



August 3, 2026

The Honorable Brian Mast
Mast for Congress
P.O. Box 3016
Stuart, FL 34995

Dear Congressman Mast,

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 re-election to represent Florida's 23rd Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Your voting record demonstrates a commitment to animal welfare and humane public policy, including your cosponsoring the FIGHT Act, [H.R. 3946](#), to strengthen 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 Florida Sheriffs' Association, the National Sheriffs' Association, the National District Attorneys Association, and the Small and Rural Law Enforcement Executive Association,

We also commend your vote against the Riley Moore amendment (([House Roll Call Vote 149](#)) during floor consideration of the Farm Bill. That amendment sought to punch a hole in the Greyhound Protection Act by creating an exemption allowing commercial greyhound racing to continue in West Virginia—the only state with live greyhound racing. Your vote helped preserve federal protections against an industry long associated with careless treatment of dogs.

We also hope you'll consider joining as a cosponsor of a set of anti-cruelty bills, the No Flight No Fight Act, [H.R. 7371](#), and the Animal Cruelty Enforcement (ACE) Act, [H.R. 1477](#). These bipartisan measures are broadly supported by law enforcement organizations and the animal welfare community.

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 protect families and communities while upholding fundamental standards of common decency.

For these reasons, Animal Wellness Action is proud to endorse your re-election campaign for Florida's 23rd 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