H.R. 724

“Preventing Animal Cruelty and Torture Act (The PACT) Act”

“To revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.”

INTRODUCTION

- Introduced on 1/23/2019 by Representative Ted Deutch (D-FL) and referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary

BILL SUMMARY

- The PACT Act would strengthen existing U.S. Code (18 USC Sec. 18) on animal cruelty. It would expand legal ramifications from those who proliferate depictions of animal cruelty for commercial gain to include those who commit animal cruelty for purposes of commercial gain, whether or not any media was created depicting the abuse.
- There is an explicit exemption for “customary and normal veterinary agricultural husbandry, or other animal management practice” as well as “medical or scientific research.”

IMPLICATIONS

- As written, this bill would not impact the biomedical research community.