H7946 - UNLAWFUL CONFINEMENT OF A COVERED ANIMAL

From: Volunteer Services for Animals (vsaheadquarters@yahoo.com)

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Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 02:17 PM EDT

Dear Chairman Solomon and Honorable Members of the Rhode Island House Committee on Corporations:

Volunteer Services for Animals writes to you regarding Chapter 4-1.1 of the General Laws which covers the egg laying hen.

Several years ago legislation passed that called for larger cages for the hens. Now you are being asked to extend those changes to 2034. Many of us realize or should realize that these hens are not machines but living sentient beings who feel fear, stress and pain. We want to bring to your attention their suffering. The egg businesses were given adequate time to make these cage changes but sadly some of you are now being asked to go back on your word, and some of you are being asked to turn back the humane progress that was made for the hens.

It is noteworthy that of all the animals raised and slaughtered for food, chickens by their vast numbers suffer the most. Please find it in your hearts to at least give them more room in their cages sooner than 2034. If you pass H7946, you will not be doing that.

Thank you for permitting VSA to submit testimony via email for the House Committee on Corporations and for the H7946 hearing.

Very respectfully yours, Joanne Rongo VSAS Chair writing for the Board of Directors & Volunteers

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