[Resolution supporting the California Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act]

Resolution supporting the California Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act

WHEREAS, Animal welfare organizations and the media have illuminated the cruel and inhumane confinement of veal calves, egg-laying hens, and breeding pigs, in tiny cages and crates on factory farms; and

WHEREAS, California factory farms confine approximately 19 million hens in barren battery cages that are smaller than a single sheet of paper to live on, the birds can't even spread their wings. Each bird has less space than a single sheet of paper on which to live; and

WHEREAS, During their four-month pregnancies, nearly 20,000 female breeding pigs in California are confined to individual metal cages only two feet wide that are so small that the animals cannot even turn around, and in most cases, the pigs develop joint disorders; and

WHEREAS, In order to produce veal, calves that would normally still be nursing are taken from their mothers, and four months before they are slaughtered the calves are typically tethered by their necks in crates too narrow for them to turn around or even lie down in comfortably; and

WHEREAS, Many states have laws that prohibit gestation crates, such as Florida and Arizona, and many major livestock producers across the world, like Smithfield Foods and Maple Leaf Foods, are phasing out gestation crates as well; and

WHEREAS, Other companies have pushed for a cage-free environment all together; Burger King and Carl's Jr. started phasing in pork and eggs from producers that don't use gestation crates, and the Compass Group, the world's largest food service provider, is implementing a cage-free egg policy in the United States; and

WHEREAS, California schools such as University of San Francisco, San Francisco State University, UC Berkeley, and Stanford have joined hundreds more across the country in enacting policies to either completely eliminate or decrease their use of battery cage eggs; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco was the fourth California city, and tenth in the nation, to pass a resolution opposing battery cage confinement, joining Santa Cruz, Berkeley and West Hollywood; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of California citizens are now volunteering their time to collect signatures to put a measure on the November 2008 ballot that would require that calves used for veal, egg-laying hens, and pigs used for breeding be given enough room to turn around and extend their limbs; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco is known for its social responsibility and humane sentiment, including being ranked as the most humane city in the nation by The Humane Society of the United States Humane Index; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports California Initiative 07-0041, The Prevention of the Farm Animal Cruelty Act.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails

Resolution

File Number:

080249

Date Passed:

Resolution supporting the California Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act.

February 26, 2008 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Ammiano, Chu, Daly, Elsbernd, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi,

Peskin, Sandoval Absent: 1 - Alioto-Pier Excused: 1 - Dufty

File No. 080249

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on February 26, 2008 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

2.29.08

Date Approved

Mayor Gavin Newsom

Angela Calvillo / Clerk of the **B**oard