

animal
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October 29, 2024

The Honorable Buddy Carter
P.O. Box 10570
Savannah, GA 31412

Dear Representative Carter,

On behalf of Animal Wellness Action (AWA), a national policy and political organization dedicated to advancing legal protections for animals, we endorse your re-election campaign to the U.S. Congress. Your high-profile advocacy on critical animal welfare issues has earned our full support. We consider you one of our top allies in the House and are grateful for your opposition to animal cruelty in all its forms.

In particular, AWA deeply appreciates your strong leadership in being the lead author of the FDA Modernization Act 3.0 (H.R. 7248). This important legislation is intended to compel the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) into updating its regulatory regime governing the use of 21st Century testing strategies on developmental drugs. The 117th Congress enacted the FDA Modernization Act 2.0, which repealed the prior requirement that only animal tests be used in such circumstances. However, the FDA's abject failure to do its job and implement this law has prohibited the benefits of the law from being realized. The FDA Modernization Act 3.0 is designed to solve this problem.

AWA is also very pleased to recognize that your leadership played an important role in the FDA Modernization Act securing an evenly balanced foster of 40 House Members co-sponsoring the measure. In addition, the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee held a public hearing on the bill, where testimony in support of its passage was collected. This bipartisan bill is poised to move through the Committee, and we commend you for your efforts in this regard.

We are cautiously optimistic that when the House re-convenes later this autumn in a Lame Duck session you will be able to push the FDA Modernization Act 3.0 through the House. We stand ready, willing, and able to help you achieve this important goal. Enacting H.R. 7248 remains one of AWA's highest legislative priorities in the 118th Congress.

In addition, AWA deeply appreciates your leadership in co-signing a letter to House Agriculture Committee Chairman G.T. Thompson expressing strong opposition to the EATS Act (H.R. 4417). This provision must be dropped from the Farm bill when it comes into its final form. The EATS Act poses a significant threat to states' rights, animal welfare, and American family farmers. It would favor foreign-owned conglomerates such as China-controlled Smithfield Foods, which seeks to impose extreme factory farming methods. Smithfield now controls 26% of U.S.-based pig production. The EATS Act jeopardizes the livelihoods of American farmers, especially domestic producers and distributors, who have invested in more humane practices while allowing Smithfield to dominate the market.

Respect for American democracy and the humane treatment of animals are fundamental values that must be safeguarded. The way we treat animals reflects our society's core values and decency. At AWA, we recognize that cruelty to animals often correlates with broader societal issues that can threaten the safety of our communities.

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We are grateful for your continued leadership and strong support of pro-animal welfare policies. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions at wayne@animalwellnessaction.org or (202) 420-0446. We fully support your re-election this fall and look forward to working together in the 119th Congress.

Sincerely,



Wayne Pacelle
President
Animal Wellness Action