

Leg. animal

July 2, 1974

[REDACTED]
Cummings, Kansas 66016

Dear [REDACTED]

Many thanks for your letter of June 28th concerning S. 2774, a bill introduced by Senator Hatfield, which would create an independent agency in the executive branch called the National Zoological and Aquarium Board.

It is my understanding the United Action for Animals objects to that provision in the bill which allows for research into methods to improve the welfare of animals at zoos and aquariums, and into methods to meet the accreditation standards established under this Act. Their objections are based on the belief that the research would involve vivisection methods -- adamantly opposed by the agency.

The Humane Society of the United States, however, has endorsed the bill because it is aimed at improving the physical habitat of the zoos and aquariums so that the animals can live more in their natural habitat and less in the cage-like atmosphere prevailing in most zoos today.

You may be assured that I will keep your views in mind when this measure is reported to the Senate Floor for full consideration. There is great likelihood, I understand, that the research provision will be dropped from the bill to increase its chances for passage. In any event, I will carefully examine the ramifications of the bill prior to the vote.

You may be interested in reviewing a copy of legislation I recently introduced which would prohibit use of dogs in research and experiments conducted by departments, agencies and instrumentalities of the United States when such use is likely to result in needless or excessive suffering by such dogs. As noted, the bill is pending before the Senate Commerce Committee, with no action scheduled to date.

Appreciate very much knowing of your interest in this vital area, and you may be assured that I will continue to work hard to insure proper treatment for domestic and wild animals. Thanks again for writing, and please let me know whenever I may be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE
United States Senate

BD:clj
Enclosure

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Cummings, Kansas 66016

June 28, 1974

Senator Bob Dole
c/o Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510



Dear Senator Dole,

I am writing you about S. 2774. This is a very bad bill, which would set up a cruel agency in the executive branch of government and deliver our zoo animals into its hands. They would be used as laboratory animals, subjected to cruel and unnecessary experiments. Please urge Senator Howard Cannon to kill this bill in committee. If it does come out of committee, I strongly urge you to vote against it!

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]