

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 20, 2026

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I write to thank you for your leadership in advancing humane and fiscally responsible reforms within federally funded biomedical research. I appreciate the Subcommittee's continued attention to oversight and accountability in federally funded animal research, including past efforts to encourage the reduction of unnecessary dog and cat experimentation and promote the development of modern alternatives

As Congress begins consideration of the Fiscal Year 2027 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, I respectfully urge the Subcommittee to include language prohibiting federal funds from being used to breed dogs and cats for experimentation.

Recent events surrounding the Blue Mounds, Wisconsin breeding facility Ridgman Farms have highlighted the urgent need to change our federal policies regarding the way in which animal experimentation facilities can be funded by taxpayer dollars. Damning whistleblower reports and video evidence have arisen from Ridgman Farms and other breeding facilities that show thousands of beagles, lined up in unsanitary cages off the ground, who will never see grass in their lives. These beagles are bred for the sole purpose of torturous experimentation prior to euthanasia, and breeding operations indirectly funded by federal taxpayer dollars via National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants to research institutions who then purchase animals from facilities like Ridgman Farms.

This breeding-for-experimentation crisis is not even close to an isolated issue. I have personally visited a similar facility just miles outside of my District, Marshall Farms in Wayne County, New York, where up to 20,000 dogs are bred every year for medical testing. My constituents should not and cannot have their tax dollars be used to prop up facilities that breed dogs for harmful experimentation, especially when a plethora of alternatives exist as technology has evolved.

The American people expect their tax dollars to reflect both fiscal responsibility and basic standards of humane treatment. Continuing to support facilities that breed animals solely for painful experimentation prior to euthanasia is increasingly difficult to justify, particularly as scientific innovation provides more reliable and human-relevant alternatives to outdated animal models.

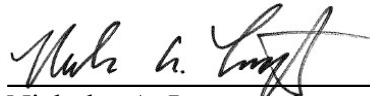
Recent actions by federal agencies to reduce reliance on animal testing and prioritize emerging technologies demonstrate that reform is already underway. Congress should build upon this momentum by ensuring taxpayer dollars are no longer used to sustain the commercial breeding pipeline for dog and cat experimentation.

This is not only a matter of animal welfare, but also of government accountability and responsible stewardship of public funds. Americans overwhelmingly support efforts to eliminate unnecessary and wasteful animal testing, particularly when it involves companion animals such as dogs and cats.

I respectfully request that the Fiscal Year 2027 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill include clear language prohibiting the use of federal funds for the breeding of dogs and cats intended for research experimentation. Such action would represent another important step toward modernizing biomedical research while reinforcing humane standards and restoring public trust.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your continued work on these important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick A. Langworthy", written over a horizontal line.

Nicholas A. Langworthy  
Member of Congress