

RESOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD
SUPPORTING THE INTEGRATION OF ANIMAL RIGHTS
INTO ITS SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY

Proposed by the NLG Animal Liberation Project Committee

WHEREAS, the National Lawyers Guild (NLG) is committed to advancing justice, equality, and the protection of vulnerable communities through legal advocacy, education, and activism;

WHEREAS, the fight for animal rights is intrinsically linked to broader social justice issues, including anti-oppression, anti-speciesism, environmental justice, and the dismantling of systemic inequality;

WHEREAS, intense state surveillance and repression currently directed at the animal rights movement is in all essentials the same state surveillance and repression long directed at the Civil Rights and other American social justice movements;

WHEREAS, animals, particularly those exploited in industries such as factory farming, entertainment, and research, are subjected to systemic violence, oppression, and exploitation—paralleling historic and ongoing human struggles against systemic oppression and discrimination;

WHEREAS, efforts to secure legal protections for animals' mirror strategies used in social justice movements, including coalition-building, direct action, advocacy for legal reforms, and public education;

WHEREAS, recognizing the intersectionality of social justice issues reveals that the liberation of marginalized human communities is interconnected with the liberation of animals and the protection of ecosystems;

WHEREAS, incorporating animal rights into NLG's mission aligns with its core values of anti-oppression, human rights, and the pursuit of a more equitable and compassionate society;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Lawyers Guild:

Affirms its commitment to integrating animal rights advocacy into its broader social justice work, recognizing the shared principles of anti-oppression, liberation, and justice;

Encourages its chapters and members to educate themselves and others on the legal and ethical issues facing animals, and to incorporate animal rights into their advocacy campaigns, litigation, and community outreach;

Supports coalition-building with animal rights organizations, environmental groups, and other social justice movements to foster intersectional approaches to advocacy;

Promotes the inclusion of animal rights principles in NLG's training programs, publications, and public statements;

Supports and encourages dedicated committees or task forces focused on animal rights issues, ensuring sustained attention and action;

Recognizes that the fight for animal rights and social justice are mutually reinforcing pursuits that contribute to the creation of a more just, compassionate, and equitable society for all beings.

RESOLVED, that this resolution be disseminated to all chapters and members of the NLG, and that it serves as a guiding principle in future advocacy efforts.

IMPLEMENTATION: Animal Liberation Project Committee

ENDORSED BY: Animal Liberation Project Committee,
Environmental Justice Committee,
Detroit & Michigan Chapter,

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Submitted by

The Animal Liberation Project Committee, by David Michel and voted on unanimously and approved by the members and Tamara Bedic, Executive Director.