



July 14, 2026

The Honorable Jack Bergman
Jack Bergman for Congress
3585 Bunker Hill Rd. #434
Acme, MI 49610

Dear Congressman Bergman,

On behalf of Animal Wellness Action (AWA), a national policy organization dedicated to strengthening and advancing legal protections for animals, we are pleased to endorse your campaign for the Republican nomination in Michigan's 1st Congressional District on August 4, 2026.

We are grateful for your leadership as a cosponsor of the FIGHT Act, [H.R. 2742](#) and [H.R. 3946](#), in both the 118th and 119th Congresses. This important bipartisan legislation strengthens enforcement of federal laws against dogfighting and cockfighting—criminal enterprises that are closely tied to illicit gambling, money laundering, drug trafficking, and the smuggling of fighting animals across our southern border. Cockfighting also poses a significant animal and public health threat by facilitating the spread of virulent Newcastle disease and highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza, outbreaks that have cost the nation billions of dollars in indemnification payments and contributed to higher poultry prices. The FIGHT Act has earned the endorsement of more than 1,100 organizations and agencies, including the Michigan Sheriffs' Association, Roscommon County Sheriff's Office, the National Sheriffs' Association, the National District Attorneys Association, the Small and Rural Law Enforcement Executive Association, and United Egg Producers.

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.

For these reasons, Animal Wellness Action is proud to endorse your campaign for the Republican nomination in Michigan's 1st Congressional District. We look forward to continuing to work with you to advance strong, bipartisan animal protection policies in the 120th Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne Pacelle". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with the first and last names being more prominent than the middle name.

Wayne Pacelle
President
Animal Wellness Action