

November 27, 2011

Holly Hughes  
N-1195 House Office Building  
PO Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Holly Hughes,

Hello, my name is Ashley Weaver and I am a junior at Oakridge High School. The purpose of this letter is to state that animal cruelty is not acceptable. I am anxious about animals being abused by people and those people not being punished. Animal cruelty including experimenting, fighting, unnecessary euthanasia, animals for entertainment, and slaughter houses should be all against the law. Animal cruelty is unacceptable and people should be held accountable for their bad behavior. You, as a legislator should have some responsibility in this matter.

Some people in Michigan like to go to the circus, but do you really know how they treat the animals outside of the show? They abuse them, and they make money on that abuse. There has to be a law that says this is wrong. The trainers of the circus have no heart. Animals in the circus don't stand on their heads, ride bicycles, and balance on balls because they like to, they do it because they are forced to and if they don't they are beaten. Trainers force the animals to perform these horrible tricks just for entertainment; trainers use whips, tight collards, muzzles, electric prods, bull hooks, and other painful tools.

Experimenting is also another big concern of mine. I understand that they are doing it to make sure that it is okay for humans, and that they have reduced the number of animals being tested, but still too many animals are being hurt in the process. Monkeys are getting addicted to drugs and have holes drilled in their head, sheep and pigs have their skin burned off and rats have their spinal cords crushed. Tiny mice grow tumors as large as their own body, kittens are purposely blinded, and rats are made to suffer seizures. There is no reason to perform these tasks on so many innocent animals.

The government needs to step up and push regulations to protect animals. Seems like today all they care about is budget cuts and nothing else. What about these animals? This is America and they should be treated fairly, just as any other animal. They deserve the same treatment from all of us humans whether or not they are a pet.

You create public policy in the state of Michigan. Create public policy to protect these defenseless creatures. I hope to have a reply from you soon.

Sincerely,

Ashley Weaver  
7690 Wilde Ln  
Muskegon, MI 49442