

animal
wellness
action

June 23, 2026

The Honorable Manny Rutinel
Manny Rutinel for Congress
P.O. Box 1013
Commerce City, CO 80022

Dear Representative Rutinel,

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 Democratic nomination in the 8th Congressional District of Colorado.

We are excited about your favorable responses to pro-animal policies on our Animal Wellness Action Questionnaire, building on your record of support for animal welfare initiatives in your role as a state legislator in Denver. You were a prime House sponsor of the law requiring health-related research facilities to offer dogs and cats for adoption before euthanasia and to report adoption outcomes. You also supported legislation to include companion animals in disaster and evacuation planning. Importantly you backed creating a dedicated division within the Colorado Department of Agriculture to overseeing animal protection programs, cruelty investigations, shelter regulation, and equine-welfare efforts.

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 and to uphold fundamental standards of common decency.

You indicated to us that you'll be a leader on animal welfare issues in the Congress if you are elected to serve. We look forward to continuing to work with you to advance strong, bipartisan animal protection policies in the 120th Congress.

Sincerely,



Wayne Pacelle
President
Animal Wellness Action

