BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

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COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, ORGANIZATION, AND PROCUREMENT

> NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

May 12, 2010

Ms. Lois G. Lerner Director, Exempt Organizations Internal Revenue Service 10th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20224

Dear Ms. Lerner:

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me on May 5th concerning the tax-exempt status of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). I appreciate your time and willingness to hear my concerns.

Per your request, I am forwarding additional information provided to me by my constituents. These individuals remain concerned that HSUS is abusing their tax-exempt status, and I believe their justifications have merit. The attached information unquestionably demonstrates that HSUS invests a substantial amount of time and money in political campaigns and attempts to influence specific legislation, a clear and direct violation of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. As I mentioned during our conversation, this is an important matter not just to Missourians but also my colleagues from Congressional districts across the nation.

I understand that you are not at liberty to comment on any potential IRS actions but do hope your agency will give thoughtful consideration of the concerns I have expressed. Thank you in advance for reviewing this information and for your continued assistance on this matter.

Sincerely.

Blaine Luctkemeyer

Member of Congress

Enclosure