICA R. MARTINEZ
THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER ON
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Chair
Domestic Animal Welfare
Committees
Alcoholism and Substance
Abuse
Budget and Revenue
Education
Insurance
Labor
Rules
Veterans, Homeland Security
and Military Affairs

December 30, 2019

The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Temporary President and Majority Leader
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Senator Stewart-Cousins:

I am pleased to transmit the Annual Report of the Senate's Standing Committee on Domestic Animal Welfare for the 2019 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am proud to continue to lead our efforts to address important matters under my committee's jurisdiction and ensuring the protection of millions of companion animals across the State.

During the 2019 session, this committee met four times in session and reported fourteen bills. The Domestic Animal Welfare Committee also cohosted a joint hearing with the Racing, Gaming and Wagering Committee on The Welfare of Racehorses.

I thank my colleagues who served on the Committee for their efforts and support of the work conducted in the committee this year, and I thank you for the continued support from the Majority Conference in the committee's operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Martinez", written in a cursive style.

Senator Monica R. Martinez



2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

**NEW YORK STATE SENATE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC ANIMAL WELFARE**

**Senator Monica R. Martinez, Chairperson
Senator James Tedisco, Ranking Minority Member**

Committee Members

Senator Martinez
Senator Addabbo
Senator Harckham
Senator Metzger
Senator Myrie
Senator Tedisco
Senator Boyle

Committee Staff

Deanna Schneider, Committee Clerk
Jonathan Campozano, Majority Counsel
Jessica Fowler, Majority Finance

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW

The New York State Senate Standing Committee on Domestic Animal Welfare Committee has legislative oversight responsibilities for issues concerning the care and safety of companion animals by owners, pet dealers and other individuals.

During the 2019 Legislative Session, 45 bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, 14 were reported from the Committee, three were discharged to Rules, four referred to a secondary committee, 13 were passed by the Senate, and 4 passed in both houses. This work was conducted through a series of four committee meetings. A list of all bills that were reported from the committee is provided at the end of this report.

In addition to its regular meetings, the Committee held one joint hearing. The joint hearing was held with the Committee for Racing, Gaming, and Wagering, on the Welfare of Racehorses. There were no nominations before the committee.

Bills that Passed Both Houses (4)

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Action
S.3828	Metzger	Relates to the care of animals. This legislation sets minimum standards of grooming, sanitation, and veterinary care for pet dealers.	Chapter 149
S.4802	Martinez	Requires the commissioner of agriculture and markets to identify and develop standards for therapy dogs. This legislation would lead to state guidance on best practices for therapy dogs, for handlers of the dogs, and the public.	Chapter 574
S.5054	LaValle	Relates to the confinement of companion animals in unattended motor vehicles under conditions that endanger the health or well-being of an animal.	Chapter 137
S.5532-B	Gianaris	Relates to the prohibition of the declawing of cats.	Chapter 107

Bills that Passed the Senate Only (10)

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Action
S.94	Kaminsky	Relates to promoting animal fighting; and repeals certain provisions of such law relating thereto	Committee Vote on 5/01/19: 7 – 0 Senate Floor Vote on 6/4/19: 62 – 0
S.2723	Krueger	Relates to aggravated cruelty to animals	Committee Vote on 2/28/19: 7 – 0 Senate Floor Vote on 6/4/19: 62 – 0
S.3078-A	Addabbo	Requires the installation and testing of fire protection systems at pet stores	Committee Vote on 2/28/19: 7 – 0 Senate Floor Vote on 6/4/19: 52 – 10
S.3412	Martinez	Relates to the care and collection of animals on vacant property	Committee Vote on 2/28/19: 7 – 0 Senate Floor Vote on 6/11/19: 60 – 1
S.3415-A	Martinez	Relates to the reporting of animal cruelty	Committee Vote on 5/22/19: 7 – 0 Senate Floor Vote on 6/4/19: 60 – 2
S.3559	Kennedy	Increases the monetary penalties for the failure to provide appropriate shelter for a dog left outdoors	Committee Vote on 5/22/19: 7 – 0 Senate Floor Vote on 6/4/19: 62 – 0
S.3707	Martinez	Relates to the proper venue for an impounding organization to file a petition for a security	Committee Vote on 2/28/19: 7 – 0 Senate Floor Vote on 3/26/19: 61 – 0
S.3959-C	Brooks	Establishes Buoy's law	Senate Floor Vote on 6/12/19: 62 – 0

S.4577-A	Martinez	Relates to code red and blue alerts for companion animals during extreme weather; repealer	Committee Vote on 5/30/19: 7 – 0 Senate Floor Vote on 6/14/19: 53 – 9
S.5807-A	Martinez	Relates to sentencing for the crime of aggravated cruelty to animals	Committee Vote on 5/30/19: 7 – 0 Senate Floor Vote on 6/14/19: 62 – 0



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**NEW YORK STATE SENATE
STANDING COMMITTEE**

ON DOMESTIC ANIMAL WELFARE