

DIANNE FEINSTEIN
CALIFORNIA



United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

January 20, 2016

Dear Chair Saris,

I want to express my deep appreciation for your help in proposing stronger sentencing guidelines for animal fighting violations of the *Animal Welfare Act*. I believe this is a meaningful step that is consistent with current law. Large animal fighting operations clearly lead to egregious animal cruelty, but are also linked to illegal gambling, firearms, and narcotics. Stronger sentences will help to deter these criminal enterprises.

Thank you again for your continued dedication to reducing the prevalence of animal fighting and other violent crime in our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dianne Feinstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends down towards the recipient's address.

The Honorable Patti B. Saris
Chair
United States Sentencing Commission
One Columbus Circle, N.E.
Suite 2-500, South Lobby
Washington, DC 20002-8002