

animal
wellness
action

October 30, 2024

The Honorable Troy Carter
P.O. Box 50730
New Orleans, LA 70150

Dear Representative Carter,

On behalf of Animal Wellness Action (AWA), a national policy and political organization dedicated to advancing and enhancing legal protections for animals, we are pleased to endorse your campaign for Congress. Your extraordinary leadership and advocacy on animal welfare issues, particularly in the 118th Congress, make you a true champion for animals and deserving of our strong support.

First, AWA wants to highlight your inspiring leadership as the lead sponsor for the ADD SOY Act, which aims to ensure that children of color, who are disproportionately affected by lactose intolerance, have access to non-dairy milk alternatives in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Based on documented rates of lactose intolerance among different ethnic groups, perhaps as many as 17 million of the 30 million kids in the NSLP may have some degree of lactose intolerance (LI), with especially high rates among students who are Black, brown, Asian American, and Indigenous. The ADD SOY Act would give these children access to nutritious non-dairy milk as an important part of a healthy meal during the school day. It's a fact that students who are undernourished struggle to learn and stay on-task. The ADD SOY helps these students get the most out of their time in class.

In addition to your leadership on the ADD SOY Act, your co-sponsorship of critical animal welfare legislation, such as the FIGHT Act, the SAFE Act, the Kangaroo Protection Act, the MINKS are Superspreaders Act, and the FDA Modernization Act 3.0, serves to underscore your dedication to improving the lives of animals across various spheres of exploitation.

Furthermore, AWA applauds your bipartisan leadership in introducing the Veterans for Mustangs Act (VMA), which seeks to amend the 1971 Wild-Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act. This vital legislation would help better protect American wild horses and burros on federal lands, reduce or eliminate the need for inhumane helicopter roundups, and create job opportunities for American veterans. Importantly, it also provides pathways for healing veterans who experience Post Traumatic Stress and other combat-related disorders. This effort not only protects our wildlife but also serves our nation's heroes in a meaningful, impactful way.

AWA is also grateful that you co-signed a letter opposing the EATS Act, arguably the most dangerous and ill-advised farm policy proposal to come before Congress in U.S. history. The EATS Act would wipe out important farm animal welfare laws in states, including Prop 12 in California and Question 3 in Massachusetts, which were overwhelmingly adopted by voters.

animal
wellness
action

We also want to note that the leadership you have repeatedly shown in Congress builds on the leadership you demonstrated on animal welfare policy in the State Legislature. In other words, you have been a champion for enacting strong animal welfare policies at the state and Federal level. AWA is immensely pleased and proud to work with you hand-in-hand on these critical issues in Congress.

At Animal Wellness Action, we believe that how we treat animals reflects the core values of our society. Your ongoing efforts to promote more ethical and humane practices, through both your leadership on legislative reforms and your public advocacy, show your deep commitment to protecting the most vulnerable members of our communities.

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

Sincerely,



Wayne Pacelle
President
Animal Wellness Action