

October 3, 2024

The Honorable Dave Joyce Friends of Dave Joyce P.O. Box 516 Painesville, OH 44077

Dear Congressman Joyce,

On behalf of Animal Wellness Action (AWA), a national policy and political organization seeking to enhance and advance legal protections for animals, we are pleased to endorse your re-election campaign for U.S. Congress. Your strong advocacy and leadership on numerous animal welfare issues deserves commendation and warrants our support.

In the 118th Congress, you have been a consistent advocate for animal welfare. You co-sponsored the FIGHT Act, H.R. 2742; the Greyhound Protection Act, H.R. 3894; and the SAFE Act, H.R. 3475. We look forward to working with you on other mainstream animal welfare policies.

We offer special appreciation for your leadership in being the leading sponsor of bipartisan legislation to further crackdown against heinous individuals who engage in acts of animal cruelty. Specifically, you have re-introduced bipartisan legislation, the ACE Act/H.R. 8923, that would establish a dedicated Animal Cruelty Crimes Section within the U.S. Department of Justice. Taking this step would enhance the ability of the Federal government to investigate, prosecute, and enforce felony animal cruelty crimes. This common-sense proposal is urgently needed.

Respect for American democracy and the proper treatment of animals are fundamental values that must be preserved and protected. The way we treat animals, as individuals and as a nation, is a measure of our core values and decency as a society. Here at AWA, we fully understand that cruel and callous treatment of animals is typically entangled with other anti-social behaviors that make our neighborhoods and communities less safe for families.

We are grateful for your leadership and strong expressions of support on a wide range of proanimal welfare policies. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at all at <u>wayne@animalwellnessaction.org</u> or (202) 420-0446. We support your re-election this fall and look forward to working with you in the 119th Congress.

Sincerely,

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Wayne Pacelle President

Animal Wellness Action