TED LIEU
CONGRESSMAN for CALIFORNIA'S 36TH DISTRICT

Animal Welfare

Congressman Lieu has been a defender of animals throughout his career. In Congress, he has been a strong supporter of animal welfare legislation, having championed bills on everything from banning trophy hunting to ending dog testing and more. He is a proud member of the Animal Protection Caucus and animal welfare advocates have praised his longstanding legislative efforts. Congressman Lieu is a recipient of the Humane Society Legislative Fund's Legislative Leader Award and the White Coat Waste Project's Congressional Waste Warrior Award. He also has a 100% Lifetime Score on the Human Society Legislative Fund's Humane Scorecard for federal lawmakers.

Stopping Trophy Hunting and Importing of Endangered Animals

Congressman Lieu has led numerous initiatives to combat wildlife trafficking in Congress. He introduced the Bear Protection Act, bipartisan legislation that seeks to prohibit the import, export, possession, transport and sale of bear organs. Similarly, his Shark Sales Elimination Act would prohibit the sale, purchase, and possession of any shark part in the U.S.

He also co-authored the Prohibiting Threatened and Endangered Creature Trophies (ProTECT) Act, which would prohibit taking endangered or threatened species into the United States as a trophy. Every year, Congressman Lieu sends a letter to the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee urging Congress to provide robust funding for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement, which is responsible for investigating wildlife trafficking crimes. He is a also a strong proponent of the Wildlife Detector Dog Program.

Protecting Animals in our Environment

As a champion for the environment, Congressman Lieu has fought for legislation addressing concerns associated with human practices that have impact wildlife. For example, many animal species are poisoned to death after accidental exposure to lead left on the ground or in the water. Congressman Lieu's Lead Endangers Animals Daily (LEAD) Act would prohibit the use of lead ammunition on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service land, which could prevent lead poisoning. Congressman Lieu secured $2.5 million in federal funding for the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing in Los Angeles County, which is the world's largest wildlife crossing designed to protect mountain lions and other wildlife from highway traffic.

Caltrans
ANNENBERG FOUNDATION
Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing
LIVING HABITATS
Coastal Conservan
ANNENBERG FOUNDATION

Rep. Lieu at the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing groundbreaking event

Congressman Lieu has also fought for an end to drift gillnet fishing, which is an unsustainable, unnecessary method of catching swordfish and sharks. Congressman Lieu's Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act, which became law in 2022, will phase out the use of large mesh drift gillnets off the coast of California and set a path toward more sustainable fishing.

On Fighting Animal Abuse

Congressman Lieu has led the effort to end painful, cruel, and unnecessary dog experiments at the Department of Veterans Affairs. He was a proud cosponsor of the PUPPERS Act, which prohibits the VA from experimenting on dogs. In 2021, thanks in part to Congressman Lieu's efforts, the VA committed to end the use of dogs and other animals in its research experiments. Congressman Lieu also co-led a bipartisan letter calling for the NIH to discontinue animal experiments.

In addition, Congressman Lieu has called for increased protections for wild horses at the Devil's Garden Plateau Wild Horse Territory in California's Modoc National Forest.