

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5557

To promote the humane treatment of farm animals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 8, 2006

Mr. SHAYS (for himself and Mr. DEFAZIO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To promote the humane treatment of farm animals.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Farm Animal Steward-
5 ship Purchasing Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF POLICY.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

8 (1) More humane treatment of livestock mini-
9 minizes needless suffering, results in safer and better
10 working conditions for persons engaged in the ani-

1 mal agricultural industry, brings about improvement
2 of products, and generates other benefits for pro-
3 ducers, processors, consumers, public health, and the
4 environment, which expedite an orderly flow of live-
5 stock products in interstate and foreign commerce.

6 (2) The Federal Government can lead by exam-
7 ple in the marketplace and encourage more humane
8 practices by purchasing products derived from live-
9 stock raised more humanely.

10 (b) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the
11 United States that the raising of livestock, including pigs,
12 cattle, chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, goats, horses,
13 mules, sheep, rabbits, ostriches, emus, rheas, and other
14 non-aquatic animals used, or intended for use, as food or
15 fiber or to produce food or fiber, shall be carried out only
16 by methods that promote animal welfare.

17 **SEC. 3. HUMANE METHODS FOR FEDERAL PROCUREMENT.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Government may not
19 purchase any product derived from a covered animal used
20 or intended for use as food or fiber or to produce food
21 or fiber unless such covered animal is raised in compliance
22 with subsection (b).

23 (b) COMPLIANCE.—A covered animal is raised in
24 compliance with this subsection only if the method of rais-
25 ing such covered animal provides—

1 (1) adequate shelter which allows sufficient
2 space for the covered animal to stand, lie down, get
3 up, walk, move his or her head freely, rest, and turn
4 around completely and fully extend all limbs or
5 wings without touching any part of an enclosure;

6 (2) daily access to adequate food and water suf-
7 ficient to ensure the health and well-being of the
8 covered animal without forced feeding or feed with-
9 drawal; and

10 (3) adequate veterinary care, including prompt
11 treatment or humane euthanasia of a sick or injured
12 covered animal.

13 **SEC. 4. EXEMPTIONS.**

14 Nothing in this Act shall apply to a covered animal—

15 (1) during lawful transport;

16 (2) in lawful rodeo exhibitions, State or county
17 fair exhibitions, or other similar exhibitions;

18 (3) in lawful scientific or agricultural research;

19 or

20 (4) while undergoing an examination, test,
21 treatment, or operation for veterinary purposes to
22 improve the well-being of such covered animal.

23 **SEC. 5. COVERED ANIMAL DEFINED.**

24 In this Act, the term “covered animal” means any
25 non-aquatic farm animal, including a pig, head of cattle,

1 chicken, turkey, duck, goose, goat, horse, mule, sheep, rab-
2 bit, ostrich, emu, or rhea.

3 **SEC. 6. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.**

4 Nothing in this Act shall modify, limit, or repeal any
5 law in effect upon the date of the enactment of this Act
6 or preempt any State or local law.

7 **SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

8 This Act shall take effect on the date that is two
9 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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