



CONGRESSMAN GARY G. MILLER

PRESS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA'S 42ND DISTRICT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 22, 2010

CONTACT: Jessica Baker
(202) 225-3201

House Overwhelmingly Passes Bill Championed by Rep. Gary Miller to Ban Animal Crush Videos

WASHINGTON, DC – Yesterday, the House of Representatives passed legislation cosponsored by Rep. Gary Miller by a vote of 416-3 to prohibit knowingly selling or offering to sell an animal crush video in interstate or foreign commerce for commercial gain. Crush videos are defined as any visual depiction, including any photograph, motion-picture film, video recording, or electronic image, which depicts animal cruelty.

“Our nation has long recognized a compelling government interest in the humane treatment of animals,” said Rep. Gary Miller. “All too often, the torture and abuse of animals marks the beginning of a pattern of abuse that culminates in acts of violence towards fellow human beings. It is critical that we never become desensitized to the suffering of animals.”

The legislation passed this week – Prevention of Interstate Commerce in Animal Crush Videos Act of 2010 – comes in response to the Supreme Court’s recent ruling in *United States v. Stevens*, a case charging the seller of dogfighting videos under a 1999 law prohibiting the sale of “crush” videos and other depictions of illegal acts of animal cruelty. In its 8-1 ruling, the Court nullified the law in question citing that it was too broad. The bill passed this week is designed to address the Court’s concerns and would effectively prevent animal crush videos.

“It is clear that violence against animals is not a freedom of speech issue—it is a law enforcement issue,” said Rep. Gary Miller. “As the loving owner of two dogs, I am pleased the House has passed this legislation. Violence against helpless animals is wrong and I urge the Senate to swiftly pass this legislation.”

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