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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Doing the vital work of protecting and saving animals from cruelty and suffering is a great privilege, one that my colleagues and I never take for granted. We approach our mission with energy, hope and determination every day, and we never lose sight of what's at stake.

In my more than 25 years of service to the Humane Society of the United States and its affiliates, I cannot recall a year quite like 2018. It was one of breathtaking impact, in which we achieved dramatic successes across the range of our work: puppy mills, factory farming, greyhound racing, the use of fur in fashion, trophy hunting, the dog meat trade, animal testing in cosmetics, captive animals used in entertainment. In these and other areas, we stood strong against cruelty, and you stood with us.

None of our campaigns are easy, and day after day, in case after case, we faced formidable and determined opposition. But we don't scare easily. We faced down our opponents and your support gave us the strength to win.

Our staff includes some of the best and brightest talents you could hope to recruit for advancing an animal protection agenda as ambitious as ours. We use all of the levers of change available—direct care, education, rescue, policy reform, litigation and many more—because that's what it takes to win the fights we take on. When it comes to stopping animal cruelty and suffering, we don't mess around.

This November will mark the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Humane Society of the United States. It all started in 1954, when four passionate animal advocates sat down in a living room in Denver to launch a new kind of organization: one that would challenge cruelties of great scale from a national perspective, confront any and all special interests involved in animal suffering, no matter how powerful or secure, and seek transformational change in the best interests of animals.

That's still who we are, and that's still what we do. Thank you for making it possible, and for standing with us as we help build a more compassionate future.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kitty Block', with a long, sweeping underline.

Kitty Block
President & CEO, the Humane Society of the United States
President, Humane Society International

