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Debra A Green  
Park County Clerk

**PARK COUNTY, COLORADO  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Resolution No. 21-20**

**A RESOLUTION FOR THE PARK COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,  
PARK COUNTY, COLORADO, OPPOSING THE PROPOSED “PROTECT ANIMALS  
FROM UNNECESSARY SUFFERING AND EXPLOITATION” (PAUSE), AKA BALLOT  
INITIATIVE 16**

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2021, a citizen’s initiative titled “Protect Animals from Unnecessary Suffering and Exploitation” (PAUSE) was approved by the Title Board of the Colorado Secretary of State for petition to the November 2022 General Election as Initiative 16; and

**WHEREAS**, the initiative is an industry killing effort that will disrupt all aspects of meat production, sales, and export; and

**WHEREAS**, the initiative criminalizes farmers, ranchers and veterinarians who use accepted animal husbandry practices to care for animals; and

**WHEREAS**, the initiative changes state statutory language to define common animal care practices as cruelty to animals; and

**WHEREAS**, the initiative bans slaughter for animals that have lived less than 25 percent of their “natural” life span; and

**WHEREAS**, the initiative criminalizes the following veterinary and animal husbandry practices: spaying and neutering, reproductive practices (artificial insemination, pregnancy diagnosis, fertility testing), etc.; and

**WHEREAS**, the initiative eliminates accepted animal husbandry practices, opening the door to animal cruelty prosecution for common and basic practices such as feeding, sheltering and transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Colorado Department of Agriculture, agriculture contributes \$6,605,000 million to the Park County economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the economic impact to farmers, ranchers, meat cutters, veterinarians and other related industries would be tremendous and negative; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been reported that even the Governor of Colorado agrees that the PAUSE initiative would “hurt Colorado, and destroy jobs”; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board abhors the infliction of needless suffering of animals and recognizes that our cattle and livestock producers take great effort to treat their animals humanely.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE PARK COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PARK COUNTY, COLORADO** declares its opposition to this Initiative and urges the Governor of Colorado and Commissioner of the Colorado Department of Agriculture to continue to do the same; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** the Commission urges all citizens of Park County to decline to sign any petition that supports placing Initiative 16 (PAUSE) on the November 2022 ballot and also encourages all Park County citizens to educate our urban cousins about the importance of agriculture to the entire State of Colorado; and

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Commission also urges all citizens of Park County and the State of Colorado that care about the well-being of animals – be they livestock, pets, service animals, or other – take action to defeat this measure if it does make the November 2022 ballot.

Moved, seconded, and approved this 25 day of May, 2021

**PARK COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Richard Elsner, Chairman

ATTEST:

County Clerk

