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FCF is a 501(3)(c) non-profit organization whose mission is conservation of wild felines through educational opportunities, responsible ownership, and advocacy

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Feline Conservation Foundation

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www.FelineConservation.org Secretary@felineconservation.org January 8, 2021

The Honorable Tom McClintock Republican Leader Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife 1329 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. McClintock:

On behalf of the Feline Conservation Foundation (FCF), I write to applaud your leadership in introducing H.R. 211, the Big Cat Public Safety Act.

The FCF is a non-profit, non-governmental organization consisting of wild feline managers, educators, conservationists, researchers, and business owners across the nation who support the mission of feline conservation, both in captivity and in the wild. For over 60 years, this unique expertise has allowed the FCF to be a critical source of empirical information about the responsible management and the status of exotic felines in the United States and abroad.

In the 116th Congress, the FCF opposed big cat legislation approved by the Committee because we believed that it contained ambiguous language, which would have resulted in a number of negative consequences for FCF business owners and also the very animals for which the bill sponsors claimed was the primary mission of the legislation.

I am pleased to state that H.R. 211 has rectified many of the FCF's concerns about federal legislation to enhance public safety and animal welfare pertaining to big cats. As the Big Cat Public Safety Act progresses through the committee, we would request to work with you and your staff to propose any minor technical changes that may become necessary.

Therefore, the Feline Conservation Foundation is pleased to announce its full support for H.R. 211, the Big Cat Public Safety Act.

Sincerely,

Mindy Stinner, President

Feline Conservation Foundation