

animal
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December 23, 2025

The Honorable Dan Goldman
Dan Goldman for New York
P.O. Box 3306
New York, NY 10008

Dear Representative Goldman,

On behalf of Animal Wellness Action (AWA), a national policy and political organization seeking to enhance and advance legal protections for animals, we endorse your re-election campaign in the Democratic primary for Congress in New York's 10th Congressional District.

Since coming to Congress in January 2023, you have been a consistent advocate for strengthening federal animal welfare policies. For example, you have co-sponsored the FIGHT Act to combat dogfighting and cockfighting, the FDA Modernization Act 3.0 to reduce animal testing; and the SAFE Act to stop horse slaughter.

You also signed a letter opposing the overturn of Prop 12 in California and Question 3 in Massachusetts, two voter-approved statutes that impose humane treatment standards for farm animals. This proposal, dubbed the Save Our Bacon (SOB) Act in the 119th Congress, is a frontal assault on states' rights, animal welfare and American family farmers. It is a sop to Smithfield Foods, which is wholly-controlled by the Communist government of China. Many American farmers have invested in more humane housing systems to comply with these laws, but the SOB Act would threaten their livelihoods by disrupting the California and Massachusetts markets by allowing foreign producers to undercut them in a race to the bottom.

More recently, you signed onto another letter to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director, Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, urging his agency to redirect federal funds currently allocated for non-human primate (NHP) research centers toward more ethical and cost-effective uses. The letter closely follows Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.'s announcement that the Trump administration's is winding down animal testing more broadly. This is a very exciting development in AWA's longstanding efforts to end federally-funded animal testing and your support of our efforts is very much appreciated.

Earlier this month, for the second congressional session in a row, you opposed Rep. Lauren Boebert's legislative effort, H.R. 845, to strip federal protection for gray wolves from under the 1973 Endangered Species Act (ESA). If the Senate passes this measure, it will open up assaults against gray wolves in a set of states, enabling trophy hunting, commercial trapping, and other unwarranted killing sprees aimed at the forebears of the dogs in our lives. Deciding which species are listed or delisted under the ESA is not a job for Congress. This is a ham-handed, ill-advised intervention by the Congress in federal endangered species decision-making.

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Furthermore, in the 118th Congress, you opposed Congressman Wittman's measure, H.R 615, that sought to prohibit key federal Cabinet officials from banning the use of lead ammunition or fishing tackle on federal lands and waters. Thankfully, this harmful bill also died in the last Congress, but we are expecting it to come to the floor soon. We hope you'll be outspoken in opposing it.

We expect you'll demonstrate support for a larger set of animal welfare policies as the calendar turns to the Second Session of the 119th Congress and hope you do. A profound and deep respect for the proper treatment of all animals is a fundamental value that must be preserved and protected. How we treat animals, as individuals and as a society at large, is an important metric of our country's core values and decency. At AWA, we fully understand that barbaric and inhumane treatment of animals is frequently entangled with other antisocial behaviors that contribute to make our neighborhoods less safe for families and children.

We are grateful for your leadership and strong expressions of support on a wide range of pro-animal welfare policies. We support your re-election to the 120th Congress and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Wayne Pacelle
President
Animal Wellness Action