

**SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE  
RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Opposing the Abusive Factory Farming Practice of the Confinement of  
Egg-Laying Hens in Battery Cages**

**Whereas**, Animal welfare organizations and the media have illuminated the cruel and inhumane treatment of egg-laying hens confined in factory farm battery cages in California and throughout the country; and

**Whereas**, About 95% of the roughly 300 million hens in the United States are confined in barren, wire battery cages so restrictive the birds don't even have enough space to spread their wings. With no opportunity to engage in many of their natural behaviors—including nesting, dust bathing, perching, and walking—these birds endure lives wrought with suffering. In fact, each hen has less space than a single sheet of paper in which to spend her entire life; and

**Whereas**, Many countries, including Austria, Germany, and Switzerland have banned the use of battery cages for egg-laying hens; and

**Whereas**, municipal governments in the United States have passed resolutions opposing this factory farming abuse, including Berkeley and West Hollywood, California; and

**Whereas**, Retail giants Whole Foods Market and Wild Oats Natural Marketplace exclusively sell eggs from cage-free hens, while California-based Trader Joe's has the same policy for its brand of eggs. San Francisco's Rainbow Grocery, Bay Area grocery chain Andronico's Market, and Santa Cruz's New Leaf Community Markets have discontinued their sale of cage eggs. Burger King has started using cage-free eggs. Ben & Jerry's is also phasing in the exclusive use of cage-free eggs. Celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck made a company-wide decision to only use cage-free eggs in his restaurants, grocery store items and catering business. Northern California-based Bon Appétit Management Company is implementing an exclusive cage-free egg policy for all 200 of its clients. Both AOL and Google only serve cage-free eggs in their company cafeterias. Omni Hotels will only serve cage-free eggs to its guests; and

**Whereas**, California schools such as University of San Francisco, San Francisco State University, Berkeley, and Stanford have joined more than 150 others across the country in enacting policies to either completely eliminate—or decrease their use of battery cage eggs; and

**Whereas**, Cage-free egg farms generally provide egg-laying hens with a higher level of welfare than battery cage facilities; 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; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE** opposes battery cage egg production, based on the inherent cruelty of confining egg-laying hens in battery cages; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare urges the Board of Supervisors to encourage consumers of eggs not to purchase eggs produced by caged hens, as well as to limit the City and County of San Francisco's procurement of eggs to those from cage-free hens.

**Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2007**