

# CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

Albuquerque Police Department



Gorden E. Eden, Jr., Chief of Police

March 10, 2016

Ashley Mauceri  
Law Enforcement Outreach Director  
The Humane Society of the United States  
2100 1 Street NW  
Washington, DC 20037  
[amauceri@humanesociety.org](mailto:amauceri@humanesociety.org)

Subject: H.R.2293/S.1831, the Preventing Animal Cruelty and Torture Act

Dear Ms. Mauceri,

On behalf of the Albuquerque Police Department, I would like to express my full support of the Preventing Animal Cruelty and Torture Act (PACT Act) will make it a federal crime to commit malicious cruelty to an animal in any area where the federal government has jurisdiction. Federal law already prohibits animal fighting, as well as the trade in obscene video depictions of animals being crushed, burned, drowned, suffocated, impaled or subjected to other forms of heinous cruelty. While the trade in video depictions of such cruelty is banned, the underlying cruelty itself is not.

400 Roma NW

Albuquerque

New Mexico 87102

[www.cabq.gov](http://www.cabq.gov)

The PACT Act closes that loophole by extending federal jurisdiction to these specific, particularly heinous crimes. It amends the federal criminal code to prohibit intentionally engaging in animal crushing in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce or within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States. Current law prohibits knowingly creating or distributing an animal crush video and adds exceptions for conduct that is for predator or pest control, medical or scientific research, or necessary to protect the life or property of a person from a serious threat caused by an animal. By providing law enforcement and the criminal justice system with another tool for responding to such unspeakable acts of animal cruelty, the PACT Act protects our communities from many forms of violence.

All 50 states now have felony penalties for malicious cruelty, and there are federal statutes on animal fighting and crush videos. But there is no federal law for malicious cruelty when it involves federal property or interstate commerce, and we need your help to close this gap.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gorden E. Eden, Jr.", written over a printed name.

GORDEN E. EDEN, JR.  
Chief of Police

GEE:mrc