

Topic: federal law against animal abuse

Introductory paragraph

A. Hook: “The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated,” Mahatma Gandhi.

B. Thesis (main idea of essay): Now, our country has an opportunity to live up to these words by passing a new federal law, Preventing Animal Cruelty and Torture (PACT) Act, which has been introduced in Congress.

C. Supporting sentences: This law will discourage animal abuse, support our diverse multi-species community, and protect more animals than the current laws.

Point 1: First, by making it a federal crime to abuse animals, PACT deters abusers because they face longer prison sentences.

A. Supporting sentence: Currently, federal law only prohibits animal fighting, and animal abuse is considered a misdemeanor, resulting in less than a year in prison.

B. Supporting sentence: This is not sufficient to punish people who conduct acts of cruelty against animals.

C. Supporting sentence: The new law makes animal abuse a federal felony with up to seven years in prison.

Point 2: Secondly, communities are not only made up of humans from diverse backgrounds but also animals of many species.

A. Supporting sentence: When walking down the street, you can see pet owners enjoying an afternoon with their dogs, while others sit at home with a warm cat on their laps.

B. Supporting sentence: Furthermore, by simply driving 30 minutes outside of most cities, you will find horses, chickens and pigs on people’s lands.

C. Supporting sentence: Clearly, animals are an integral part of our society and thus need to be protected.

Point 3: Thirdly, this new law will help protect more animals as it extends to both interstate and foreign commerce on domestic soil.

A. Supporting sentence: In other words, if someone video tapes the abuse of animals to sell on the international market, they will be prosecuted.

B. Supporting sentence: By making current laws more far-reaching and tougher on criminals, we will prevent the torture of more animals than currently protected.

Conclusion

A. Summary: In conclusion, as a nation, we can send a strong message to everyone in this country that we will strongly outlaw and prosecute animal torture and abuse, provide protection for the animals in our communities, and help prevent abuse of animals that would not otherwise be protected.

B. Final opinion: By passing this law, we stand together to protect animals and be their voice.

