



Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association

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Boston, Massachusetts 02108



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Nicholas Cocchi
Hampden County

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September 30, 2024

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Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Jake Auchincloss
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Ayanna Pressley
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Rep. James McGovern
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Rep. Katherine Clark
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Rep. Stephen Lynch
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Rep. Lori Trahan
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Seth Moulton
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. William Keating
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Testimony in Support of H.R. 2742, the FIGHT Act

Dear Elected Members of the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation:

On behalf of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association (MSA), representing the 14 Sheriffs in the Commonwealth, I am writing in my capacity as the Executive Director of the MSA to express our unanimous support of H.R. 2742, the Fighting Inhumane Gambling and High-Risk Trafficking (FIGHT) Act. We respectfully urge the 118th Congress to approve this vital legislation aimed at combating cruel and illegal practices of cockfighting and dogfighting.

The MSA proudly joins a broad coalition of endorsers in supporting the FGHT ACT, which tackles the troubling issues of internet gambling and webcasting related to animal fighting, the illegal shipping of fighting animals via the U.S. Postal Service, and the facilitation of civil actions against known organized animal fighting operators.

Beyond promoting animal welfare, the FIGHT ACT stands to significantly enhance public safety by addressing the criminal activities often associated with animal cruelty, including gambling, drug trafficking, domestic violence, and organized crime. We believe that passing the FIGHT ACT is not only a necessary step toward ensuring more humane treatment of animals, but also a crucial move for the safety and well-being of our communities.

We sincerely request your support of H.R. 2742, the FIGHT Act, to help put an end to these inhumane practices and promote a more lawful society.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully,

Carrie Hill, Executive Director

Cc: Sheriff Nicholas Cocchi, President
Sheriff Patrick McDermott, Vice President
Sheriff Robert Ogden, Associate Vice President