## Lou Mansolillo

From: Shelly Kamath Pancoast <shelly.kamath@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 9:24 AM

**To:** Rep. Solomon, Joseph J. Jr.; House Corporations Committee

Dear Representative Solomon and the House Corporation Committee,

I am a veterinarian in RI and I am writing to ask that you oppose H7946, which would delay implementation of a bill that I lobbied for and feel really passionate about, which helped ban battery cages for egg-laying hens. Battery cages are not only inherently cruel, but they allow for spread of infectious disease and pose human health risks, and as a veterinarian, a mother, and an animal lover, I was relieved and proud when the bill passed in 2018, despite the lengthy 2026 timeline for implenetation. I applaud the Rhode Island General Assembly for enacting cage-free legislation in 2018, and urge you to keep the 2026 effective date as it was passed.

Thank you so much for your time. Sincerely, Shelly Pancoast, DVM