

# JOINT ANIMAL PROTECTION ORGANIZATION STATEMENT ON BROILER CHICKEN WELFARE ISSUES

June 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

As you may know, we, the undersigned organizations, work individually with many food companies. In the course of that engagement, we're sometimes asked by companies if our groups can speak with one voice. That generally isn't possible—our groups don't necessarily work in tandem, and often disagree on issues, tactics, and more.

That said, you may be pleased to know that, while we often are not in agreement with one another, we *have* reached agreement on what the most pressing welfare concerns related to broiler production are, and how to best mitigate those concerns. Toward that end, we've reached three versions of broiler welfare policy language—each of which addresses the four main welfare concerns associated with broiler production, and each of us all agree represents meaningful progress. Those versions are laid out below. Thank you for your interest in this issue.

Sincerely,

Animal Equality  
Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals  
Compassion in World Farming USA  
Compassion Over Killing  
Mercy For Animals  
The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)  
The Humane League  
The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)  
World Animal Protection

---

## VERSION ONE:

By 2024, we will source only chickens certified by Global Animal Partnership (GAP) and require all chickens to be processed in a manner that avoids live-dumping and live-shackling, and instead utilizes a pre-shackle, multi-step controlled-atmosphere processing system that's widely hailed as more humane.

## VERSION TWO:

By 2024, we will require our chicken suppliers to do the following for 100% of our products:

- a) Transition to strains of birds approved by GAP based on measurably improved welfare outcomes.
- b) Reduce stocking density to a maximum of 6 lbs./sq. ft.(per GAP standards), and prohibit broiler cages.
- c) Provide birds enriched environments including litter, lighting, and enrichment that meets GAP's new standards.
- d) Process chickens in a manner that avoids pre-stun handling and instead utilizes a multi-step controlled-atmosphere processing system that induces an irreversible stun.
- e) Demonstrate compliance with the above standards via third party auditing.

## VERSION THREE:

By 2024, we'll ensure 100% of our chicken is produced under Global Animal Partnership's (GAP) standards for broiler breed/strain, environment (including lighting, litter, and enrichments) and stocking density (including no cages). We'll also ensure that by 2024, all chickens in our supply system be processed in a manner that avoids live-dumping and live-shackling of birds, and instead utilizes a pre-shackle multi-step controlled-atmosphere processing system that's widely hailed as more humane. And we'll demonstrate compliance with the above standards via third party auditing