



October 5, 2026

The Honorable Aaron Bean
Aaron Bean for Congress
P.O. Box 16251
Fernandina Beach, FL 32035

Dear Congressman Bean,

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 4th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Your record reflects a growing commitment to animal protection, pairing legislative leadership with support for bipartisan measures to combat animal cruelty and strengthen protections for animals that serve the public.

We especially commend your leadership as the sponsor of the LEO K9 Protection Act, [H.R. 4755](#), bipartisan legislation to strengthen federal protections for law enforcement dogs and horses. Your bill would increase criminal penalties for violent attacks on police animals while ensuring injured K9s and horses can receive emergency veterinary treatment, including ambulance and air transportation when necessary. These courageous animals place themselves in harm's way alongside the officers they serve, and your legislation recognizes their indispensable role in protecting our communities.

We are likewise grateful for your support of 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 closely tied to illicit gambling, money laundering, drug trafficking, and the smuggling of fighting animals across our southern border. Cockfighting also poses a significant threat to animal and public health by facilitating the spread of virulent Newcastle disease and highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza, outbreaks that have cost the nation billions of dollars 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.

We also hope you'll consider cosponsoring two additional bipartisan measures, the No Flight, No Fight Act, [H.R. 7371](#); and the Animal Cruelty Enforcement 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 4th 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 dark ink, reading "Wayne Pacelle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Wayne" and last name "Pacelle" clearly distinguishable.

Wayne Pacelle
President
Animal Wellness Action