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**County Manager
Andrew "Andy" Lotrich**

September 2, 2025

Via Email Only: Macayle.Fuchs@mail.house.gov

Subcommittee on Legislative Hearings
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

**Re: County of Socorro's Support for H.R. 4255, Enhancing Safety for
Animals Act**

Dear Members of the Subcommittee,

I am writing to you on behalf of Socorro County, New Mexico, to express our strong support for H.R. 4255, the Enhancing Safety for Animals Act, introduced by Representative Paul Gosar. This bill, which seeks to delist the Mexican wolf from the Endangered Species Act, is of critical importance to our community.

Socorro County has been significantly impacted by the Mexican Grey Wolf Recovery Program, which has led to severe economic concerns for our residents. As detailed in the attached resolution 2025-37, the presence of Mexican wolves has resulted in extreme and continual injury and damage to livestock, a key component of our local economy and culture. The Federal Government's assurances that Mexican wolves would rarely prey on livestock have proven to be inaccurate, as evidenced by the exponential increase in livestock depredations.

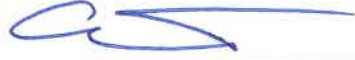
The economic repercussions are dire, with \$17 million in cattle sales and \$6.8 million in hunting revenue at risk due to the mismanagement of the wolf program. Furthermore, the safety of our residents is compromised, as evidenced by testimonies from local families who have experienced threats to their children and livestock.

The resolution passed by the Socorro County Board of County Commissioners on May 13, 2025, declares a disaster in the southwestern area of the county due to the damage caused by Mexican wolves. It calls for immediate action to address the ongoing maiming, traumatization, and killing of livestock, which threatens the safety, health, and economic welfare of the communities in our county.

We believe that delisting the Mexican wolf from the Endangered Species Act, as proposed in H.R. 4255, is a necessary step to mitigate these issues. It will allow for more effective management of the wolf population and help restore balance to our local ecosystem and economy.

We urge the Subcommittee to consider the significant challenges faced by Socorro County and support the passage of H.R. 4255. Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'AL', is positioned above a horizontal line.

Andrew Lotrich, County Manager

Cc: File

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