

From: Farm Sanctuary <webmaster@farmsanctuary.org> on behalf of Kevin Crupi
<webmaster@farmsanctuary.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 11:31 AM
To: AGSEC - OES
Subject: Support humane treatment of poultry--act on Petition Number #13-08

Apr 28, 2015

Secretary Thomas Vilsack
Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, Room 200-A
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack,

I'm writing to thank the USDA for repeatedly recognizing that cruelty to birds is an issue that demands your attention, over which you have authority.

In 2005, for example, a Federal Register notice declared that stopping the abuse of birds is a "high priority" for the USDA, and a 2009 agency directive noted that "humane methods of handling and slaughtering ... increase the likelihood of producing unadulterated product," which the agency is legally obligated to address.

Please take the next step by acting on petition 13-08, which was filed by Farm Sanctuary and the Animal Welfare Institute, requesting that the USDA promulgate humane poultry regulations.

A key regulation that the USDA should require is the humane euthanasia of all birds who arrive at the slaughterhouse with broken wings or legs. Just try to imagine the agony of arriving to slaughter with broken limbs only to be dumped from your crate, snapped into shackles by hurried workers, and electrocuted -- it is beyond our worst nightmares.

Chickens are interesting individuals who compare favorably to dogs in scientific tests of cognitive and behavioral complexity, and they deserve better. There's no excuse for the common barbaric mistreatment of poultry and other animals on factory farms in an advanced society like the 21st Century U.S.

Please let me know of your decision at the address below. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Kevin Crupi

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

John J. Heck and Associates

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
AND BUSINESS COUNSELORS

20118 VALLEY FORGE CIRCLE
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406
PHONE (610) 783-6707
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Re: Protections for Chicks and Chickens Petition 13-08

August 13, 2015

Dear Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack,

The grim reality is that this letter will never reach you....in fact if it is opened, it will be opened by someone who probably does not even care about the plight of the millions of chicks and chickens who live a life of hell each day so we can enjoy an egg.

You would think that an animal which provides us with one of the most perfect sources of protein would be highly regarded in our society and given humane treatment. Well, when big interest companies with big money pay lobbyists to write their own laws in their own favor to keep their profits close to the chest, then, we all lose.

Yes that's right. We all lose because we eat eggs from sickly birds in confined, squalid conditions which are feed tons of antibiotics to keep them going until their bodies can't do it anymore. And then, the ones which are still alive are subjected to the most inhumane death all because it's business....keeps the costs down to kill them in the fastest way possible without any consideration as to the cruelty of the method used.

I wish the owners of these hell holes would be subjected to the same treatment for a day just so they can experience the stench, the filth, and take it all in.

It is no accident that farm animals are excluded from protections. It's on purpose because the people running these hell holes have no interest in the animals. If they did, they would not pay and write their own laws to make sure it continues.

I can just imagine the people lining up to tour the place where their eggs came from....a filthy, smelly, crowded factory with dead and dying birds. Yes...it's a pretty picture indeed. But then again any tours are probably against the law. And the employees that work in these places are probably so desperate for work that they put up with it to get a paycheck.

The Food Safety Inspection Service has been contacted over 18 months ago to do something about the deplorable conditions in these places and still nothing has changed... and it probably won't because big interests won't let it.

It really makes me sad because we all lose. The birds lose. We eat anemic eggs laid in filthy conditions. I mean do you think that the owners eat their own eggs? I think not. But they have the money to buy whatever eggs they want so it doesn't matter to them...just to the average guy who wants an egg and thinks nothing about where it originated.

I know for a fact that many other countries banned battery cages and consider them cruel. I guess they must like their birds more than we do because they won't subject them to conditions which are inhumane. Why inhumane? How many chickens do you know sit without moving for up to 2 years? None. Chickens, like all farm animals have natural behaviors, such as scratching for food. We all know this. USDA knows this too. Chickens confined in a cage cannot even stand up because all they do is sit and they become so weak that they lose the use of their legs. Would you crate your dog for 2 years? Think about it!!!

I hope by spending another 30 minutes at the end of an already busy day at the office that maybe someone who isn't bought and sold would do the right thing for a change. I would really welcome a positive change for all farm animals, including chicks and chickens. IT'S LONG OVERDUE!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie A. Dunne, CPA". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a horizontal line.

Laurie A. Dunne, CPA
Phoenixville Farm Owner

From: Farm Sanctuary <webmaster@farmsanctuary.org> on behalf of CAROL HALE
<webmaster@farmsanctuary.org>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2015 9:52 PM
To: AGSEC - OES
Subject: Petition Number #13-08, for humane poultry slaughter

Apr 25, 2015

Secretary Thomas Vilsack
Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, Room 200-A
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack,

I am writing to thank the USDA for repeatedly recognizing that cruelty to birds is an issue that demands your attention, over which you have authority.

A key regulation that the USDA should require is the humane euthanasia of all birds who arrive at the slaughterhouse with broken wings or legs. Just try to imagine the agony of arriving to slaughter with broken limbs only to be dumped from your crate, snapped into shackles by hurried workers, and electrocuted -- it is beyond our worst nightmares.

Please take the next step by acting on petition 13-08, which was filed by Farm Sanctuary and the Animal Welfare Institute, requesting that the USDA promulgate humane poultry regulations.

Chickens are interesting individuals who compare favorably to dogs in scientific tests of cognitive and behavioral complexity, and they deserve better.

Please let me know of your decision at the address below.

Sincerely,

Mrs. CAROL HALE

[REDACTED]

From: Farm Sanctuary <webmaster@farmsanctuary.org> on behalf of Ellen Waggoner <webmaster@farmsanctuary.org>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2015 6:51 PM
To: AGSEC - OES
Subject: Poultry Slaughter - Petition Number #13-08

Apr 25, 2015

Secretary Thomas Vilsack
Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, Room 200-A
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack,

I am writing to urge the USDA to promulgate humane poultry regulations. The USDA has already recognized that cruelty to birds is an issue that demands your attention, over which you have authority.

For example, in 2005, a Federal Register notice declared that stopping the abuse of birds is a "high priority" for the USDA, and a 2009 agency directive noted that "humane methods of handling and slaughtering ... increase the likelihood of producing unadulterated product," which the agency is legally obligated to address.

Please take the next step by acting on petition 13-08, which was filed by Farm Sanctuary and the Animal Welfare Institute, requesting that the USDA promulgate humane poultry regulations.

One of the most desperately needed regulations that the USDA should require is the humane euthanasia of all birds who arrive at the slaughterhouse with broken wings or legs. Just try to imagine the agony of arriving to slaughter with broken limbs only to be dumped from your crate, snapped into shackles by hurried workers, and electrocuted -- it is beyond our worst nightmares.

It is shameful that chickens are not afforded better treatment and protections. Indeed, chickens are sentient, interesting individuals who compare favorably to dogs in scientific tests of cognitive and behavioral complexity.

Please inform me of your decision at the address below. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ms. Ellen Waggoner

