2022 New York Congressional Election Questionnaire

About Us
Launched in 2017, Voters For Animal Rights (VFAR) is a New York based 501c(4) grassroots multi-issue animal advocacy organization that is building political power for animals. In 2022, VFAR was part of the coalition to shut down the puppy mill pipeline in New York. In 2019, VFAR led the successful campaign to prohibit the sale of foie gras in NYC and to stop wild bird poaching. We also led the campaign to end the use of wild animals in circuses in NYC. We look forward to working with you to win more victories for animals and make the state of New York a leader in compassionate public policy.

VFAR’s mission is to elect candidates who support animal protection, lobby for stronger laws to stop animal cruelty, and hold elected officials accountable to humane voters. We mobilize public concern for animals through the political process. Animal protection is a moral and bi-partisan issue. More than 90% of Americans believe that animals need protection from abuse and exploitation. To that end, we organize humane voters to support candidates that care about animals. If you support animals, then we want to support you. There are over 60,000 humane voters throughout New York state, hundreds of whom are VFAR volunteers ready to knock on doors, make phone calls and get out the vote to elect people who will stand up for animals. We deliver the vote – for the animals and for you.

As an example, here is our animal-friendly voter guide from the 2021 NYC election cycle.

Endorsement Process
Candidates seeking our endorsement for the Congress are required to fill out this questionnaire and submit to woof@vfar.org by July 15, 2022. Please let us know if you need more time.

Endorsement decisions are made by VFAR’s Board in collaboration with our all-volunteer election team.

Questions
If you have any questions about the topics in our questionnaire, please don’t hesitate to reach out to allie@vfar.org and elena@vfar.org. We are happy to help you better understand animal protection policy, and we’re happy to advise your campaign.

Candidate Contact Information & Campaign Information

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<tr>
<th>Candidate Name</th>
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<th>Campaign Manager</th>
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<td>Jerrold Nadler</td>
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<td>Robert Gottheim</td>
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District: NY/12        Party: Democratic Party/Working Families Party
PRIORITY FEDERAL LEGISLATION

1. Would you cosponsor and vote the Big Cat Public Safety Act, which will prohibit public contact with big cats of any age, and also ban the possession of big cats as pets.
   
   YES / NO

2. Would you cosponsor and vote for the Greyhound Protection Act, which would end dog racing throughout the U.S.?
   
   YES / NO

3. A) Would you cosponsor and vote for the FDA Modernization Act? This legislation would end the outdated FDA mandate that experimental drugs must be tested on animals before they are used on humans in clinical trials. The bill would not ban animal testing outright, but would allow the option for drug sponsors to use alternative methods.
   
   YES / NO

   B) Would you cosponsor and vote for the Humane Cosmetics Act, which would end the testing of cosmetic products on animals as well as prohibit the sale of products using animal testing?
   
   YES / NO

4. A) Would you cosponsor and vote for the Farm System Reform Act, which would strengthen the Packers & Stockyards Act to crack down on the monopolistic practices of meatpackers and corporate integrators, place a moratorium on large factory farms, sometimes referred to as concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), and restore mandatory country-of-origin labeling requirements?
   
   YES / NO

   B) Would you cosponsor and vote for legislation to promote plant-based food production, support plant-based businesses, and require more plant-based foods in the school lunch program?
YES / NO

5. Would you cosponsor and vote for the Traveling Exotic Animal and Public Safety Protection Act, which would amend the Animal Welfare Act to restrict the use of exotic and wild animals in traveling circuses and other traveling acts?

YES / NO

6. A) Would you cosponsor and vote for The Save America’s Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act which would permanently ban domestic horse slaughter in the U.S. and stop the export of American horses for slaughter abroad?

YES / NO

B) Would you cosponsor and vote for the Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST Act) which amends the 1970 Horse Protection Act and aims to eliminate the failed system of industry self-policing, strengthen penalties against the soring of horses and ban devices that are integral to the soring process. This cruel practice is used to make horses “dance” or “march” in shows and exhibitions.

YES / NO

7. Will you pledge NOT to bring panda bears to the Central Park Zoo, or to any zoo in New York City?

YES / NO

[Signature]

7/19/2022

CANDIDATE SIGNATURE  DATE