Micheál Martin Taoiseach

22 September 2022

Via e-mail: micheal.martin@oireachtas.ie

Dear Taoiseach:

When I last performed in Ireland in 2018, I wrote to the government to call for a ban on fur farming. I'm happy to see that Ireland is now fur-farm free. As I prepare for my upcoming gig at the Gleneagle INEC Arena in Killarney, I want to take the opportunity to write to you about another pressing issue involving cruelty to animals that should have been consigned to the history books long ago: hare coursing.

As I understand it, Ireland is one of the few remaining countries that allows this abomination to continue. For nothing more than a bet or a lark, thousands of hares are ripped from their homes every year, crammed into netted enclosures, and forced to run for their lives in front of dogs. Some sustain ruptured organs or broken bones when they're tossed into the air. Others are so terrified they die of heart failure. Surely, it is not hard to see that this is wrong.

My friends at PETA tell me that the majority of Irish people support a ban on hare coursing. So please, take heed, because there is something extremely depraved about those who enjoy watching animals being terrorised. And the sooner Ireland distances itself from this cruel activity, the better.

Sincerely,

Morrissey