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American Pet Products Association CEO, Steve King, Joins Pet Partners' Board of Directors

Bellevue, Wash. – Pet Partners, the nation's leading organization registering therapy animals for animal-assisted interventions (AAI), is proud to welcome Steve King, CEO of American Pet Products Association (APPA), to its Board of Directors.

"As an experienced business leader of one of the top associations in the pet care community, Steve's knowledge and expertise will bring great value to our board," said C. Annie Peters, President and CEO of Pet Partners.

Pet Partners is the leader in improving human health and well-being through the human-animal bond, registering nine species of animals with their human handlers as therapy animal teams. Pet Partners teams make more than three million visits per year in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, libraries, and airports, deploys teams after natural, human-caused, or technological disasters, and provides teams for corporate employee wellness events. Pet Partners also advocates for legislation that promotes human health and well-being through its grassroots advocacy program and educates handlers and the public about the positive impact of animal-assisted interventions.

King assumed the role of CEO of APPA, which represents more than 1,200 pet product manufacturers, in 2019. Prior to this role, Steve served as Executive Director for The Pet Care Trust, which promotes public understanding regarding the value of and the right to enjoy companion animals and enhances society's knowledge about companion animals.

"I have dedicated the last 30 years of my life to pets and those who serve and support them and I'm excited to join the Pet Partners board and continue advancing the important roles pets and therapy animals play in our communities," said King.

King earned a J.D. from The George Washington University Law School and earned his B.A. from the University of Maryland, College Park.

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Pet Partners is the national leader in demonstrating and promoting the health and wellness benefits of animal-assisted therapy, activities, and education. Since the organization's inception in 1977, the science proving these benefits has become indisputable. With more than 13,000 registered teams making more than 3 million visits annually, Pet Partners serves as the nation's largest and most prestigious nonprofit registering handlers of multiple species as volunteer teams. Pet Partners teams visit with patients in recovery, people with intellectual disabilities, seniors living with Alzheimer's, students, veterans with PTSD, and those approaching end of life, improving human health and well-being through the human-animal bond. With the recent release of its Standards of Practice for Animal-Assisted Interventions and international expansion, Pet Partners is globally recognized as the industry gold standard. For more information on Pet Partners, visit www.petpartners.org.