

**【附錄七】美國前參議員（Dennis J. Kucinich）致馬總統函**

**Mr. & Mrs. Dennis J. Kucinich  
P.O. Box 15146  
Washington, DC 20003**

President Ma Ying-jeou  
c/o Representative Jason C. Yaun  
Taipei Representative Office  
4201 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

March 2014

Dear President Ma,

We are writing to express our wholehearted support for the Taiwanese Congress's resolution that temporarily halts the Council of Agriculture's plan to inject rabies virus into hundreds of animals for the infectivity test of the rabies virus that recently surfaced among ferret-badgers.

Please accept our sincere congratulations on passing this important measure to further delay the unnecessary suffering and resource waste that the experiments would undoubtedly cause. As veterans of Capitol Hill, we would like to add our voices to Taiwanese Congress', and to those of the many scientists and veterinarians—as well as the tens of thousands of laypersons—who have called for an end to the frivolous and cruel use of animals to combat the rabies virus.

As you may know, despite the fact that current vaccines provide protection against the new strain of rabies virus, plans to develop a new vaccine surfaced in response to the recent outbreak. Vaccine development, which would involve infecting beagles, mice, and ferret-badgers with the deadly virus, is neither humane nor scientifically necessary.

Experts from the international scientific and veterinary communities agree that existing vaccines have been proven effective against all strains of rabies. Developing a new vaccine would require hundreds to thousands of animals to be killed for no measurable gain.

We respectfully urge the Taiwanese Congress to continue efforts to pass final legislation that will cancel the Council of Agriculture's plans to develop an unneeded vaccine and ensure that no experiments for this purpose will occur in the future. Please know that you have our full support in this endeavor.

Sincerely,



Dennis J. Kucinich  
Fmr. Member  
United States Congress



Elizabeth J. Kucinich