

ANIMAL WELFARE IS NOT A PARTISAN ISSUE

To our fellow Americans —

Though we represented different political parties, we shared many common concerns, especially in representing two beautiful states in the heartland.

One value we share is our compassion for animals – and our support for common-sense public policies to protect them from cruelty and abuse.

We are both Special Advisors to The Humane Society of the United States (serving, in that role, as volunteers). At a time when there are many fault lines in American politics, animal welfare is an issue that should remain bipartisan.

Here's an agenda supported by The HSUS and many other organizations that we hope House and Senate leaders will actively support, as separate items or as a package of animal welfare reforms:

- The Prevent Animal Cruelty and Torture (PACT) Act (H.R. 2293) will complement the federal laws on animal fighting and crush videos by prohibiting extreme animal abuse when involving interstate commerce or on federal property.
- The Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act (S. 1121) will end the cruel practice of soring, in which unscrupulous trainers inflict pain on horses' feet and legs to force them into an unnatural gait.
- The Pet and Women Safety (PAWS) Act (H.R. 1258) will amend the Violence Against Women Act to include protections for pets, and provide grants to domestic violence shelters to accommodate pets, so that abused women aren't forced to choose between their safety and their pets.
- The Animal Welfare in Agricultural Research Endeavors (AWARE) Act (H.R. 746/S. 388) will close the loophole in the Animal Welfare Act that exempts animals used in agricultural experiments at federally-run facilities from the Act's protections.
- The Humane Cosmetics Act will phase out both the use of live animals in cosmetics testing and the sale of cosmetics that have been tested on animals – following the lead of more than 30 other countries.

All of these bills are led by Republicans and Democrats. If enacted, these measures will make our nation better and our society more civil. I hope you'll join us.

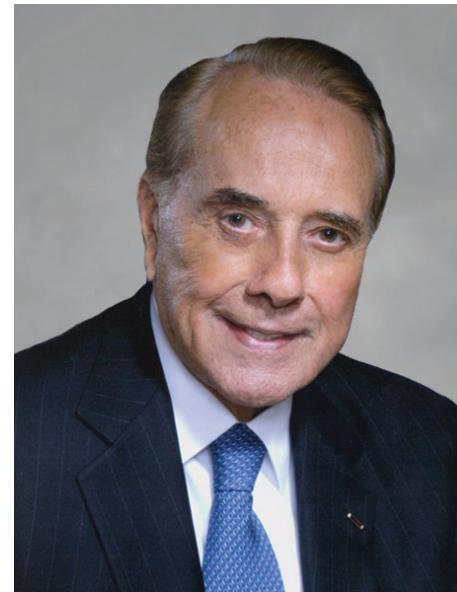
Sincerely,



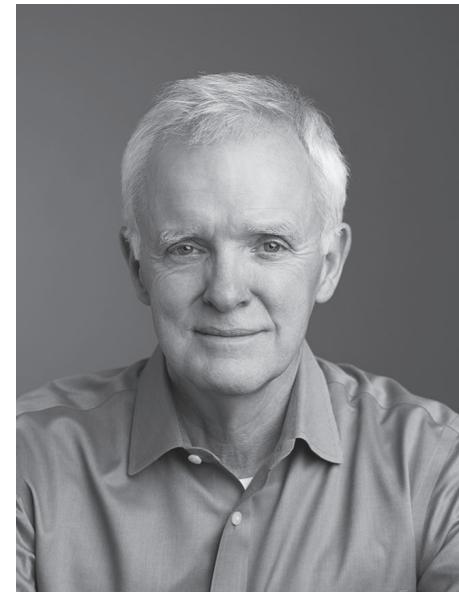
Former U.S. Senator Bob Dole
Kansas



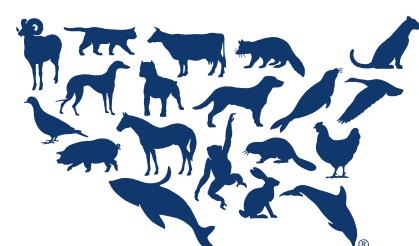
Former U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey
Nebraska



Former U.S. Senator
Bob Dole



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THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES