

had been known.

Within his first year in office, Pacelle launched a new campaigns division, allowing Humane Society's employees to work on specific causes related to factory farming, animal cruelty and fighting, fur, and abusive hunting practices. "I founded the campaigns division because I wanted to ratchet up the effectiveness of our programs in [these] four key areas," Pacelle says. "They were not overlooked industries, but each subject presents major challenges and we needed greater investments of dollars and labor to make a bigger impact."

Pacelle has also increased the Humane Society's focus on politics, helping found the Humane Society Legislative Fund, a separate lobbying arm that works to pass animal protection laws at the state and federal level. It also publishes the Humane Scorecard, which tracks the animal rights voting records of members of Congress, and a voter guide, in addition to running the Humane Action Network of volunteers.

Italian-American Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut has worked with the Humane Society

to co-sponsor two bills currently before the House of Representatives. One bill helps law enforcement crack down on animal fighting while the other would restore a 34-year-old ban on the commercial sale and slaughter of American's wild horses and burros.

"Wayne has given such a new energy to these issues, so that the impact of the Humane Society is being felt in my view much more than it has in the past," says DeLauro, who is a member of Congress's Italian American Delegation and represents one of the most strongly Italian-American districts in the country. "He has raised it to a national consciousness."

The Humane Society's newly formed lobbying arm has been able to further its legislative goals because "it is the external pressure on the institution that moves legislation," says DeLauro, the newly appointed chairwoman of the House Appropriations Agriculture Subcommittee for the 110th Congress. "When you begin to hear from people in your own community about the issues they care about, members take notice of that. They're foolish if they don't take notice of that." ➤



Pacelle helps transport animals out of Louisiana's Hurricane Katrina disaster zone in September 2005.

Photo courtesy of the Humane Society of the United States.