



June 17, 2026

The Honorable Nick LaLota  
LaLota for Congress  
P.O. Box 5744  
Hauppauge, NY 11788

Dear Congressman LaLota,

On behalf of Animal Wellness Action (AWA), a national policy and political organization dedicated to strengthening and advancing legal protections for animals, we are pleased to endorse your campaign for the Republican nomination in the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District of New York on June 23, 2026.

Throughout your service in the U.S. House of Representatives, you are paying attention to animal welfare..

We commend your co-sponsorship of the Fighting Inhumane Gambling and High-Risk Trafficking (FIGHT) Act, [H.R. 3946](#), critical legislation to strengthen enforcement of federal laws against dogfighting and cockfighting. These violent enterprises are closely linked to illicit gambling, money laundering, drug trafficking, and the smuggling of animals across our southern border. Your leadership on this issue reflects a clear understanding that animal fighting is not just inhumane cruelty, but a serious threat to public safety and the rule of law.

Also, we want to commend you for cosponsoring [H.R. 1661, the Save America's Forgotten Equines \(SAFE\) Act of 2025](#). This bipartisan legislation would prohibit the export of American horses for slaughter for human consumption. Specifically, the SAFE Act clamps down on the slaughter of healthy American equines in Mexico and Canada for sale to Japan and other far-off markets for high-end diners.

We do hope you'll take a serious look at a set of anti-cruelty bills, including the No Flight No Fight Act, [H.R. 7371](#) and the Animal Cruelty Enforcement Act, [H.R. 1477](#). These are all bipartisan, broadly supported by the American law enforcement and animal welfare communities.

A profound respect for the humane treatment of animals is a core value shared by Americans across the political spectrum. How we treat animals is a powerful reflection of our character as a society, and evidence consistently shows that acts of animal cruelty are frequently linked with broader patterns of violence and antisocial behavior that threaten public safety. By standing against these abuses, you are helping to make communities safer for families and children while upholding fundamental standards of common decency.

We are grateful for your leadership and your willingness to take principled stands on behalf of animals and the rule of law.

For these reasons, Animal Wellness Action is proud to endorse your campaign to win the Republican nomination in the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District of New York. We look forward to continuing to work with you to advance strong, bipartisan animal protection policies in the 120<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Pacelle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wayne Pacelle  
President  
Animal Wellness Action