



Humane World Action Fund™

Formerly called
Humane Society Legislative Fund

2026 local and municipal candidate questionnaire

Candidate Name: __Cynthia Harrison_____
Candidate Address: __P.O Box 131354 Ann Arbor, MI 48113_____
Office Sought: __Re-election to Ann Arbor City Council Ward 1__ Locality: __Ann Arbor City__
Staff Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____
Email: ___votecynthiaharrison@gmail.com___ Website: __https://www.votecynthiaharrison.com/___

Animals play an important role in the lives of many Americans. Countless citizens look to their local government to protect animals from cruel treatment and exploitation. Humane-minded individuals care deeply about the positions their elected officials take on animal protection issues.

For information on the range and details of our issue areas, please visit the websites of Humane World Action Fund (humaneaction.org) or Humane World for Animals (humaneworld.org).

Background information

What actions have you taken affecting the welfare of animals in the past? Please include actions taken at the local, state, or federal levels.

As a member of Ann Arbor City Council, I have supported policies that strengthen our community's environmental stewardship, expand access to parks and natural areas, and promote responsible coexistence between people and wildlife. Protecting animal welfare is closely connected to preserving healthy habitats, reducing environmental impacts, and making thoughtful, science-based decisions.

I have supported city investments in parks, green spaces, and natural areas that provide habitat for wildlife while giving residents opportunities to connect with nature. I also support partnerships with local organizations that provide care, shelter, and adoption services for companion animals and work to reduce animal suffering in our community.

More broadly, I believe public policy should balance human needs with compassion toward animals and should rely on evidence-based approaches that protect both public safety and animal welfare.

What actions have you taken affecting the habitats of animals in the past? Please include actions taken at the local, state, or federal levels. Examples may include efforts to address the impacts of natural disasters such as wildfires and hurricanes on ecosystems.

In 2023, Ann Arbor passed an ordinance that bans the retail sale of animals from large-scale commercial breeding facilities (puppy mills) that I was proud to cosponsor. Recognizing the inhumane conditions and overpopulation leading to euthanization, we took action to ensure humane breeding and living conditions for animals in Ann Arbor.

Are there any animal welfare programs or issues of importance to you that you would take the initiative on after you are elected? Examples might include municipal animal welfare standards; cracking down on large-scale commercial breeding facilities known as puppy mills; or local tethering and weather-related laws where pets are concerned.

Per my last answer, we have taken action on large-scale commercial breeding facilities known as puppy mills. If more issues come to light, I will be the first to take action to ensure that animals are treated appropriately and have safe living and breeding conditions.

Will you post information on your campaign website outlining your positions on animal protection issues?

Yes. I am happy to share my support for animal protection and safe, humane conditions for all animals.

Do you have, or have you had in the past, any pets that have made an impact on you personally?

I have been a pet lover and an owner of dogs my entire life. I was a toddler when my parents adopted my first pet who became a part of my family's life for many years until she passed away. Most recently, my family rescued a pit-boxer mix that we love dearly and we've had him for 7 years. He had been abandoned, and we knew what his fate would have been if we hadn't rescued him. He has become a treasured member of our home and means the world to us.

Puppy mills: Internet sales, flea markets, face-to-face sales and the majority of pet stores that sell puppies are getting those dogs from puppy mills. A puppy mill is an inhumane high-volume dog breeding facility that churns out puppies for profit, ignoring the needs of the pups and their mothers. Dogs from puppy mills are often sick and unsocialized. Pet retailers often falsely assure consumers that the puppies they offer for sale are raised in reputable or humane breeding facilities, even when they come from inhumane facilities like mass production puppy mills. Our family of organizations hears from thousands of devastated consumers every year who bring home a dog only to have the animal fall sick and, in some cases, even die.

Will you support efforts to end the sale of puppies sourced from puppy mills in pet stores?

Yes No Not Sure

Fashion: Animals need their fur coats more than we do. But on fur factory farms around the world, millions of rabbits, foxes, mink and other wild animals spend their entire lives in cramped cages, deprived of the ability to engage in natural behaviors—only to be crudely gassed or electrocuted at the end. In the wild, animals are caught in crippling leghold traps for days without food or water. These archaic traps are indiscriminate, often maiming and killing non-target animals, like threatened species and even pets—all this in the name of fashion.

Will you support efforts to prohibit the sale of new products containing fur from animals?

Yes No Not Sure

Breed-specific legislation: Throughout the United States, entire communities ban or restrict dogs because of their breed, or, more commonly, what is perceived to be their breed. Breed-based policies aren't founded on science or credible data, but on myths and misinformation surrounding different breeds and their natures. The impact of these policies on dogs, families, and animal shelters, though, is heartbreakingly real. Breed bans and restrictions force dogs out of homes and into shelters, taking up kennel space and resources that could be used for animals in need.

Will you support efforts to prohibit discriminatory breed-based policies?

Yes No Not Sure

Public contact: While exciting to see up close, wild animals are altogether unfit for public contact. Substandard wildlife attractions like roadside zoos and cub petting operations exploit these animals to turn a quick profit, often with such neglect that horror stories have been recorded through undercover investigations. Not only do wild animals suffer cruelly when captured, transported, and placed in close proximity to humans—the risks they then pose to human health and safety are enormous. Cases of aggression may prove life-threatening, as may a host of zoonotic diseases. In recognition of these dangers, the federal government now prohibits the private ownership, breeding, import, or export of big cats acquired, or maintained and unregistered with the USDA, after June 18th, 2023. All big cats, even those owned and registered prior to the law's enactment, are now banned from use in public contact.

Will you support efforts to prohibit direct public contact with wild animal species?

Yes No Not Sure

Factory farming: On factory farms, egg-laying hens are packed into battery cages where they can't even spread their wings. Baby calves are taken from their mothers and confined in pens so small they can barely move, and pigs are locked in gestation crates the width and length of their bodies, unable to even turn around.

Will you support efforts to prohibit the extreme confinement of breeding pigs, egg-laying hens, and calves raised for veal in restrictive, inadequate, and painful conditions?

Yes No Not Sure

Local control: Across the country, bills are often filed aiming to overturn hundreds of local ordinances related to animals. These overly broad bills seek to eliminate commonsense restrictions on matters of animal protection and public safety, alike, by undoing local ordinances prohibiting the sale of dogs from puppy mills; outlawing roadside zoos and similar cruel, unsafe operations; regulating livestock management; or even requiring safety standards for ingredients in our food or health products.

Will you oppose any efforts to prohibit municipal or county ordinances related to animals?

Yes No Not Sure

Thank you for your time! Please return the completed questionnaire to:

Humane World Action Fund

1255 23rd St NW, Suite 455

Washington, D.C. 20037

Phone: (202) 676-2314

Email: info@humaneaction.org

Rev. 1/25/2026

About us

We fight for political and policy change to tackle the root causes of animal cruelty and suffering.

We work to advance our mission by passing animal protection laws at the state and federal levels, educating the public about animal protection issues and supporting humane candidates for office. Together, we act to end animal cruelty.



**Humane World
Action Fund™**

humaneaction.org