

CONGRESSMAN

TED LIEU

ANIMAL WELFARE

In Congress, Representative Lieu has been a fervent supporter of animal welfare legislation, having championed bills on everything from banning trophy hunting to ending dog testing at the VA to encouraging pet microchipping.

STOPPING TROPHY HUNTING AND IMPORTING OF ENDANGERED ANIMALS

One of Congressman Lieu's hallmark pieces of legislation is the [Prohibiting Threatened and Endangered Creature Trophies \(ProTECT\) Act](#), which stemmed from the Trump Administration's cruel and unjustified decision to lift the Obama era rule prohibiting the trade of African elephant ivory. The ProTECT Act would prohibit the taking of any endangered or threatened species in the United States as a trophy and the importation of any such trophy into the United States. Every year since taking office, Congressman Lieu sends a letter to the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee urging robust funding for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement, which is responsible for investigating wildlife trafficking crimes. He is also a strong proponent of the [Wildlife Detector Dog Program](#).

Additionally, there are eight current extant species of bear—including the brown bear and the American black bear—are listed across Appendices I and II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. Congressman Lieu's [Bear Protection Act](#) would prohibit the import, export, possession, transport and sale of bear organs. His Shark Sales Elimination Act would prohibit the sale, purchase, and possession of any shark part or product containing any shark part in the United States.

PROTECTING ANIMALS IN OUR ENVIRONMENT

As a champion for the environment, Congressman Lieu has fought for legislation addressing a number of concerns with how human practices have impacted natural wildlife. For example, lead has been widely recognized as a form of toxin for a long time. Many animal species are poisoned to death after accidental injection of 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. In Congressman Lieu's district, he has championed the Liberty Canyon Wildlife Crossing, a proposed wildlife overpass spanning Agoura Road and Ventura Freeway (U.S. 101) in Agoura Hills. Los Angeles is notoriously known for its horrible traffic, and mountain lions living in America are gradually facing extinction—some are even being killed while attempting to cross the U.S. 101. Congressman Lieu is a proud cosponsor of legislation in Congress that would authorize a National Wildlife Corridors Program.

In the ocean, drift gillnet fishing is an unsustainable, unnecessary method of catching swordfish and sharks. Congressman Lieu's [Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act](#) would 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

Representative Lieu has led the effort to end the most painful and cruel dog experiments at the VA. In 2017, the West Los Angeles VA announced that it would discontinue its canine research program. 2019's appropriations bill prohibited the Secretary of the VA from using funds to conduct experiments using canines. Additionally, Congressman Lieu, along with other lawmakers, sent a letter to the U.S. Coast Guard in 2017 expressing support for the suspension of Live Tissue Training (LTT). LTT involves intentional wounding of live animals for military medical instruction. The Coast Guard ultimately ended the use of LTT. In 2019, Representative Lieu led a letter to the Department of Justice expressing concern about its LTT program.