

## HR 4211

Animal Welfare Enforcement Improvement Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Animals

**Introduced:** Aug 27, 2019

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture. (Sep 4, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4211>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** House

**Cosponsors** (44 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Aug 30, 2019
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Aug 30, 2019
Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]	R · NY		Aug 30, 2019
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. Davis, Susan A. [D-CA-53]	D · CA		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]	D · CA		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. Shalala, Donna E. [D-FL-27]	D · FL		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Sep 9, 2019
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Sep 10, 2019
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Sep 11, 2019
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Sep 16, 2019
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Sep 18, 2019
Rep. Cooper, Jim [D-TN-5]	D · TN		Sep 24, 2019
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Sep 24, 2019
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Sep 24, 2019
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8]	D · PA		Oct 1, 2019
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Oct 1, 2019
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Oct 1, 2019
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Oct 8, 2019
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Oct 8, 2019
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Oct 11, 2019
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Oct 11, 2019
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Oct 11, 2019
Rep. Haaland, Debra A. [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Oct 15, 2019
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Oct 16, 2019
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Oct 22, 2019
Rep. Axne, Cynthia [D-IA-3]	D · IA		Oct 28, 2019
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Dec 12, 2019
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Dec 12, 2019
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Jan 3, 2020
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Jan 30, 2020
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Mar 11, 2020
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Sep 22, 2020
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Sep 24, 2020
Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37]	D · CA		Sep 29, 2020
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Sep 29, 2020

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Sep 29, 2020
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Nov 2, 2020
Rep. Stevens, Haley M. [D-MI-11]	D · MI		Dec 14, 2020

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 4, 2019

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Animals

## Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## Summary (as of Aug 27, 2019)

### Animal Welfare Enforcement Improvement Act

This bill revises the licensing process of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) for animal dealers and exhibitors to expand USDA's oversight and enforcement of animal welfare requirements. The bill also authorizes citizen suits to enforce the Animal Welfare Act.

Dealers and exhibitors must apply to USDA for licenses or renewal licenses each year. Before issuing or renewing licenses, USDA must conduct unannounced facility inspections.

USDA must deny an application for

- a new license if the applicant fails to meet animal welfare standards during a second inspection,
- a renewal license if the applicant violates such standards in more than one inspection in the previous two years, or
- a new or renewal license if the dealer or exhibitor has violated laws relating to animals or if the issuance of the license would facilitate the circumvention of state or local laws that prohibit the private ownership of certain animals.

Further, USDA must suspend the licenses of dealers or exhibitors whose violations present a risk to animal welfare. USDA must revoke the licenses if the violations persist or if the licensees commit multiple violations. Dealers and exhibitors with suspended or revoked licenses may not be (1) granted another license, (2) granted another license through another person or entity, or (3) employed by another licensee to work with animals during the period of the suspension or revocation.

## Actions Timeline

- **Sep 4, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture.
- **Aug 27, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Aug 27, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.