A New Chance for a “Forever” Retirement

Proposed CHIMP Act amendment would keep retired chimpanzees in the sanctuary system permanently.

Seven years after the Chimpanzee Health Improvement, Maintenance and Protection (CHIMP) Act was signed into law, there is new hope for eliminating the controversial loophole that would allow research to be conducted on retired chimpanzees.

As our members and supporters know, NAVS was instrumental in getting the CHIMP Act passed in 2000. Since then we’ve reported extensively on that long, arduous journey to establish a federal “retirement” sanctuary system for chimpanzees no longer used in research.

You’ll recall that when the CHIMP Act was introduced, it was obvious that it was a “win-win” situation for everyone, and it quickly garnered bi-partisan support. We thought we were home free until—at the last minute—language was added to the legislation that would allow research to be conducted on permanently retired chimpanzees, but “only under very limited and unlikely circumstances.”

Although we were disappointed in that turn of events, NAVS continued to support the CHIMP Act and monitor its implementation. In 2002, Chimp Haven, Inc., a private, not-for-profit organization located near Shreveport, Louisiana, was awarded the contract to operate a chimpanzee sanctuary. Chimp Haven has now welcomed more than 100 retirees to its sanctuary.

So far, no chimpanzees have been returned to research. But the language in the CHIMP Act that would allow that to happen remains. The fact that chimpanzees could be returned to research has hampered fundraising efforts and additional financial support from animal protection organizations like NAVS.

We would like to thank Representatives Jim McCrery (R-LA) and Charlie Malancon (D-LA), as well as Senators Richard Burr (R-NC), Mary Landrieu (D-LA) and David Vitter (R-LA), for introducing this in the House and Senate, respectively, in order to bring about a much sought-after change to the CHIMP Act.

What You Can Do

Contact your federal congressional representatives and urge them to support the proposed amendment to the CHIMP Act (H.R. 3295 and S. 1916). If you don’t know your legislators, go to www.navs.org and click on the Advocacy Center to find out who they are. Or call us at 800-888-NAVS (800-888-6287) and we’ll be glad to help you.

In this issue...

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On Call for Humane Science
Esteemed pathologist promotes alternatives to dissection

We wrote the book on compassionate shopping!
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Visit our website: www.navs.org

Aerial view of Chimp Haven.
with the school year already well underway, you may be one of those parents whose middle or high school student may soon be facing the prospect of participating in an animal dissection exercise. But even if you aren’t, there are a number of reasons why you should be concerned about animal dissection and its importance as an issue in the anti-vivisection movement.

First, the irresponsible collection of millions of frogs disrupts the ecosystem, threatening the balance of nature and the future of the environment. Equally important is how animal dissection poses a threat to young minds—and the hope of a future defined by humane science. When children are exposed to a mindset that animal life is cheap and expendable, they learn lessons they shouldn’t: the devaluation of nonhuman life and insensitivity to the pain and suffering of others. Certainly, these are not the values we want to pass on to the next generation.

There’s another hidden price to animal dissection: it may turn young people who object to the practice from pursuing careers in science and healthcare. How many brilliant minds is science losing to other careers, especially when a strong sense of compassion is such an important skill in dealing with people who are ill?

Just a few years ago, the few who questioned animal dissection were scorned and ridiculed, and often penalized with lower grades. Today, though, thanks to the bravery of the students and parents who have spoken up against dissection, as well as the efforts of NAVS and other advocacy groups, students who object to dissection are not as ostracized, and more non-animal alternatives have been finding their way into the classroom.

In addition, several states have passed student choice laws which guarantee students the right to choose a non-animal alternative to a dissection exercise without compromising their grades. Encouraging, too, is the fact that educators are finding that these alternatives provide a comprehensive and enriching learning experience, and can even be more cost-effective long-term, since they can be used over and over again without causing suffering to a single living creature.

We still have a long way to go. Dissection remains a standard, accepted practice in life science classes—even though there is no requirement in any state for a student to dissect in order to graduate high school or be admitted to college. That’s why we’re continuing to put our full efforts behind BioLEAP, our program that includes the NAVS Dissection Hotline and our free lending library of non-animal alternatives. And we need your help as much as ever.

Nine states currently have student choice laws that apply to all public schools from kindergarten through grade 12. These laws require schools to provide non-animal alternatives without any grade penalty to those who object to dissection:


Maine and Maryland have student choice policies. Massachusetts has a State Board of Education policy. Two states—Michigan and Vermont—have legislation proposing student choice. What You Can Do

If you live in a state with proposed student choice legislation, contact your state representatives and urge them to support a student’s right to choose.

If you live in a state that doesn’t yet have a student choice law, ask your state representatives to introduce one. You can even give them a head start by presenting them with a “model” law. You can find sample language for a student choice law at www.AnimalLaw.com.
We’re leaping into the future of humane science education!

BioLEAP (Biology Education Advancement Program) is our new name—and eliminating dissection in all schools is our game.

It’s two—count ’em two—programs in one! The NAVS Dissection Hotline and the Dissection Alternatives Loan Program (DALP) have now been combined into one exciting new program called BioLEAP. And we’re more focused than ever on reaching out to students, parents and teachers about the better way to life science education—without harming animals in the process.

The BioLEAP lending library of non-animal educational materials continues to expand, not just with the number of materials available to students and teachers on a free-of-charge loan basis, but in breadth and scope as well. We’ve come a long way from the days of simple plastic models and color transparencies. Today, we are featuring “virtual reality” computer simulation programs, interactive DVDs, incredibly detailed and lifelike 3D models with individual organs that can be removed and replaced…and many other innovative programs for more than a dozen different species, including humans.

And it’s not just for grades K-12 anymore. We have materials for undergraduate and post-graduate college levels as well, including medical and veterinary students, so we can reach the most advanced levels of education with our message of compassion.

The NAVS Dissection Hotline, now a part of BioLEAP, is still going strong. In addition to offering advice and support to students who object to dissection through the nation’s first and only toll-free telephone service (800-922-FROG), we’re using the power of the Internet and the speed and convenience of e-mail to extend our services into cyberspace. ♻️

The Next Big Challenge

While we’re pleased with the passage of student choice laws in the states shown opposite, they do not apply to students at the college level and beyond.

We want to see dissection eliminated at all levels of study, and so it’s more important than ever to support students at the undergraduate and post-graduate levels who oppose dissection. While many of today’s top medical schools have discontinued the practice of using animals in practice surgery, and others allow conscientious objection, there’s still much more to be done in this arena. NAVS pledges to step up our outreach to these advanced-level students through our BioLEAP program. ♻️
On Call for Humane Science

Esteemed pathologist promotes alternatives to dissection.

If anyone knows dissection, it’s Dr. Nancy Harrison. A pathologist in general practice in San Diego, California, Dr. Harrison earns her living by dissecting human tissue and occasionally performing autopsies. In her spare time, though, she immerses herself in another kind of dissection: virtual dissection.

Dr. Harrison admits to a fascination for comparative biology—something she says she did not have an opportunity to study in-depth during her years in medical school. She also has great compassion for animals, so computerized alternatives were a perfect fit. Her enthusiasm for these simulated dissections is so strong that she’s made a hobby of studying them—and has become something of an expert in the process. And she’s taken her newfound expertise on the road to educate teachers about these non-animal alternatives.

Several times a year, Dr. Harrison travels to regional science teacher conferences with her seminar titled “Virtual Dissection: The Best of the Best,” which she bills as a guided tour through the software. Because her respect and affection for teachers is so genuine, she is usually welcomed with a warm and enthusiastic reception. And she gets her point across: which is that simulated dissection is very realistic, the accompanying text is elegant and the graphics are superb. Computer images of well-preserved tissue, she says, look more like the “real thing” than the squishy gray organs of a formalin-fixed specimen.

While Dr. Harrison insists that these alternatives are so good that they speak for themselves, it’s not surprising that her stature in the medical field gives her great credibility among teachers, who, as a whole, still tend to resist alternatives. Dr. Harrison has found a great way to use her expertise and experience to promote humane science, and we salute her!

Learn more about dissection, student choice and alternatives on the web!

Find out how to pass a student choice policy in your school or district on our website. Click on “Animals In Education / Action You Can Take” at www.navs.org

See a list of undergraduate universities that allow conscientious objection on our website. Click on “Animals In Education / Resources” at www.navs.org

Read an interview with Dr. Nancy Harrison from the New Times San Luis Obispo at www.tinyurl.com/2GOBKl

Read a comparison of review articles on alternatives to harming or killing animals in veterinary medical education. Visit www.avar.org and click on “What’s New.”

Read comparative studies of student performance when using humane teaching methods at the Humane Learning website. Visit www.tinyurl.com/26YFQC

See a list of medical schools with no live animal labs. Visit www.pcrm.org and click on “Research.”

How You Can Help Advance Humane Science Education

Our expansive library of non-animal alternatives to dissection would not be possible without the generosity of our members and donors. We thank you for bringing humane education to compassionate students.

Demand for alternatives has grown steadily. That demand, in addition to advances in technology, has fueled tremendous innovation in developing highly sophisticated and realistic materials.

These outstanding, state-of-the-art materials are very expensive (especially at the higher education levels), so your support is more important than ever. Your gift to NAVS helps us purchase more materials for BioLEAP. To make your tax-deductible donation to improving humane education, please use the donor form on page 7 or visit our website www.navs.org. Thank you!
Creating a Legacy of Compassion

Helping animals through estate planning.

Recently, NAVS received a most generous gift from the estate of Muriel "Mert" Rogers, who was a longtime resident of Madbury, New Hampshire. Described by her friends and loved ones as having a real zest for living, Mert's life was defined by kindness, compassion and service to others. Her special affection for animals—especially her German Shepherds and cats—will always be remembered through her generosity to NAVS.

In the spirit of gratitude to Mert and all she stood for, we can reflect on the power of one to make a real difference for animals and people. Mert's extraordinary gesture will live on through animals that will be saved through the continuation of NAVS' life-saving work.

Mert was one of many people who have used planned giving to support NAVS, and whose legacy of compassion will live on long after they're gone. Perhaps you've been thinking about your own legacy of compassion. Your estate planning professional is best qualified to show how you, like Mert, can make a difference for animals beyond your lifetime. In the meantime, our brochure, A Legacy of Compassion, provides some helpful information. Call us at 800-888-NAVS for a free copy. 🐾

STATE CHARITABLE REGISTRATIONS

The address and telephone number of the National Anti-Vivisection Society may be found on this page. You may obtain a copy of NAVS’ annual financial report by writing to us. In addition, residents of the following states can receive copies as follows. In Arizona: A copy of the official registration may be obtained from the Secretary of State, State of Arizona, State Capitol, 1700 West Washington 7th Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85007-2808 or by calling toll-free 800-458-5842. In California: A copy of the official financial statement may be obtained from the Attorney General’s Registry of Charitable Trusts, Department of Justice, P.O. Box 903447, Sacramento, CA 94203-4470 or by calling 916-445-2021. In Los Angeles: Information card on file with Los Angeles Police Commission. In Florida: A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION (#SC-03423) AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-435-7352, WITHIN THE STATE. In Kansas: Kansas registration number is available upon request. A copy of the financial report is on file with the Kansas Secretary of State’s Office, Capitol - 2nd Floor, Topeka, KS 66612. In Maryland: Upon request, Maryland residents may obtain a copy of the current financial statement of the charity from the Secretary of State’s Office, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401 or from the charity directly. In Michigan: The charity’s Michigan registration number is available upon request. In New Jersey: INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE SOLICITATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING 201-504-6215. In New York: Upon request the latest annual report may be obtained from the charity directly by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to the charity’s address or by writing to the Office of Charities Registration, Department of State, 162 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12231. In North Carolina: A COPY OF THE LICENSE TO SOLICIT CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AS A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION OR SPONSOR AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE LICENSE AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF THE SOLICITOR MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, SOLICITATION LICENSING BRANCH, BY CALLING (919) 733-4510. In Pennsylvania: A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 800-732-0999. In Virginia: A financial statement is available from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Division of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23209 or by calling 804-786-1343. In Washington: Financial information is available from the Secretary of State, State of Washington, Olympia, WA 98504-9000. In West Virginia: Residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. In Wisconsin: A copy of the charity’s financial statement disclosing assets, liabilities, fund balances, revenue, and expenses for the preceding fiscal year will be provided upon request by writing to the charity’s name and address. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

THE NAVS MISSION

The National Anti-Vivisection Society promotes greater compassion, respect and justice for animals through educational programs based on respected ethical and scientific theory and supported by extensive documentation of the cruelty and waste of vivisection. NAVS’ educational programs are directed at increasing public awareness about vivisection, identifying humane solutions to human problems, developing alternatives to the use of animals, and working with like-minded individuals to effect changes which help to end the suffering of innocent animals.

© 2007 The National Anti-Vivisection Society. All rights reserved. This publication may not be reproduced in whole or in part in any form without prior written permission from the publisher.
We wrote the book on compassionate shopping!

*Personal Care for People Who Care* is your guide to finding cruelty-free products.

As we wrote in the summer issue of the *Animal Action Report*, the generosity of our members and donors has allowed us to do some print advertising. The first ad, featuring a guinea pig, has been a real attention grabber, and is generating phone calls and hits on our website. The second ad, featuring a dog, is set to appear soon. We’re pleased to show you both ads here.

Placing an ad in a newspaper or magazine can be very expensive, especially in major metropolitan areas. But some local advertising is more reasonably priced. Our limited budget can only go so far, so we’re asking you, our valued members and supporters, if you would like to help us extend our reach by purchasing space for our ad in your local newspaper. Like any other gift to NAVS, your donation would be tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

If you’re interested in helping with this effort, please contact:

**Clare Haggarty**, Director of Programs and Communications
Tel. 800-888-NAVS (6287)
E-mail: navs@navs.org and type in “Purchase Ad Space” in the subject line.

Thank you in advance for your valuable support of this program!

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It’s Starting to “Ad” Up!

Response to our new advertising campaign has been very encouraging.

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Why do I always have to be the guinea pig?

It’s not fair. They blind me with detergent. They poison me with hair dye. They burn me with deodorant. And they think that’s the best way to measure product safety.

Come on. Don’t they know that there are more effective ways to test everyday products—without using us and my friends?

They sure don’t need me. And you don’t need to buy animal-tested products. *Personal Care for People Who Care* is a 200-page book that shows you how simple it is to find products that aren’t animal tested. So you can make the compassionate choice.

Find out more about animal testing and how to buy *Personal Care for People Who Care* for only $15 by visiting the National Anti-Vivisection Society at www.navs.org. Or call 800-888-NAVS.
Please Support Our Work to Save More Animals

Use this form for your donation or visit www.navs.org

- Here is my gift to sponsor NAVS’ educational and advocacy programs.*  NRD10  Enclosed is $____________________
- Here is my gift in support of the NAVS Sanctuary Fund.  NRS10  Enclosed is $____________________
- Send me information on how I can enjoy the convenience of having a monthly donation to NAVS debited from my credit card, checking or savings account.  NRZ00
- Please send me ______ copies of Personal Care for People Who Care for $15.00 each. Price includes postage and handling.  NRP13

Bill my  □ VISA  □ MasterCard  □ Discover  □ AmEx  Acct. No.____________________
Exp. Date ___________________________ Signature ___________________________ Daytime Phone ___________________________

PRINT Name Here ___________________________ (In case of a question about your credit card.)

Here is my e-mail address _______________________________________________________

☐ I’d like to be notified when I need to take action for animals.
☐ I’d like to read this newsletter online only. Please stop sending the print version.

☐ Check here if you do not wish to have your name appear on any mailing lists NAVS may rent to or exchange with other organizations.

*If you haven’t already joined NAVS, a donation of $40 (or more) entitles you to full membership benefits.
For more information on NAVS membership, call us at 800-888-NAVS (800-888-6287) or visit us at www.navs.org.

Look me in the Eye and Tell Me It’s Okay to Experiment on a Live Dog.

Yep. Didn’t think so. You know in your heart that poisoning, burning, radiating and killing what amounts to a member of the family just isn’t right. Even if it worked. Which it doesn’t.

Think about it. You and I are just too different in too many ways. Yet over 66,000* of my canine buddies are locked up in laboratories each year in some misguided search for answers to human health problems.

My friends at the National Anti-Vivisection Society know better. They’re working hard to advance science without harming animals. So we can all live longer, healthier lives.

They need your help to speak up for all the animals in research who don’t have a name, just a number. Who sleep in a cage, not a bed. And who have no family to call their own. And never will.

I’m proud to be man’s best friend. But it works both ways. Want to be a dog’s best friend? Help end the cruelty and waste of animal experimentation. Call NAVS today at 800-888-NAVS. Or visit their website at www.navs.org.

SNAIL MAIL  Go on-line for the Animal Action Report and de-clutter your mailbox!

Why wait for your postal carrier to deliver your next issue of the Animal Action Report when you can read it on-line as soon as it’s available? It’s faster, more convenient and helps us cut down on mailing and printing costs too, which leaves more money for our other vital programs.

Simply check the box on the donor form above and provide your e-mail address, so that we can send you an “e-blast” notifying you that the next issue of the Animal Action Report is available. You can also give us your e-mail address by registering on our website, www.navs.org.

So go ahead and bail out on snail mail today. Register on our website today, or if you’re already registered, simply update your profile. You’ll be helping animals, the environment, NAVS and our programs and yourself—all at the same time!
More animals have been saved through your generosity and the NAVS Sanctuary Fund.

Rescue Round-Up

Once again, our generous members and supporters have answered the call to help animals in distress. Because so many of you have opened your hearts to animals by supporting the NAVS Sanctuary Fund, we were recently able to award four grants to these worthy organizations:

A walk on the wild side
The Black and Orange Cat Foundation of Plain City, OH conducts weekly “Trap-Neuter-Return” clinics with the local humane society to help control the feral cat population of the Plain City area. A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped defray some of the costs to operate the clinic and maintain this unique, low-cost spay-neuter program.

No monkey business
When our friends at Jungle Friends Primate Sanctuary in Louisiana learned that several female marmosets were being released from a California laboratory, they volunteered to give the little monkeys a home. A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant provided the resources to build a special habitat for the new residents.

A big boost for the Big Apple
The Mayor’s Alliance for NYC’s Animals is a public-private partnership of 100 not-for-profit animal organizations joined together to develop creative solutions for helping animals in need. A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant is helping support two of the Alliance’s most innovative programs—a temporary placement service for companion animals who belong to victims of domestic violence and a program in development that will help homeless men develop job and social skills by training them to work with shelter animals.

Just the right prescription
When the Washington County SPCA in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, experienced serious flooding, the animals were safely evacuated. But the flood destroyed all the shelter’s medical supplies. A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant enabled the SPCA to replenish their medical supplies so they could continue to provide vital medical care to homeless animals. 🐶