



February 24, 2010

Dear Legislator,

**We Feed Animals.
We Feed People.
We Care for Both.**

Wisconsin farmers know animal well-being is central to producing safe, affordable, quality food. That's why we participate in such proactive animal welfare initiatives as the "We Care," Pork Quality Assurance and Transport Quality Assurance programs; National Dairy Animal Well-Being Initiative; Cattleman's Producer Code of Cattle Care program and poultry programs.

There is a huge difference between animal "welfare" organizations - that work for humane treatment - and animal "rights" organizations that aim to end use and ownership of animals. The Humane Society of the United States, HSUS, is an animal rights organization that uses deception and lobbying to stigmatize meat eaters and push their PETA-inspired agenda.

HSUS isn't your local animal shelter; it's a lobbying organization. The deceptively named HSUS rakes in millions of dollars from unsuspecting Americans who confuse the animal rights group with an unaffiliated local humane society to fund their PETA-inspired agenda.

HSUS partnered with the following organizations in California to pass Prop. 2: Compassion Over Killing (COK), Mercy for Animals (MFA), Vegan Outreach (VO), and Farm Sanctuary (FS). We expect HSUS to do the same in Wisconsin as they try to control how farm animals should be raised.

HSUS twists facts and often makes wild, inaccurate claims that appeal to emotions. This happened last year when they publically spread inaccurate news about the H1N1 flu long before facts proved this flu did not originate in hog facilities. HSUS also was refused entrance to the 16th meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species for filing false accusations about illegal trade in ivory between Namibia and Taiwan, and Zimbabwe and China.

An HSUS Attorney is linked to an attack on University of Iowa's Animal Lab. Their attorney Leana Stormont was subpoenaed recently to testify before a federal grand jury about a 2004 animal-rights attack on the lab credited to the Animal Liberation Front.

Less than 4% of HSUS budget goes to local animal shelters. HSUS has more than \$113 million in assets, pays more than \$30 million in employee compensation, \$20 million on campaigns, legislation and litigation, \$24 million on fundraising and \$4.2 million to count their cash! *HSUS and affiliates got a "D" rating from charity watchdog Worth magazine for spending 53% of expenses on fundraising. Charity Navigator gave only one star (out of four) to HSUS's Earth Voice International, and zero to the Humane Society of the United States Wildlife Land Trust.*

HSUS's total grant allocation is reported at less than \$4.7 million. According to the HSUS 2008 tax return half of that total - \$2.35 million - went to "Californians for Humane Farms," the lobbying group supporting California Proposition 2 which effectively shut California's poultry industry.

Don't be fooled by people who say they care while attacking those of us who show we care every day. We feed animals. We feed people. We are the Wisconsin farmer members of:

*Wisconsin Dairy Business Association Wisconsin Pork Association Wisconsin Soybean Association
Wisconsin Corn Growers Association Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation*

Follow HSUS activities online at <http://www.humanewatch.org/>