

JOINT ANIMAL PROTECTION ORGANIZATION STATEMENT ON BROILER CHICKEN WELFARE ISSUES

July 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
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 require our chicken suppliers to do the following for 100% of our products:

- a) Transition to strains of birds accepted for use by RSPCA or Global Animal Partnership (GAP) based on measurably improved welfare outcomes.
- b) Reduce stocking density to a maximum of 6 lbs./sq. foot 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 TWO:

By 2024, we'll ensure 100% of our chicken comes from either RSPCA or Global Animal Partnership (GAP)-approved breeds/strains. We'll also ensure it meets GAP's environment standards (including lighting, litter, and enrichments); that stocking density is no greater than 6 lbs./sq. foot and broiler cages are not used; and that it's 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. We'll demonstrate compliance with the above standards via third party auditing.

VERSION THREE:

By 2024, we will source only chicken 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.