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FCF is a 501(3)(c) non-profit organization whose mission is conservation of wild felines through educational opportunities, responsible ownership and advocacy

EIN 59-2048618

Feline Conservation
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The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for H.R. 7159

Dear Chairman Westerman,

On behalf of the professional zoological and wildlife conservation community, we write in strong support of H.R. 7159 and appreciate the Committee's consideration of this important legislation.

Licensed zoological facilities across the United States play a critical role in wildlife conservation, public education, scientific research, and emergency response. These institutions operate under extensive federal, state, and local regulatory oversight and are staffed by trained professionals dedicated to animal welfare, public safety, and conservation outcomes. H.R. 7159 provides much-needed clarity and consistency in federal wildlife policy, ensuring that well-regulated, responsible institutions can continue to operate effectively while advancing conservation goals.

From an industry perspective, this legislation recognizes the difference between professionally managed, compliant facilities and bad actors who undermine public trust and conservation efforts. By strengthening regulatory clarity and reinforcing responsible stewardship, H.R. 7159 supports facilities that contribute to species survival, conservation breeding programs, veterinary advancement, and public engagement with wildlife.

Importantly, zoological institutions are also economic contributors within their communities, supporting local jobs, tourism, and educational programming while serving as partners to federal and state agencies in animal care, rescue, and disaster response. A clear and workable federal framework allows these institutions to remain focused on conservation outcomes rather than regulatory uncertainty.

We commend the Committee for its leadership in advancing legislation that balances animal welfare, public safety, and conservation science. H.R. 7159 represents a thoughtful and practical approach that strengthens conservation infrastructure while maintaining high professional standards across the zoological industry.

We respectfully urge the House Committee on Natural Resources to advance H.R. 7159 and thank you for your continued commitment to responsible wildlife management and conservation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Braitsch". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Brian Braitsch
President & CEO