



Kate Harrison  
Councilmember  
District 4

## **SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIAL**

**Meeting Date:** January 19, 2021

**Item Number:** 24

**Item Description:** Urging food companies within Berkeley to implement the requirements of Proposition 12 as soon as possible

**Submitted by:** Harrison

Clarifying edits to the resolution language.



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CONSENT CALENDAR

January 19, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Kate Harrison

Subject: Urging food companies within Berkeley to implement the requirements of Proposition 12 as soon as possible

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution urging supermarkets, restaurants, and other food purveyors with locations in Berkeley, CA to voluntarily implement the requirements of Proposition 12 as soon as possible.

BACKGROUND

California's Proposition 12, the Prevention of Cruelty to Farm Animals Act, passed into law on the 2018 ballot. Voters approved Proposition 12 by an overwhelming 25-point margin. Alameda County voters approved Prop 12 by 71.6%.

Proposition 12 ensures that egg-laying hens, mother pigs, and calves used for veal are not confined in tiny cages, and that the products sold from these caged animals are not sold in the California marketplace.

The Proposition 12 mandate came into effect for calves used for veal on December 31, 2019, and the standards for egg-laying hens and mother pigs have an implementation date of December 31, 2021.

In passing Proposition 12, California voters sent a strong message against locking animals in cramped cages and do not want eggs, pork and veal sold in the city to be sourced from animals confined in small cages and raised in inhumane conditions.

Proposition 12 builds on the momentum of McDonald's, Walmart, Costco, and 200 other major food companies, as well as numerous small businesses, that have pledged to stop sourcing eggs and other animal products from animals forced to live in extreme confinement.

Multiple food corporations headquartered in California, such as Safeway, Chipotle, Taco Bell, Jack in the Box, IHOP, and Bon Appétit Management Company have also adopted cage-free policies.

There is a national trend to help curb factory farm abuses and move toward cage-free practices for raising egg-laying hens, mother pigs and calves used for veal.

In addition to California, eleven states have passed laws to phase out intensive confinement of farm animals.

The conditions required by Proposition 12 confer significant local benefits for food safety, public health and protection of the environment, as well as the humane treatment of animals.

Berkeley, CA is known for its social responsibility and humane values, including its adoption of the Fur Ban, Declawing Ban, and Meatless Mondays.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs, or “factory farms”) pack enormous numbers of animals into small spaces by confining egg-laying hens, mother pigs, and veal calves in cages so restrictive they are rendered virtually immobile. Factory farms are a leading cause of air and water pollution. The prestigious Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production released the results of a 2.5-year investigation into the problems associated with factory farming. The Commission found that the factory farming system “often poses unacceptable risks to public health, the environment and the welfare of the animals themselves.”

Proposition 12 helps reduce some of the worst environmental impacts of CAFOs. Encouraging companies to come into full compliance with Proposition 12 as soon as possible sends a strong message about the importance of protecting rivers, air and land from factory farms.

#### CONTACT PERSONS

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#### ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

URGING FOOD COMPANIES WITHIN BERKELEY TO VOLUNTARILY IMPLEMENT THE REQUIREMENTS OF PROPOSITION 12 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

WHEREAS, California's Proposition 12, the Prevention of Cruelty to Farm Animals Act, passed into law on the 2018 ballot; voters approved Proposition 12 by an overwhelming 25-point margin; and

WHEREAS, 71.6% of voters in Alameda County voted in favor of Proposition 12; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 12 ensures that egg-laying hens, mother pigs, and calves used for veal are not confined in tiny cages, and that the products sold from these caged animals are not sold in the California marketplace; and

WHEREAS, The Proposition 12 mandate came into effect for calves used for veal on December 31, 2019, and the egg-laying hens and mother pigs standards have an implementation date of December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, In passing Proposition 12, California and Berkeley voters sent a strong message against locking animals in cramped cages; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 12 builds on the momentum of McDonald's, Walmart, Costco, and 200 other major food companies, as well as numerous small businesses, that have pledged to stop sourcing eggs and other animal products from animals forced to live in extreme confinement; and

WHEREAS, Multiple food corporations headquartered in California, such as Safeway, Chipotle, Taco Bell, Jack in the Box, IHOP, and Bon Appétit Management Company have also adopted cage-free policies; and

WHEREAS, There is a national trend to help curb factory farm abuses and move toward cage-free practices for raising egg-laying hens, mother pigs and calves used for veal; and

WHEREAS, In addition to California, eleven states have passed laws to phase out intensive confinement of farm animals; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley, CA is known for its social responsibility and humane values, ~~including its adoption of the Fish Prize / Award Ban, Declawing Ban, and Meatless Mondays.~~

~~WHEREAS, The conditions required by Proposition 12 confer significant local benefits for food safety, public health and protection of the environment as well as the humane treatment of animals; and~~

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Berkeley hereby ~~calls up-~~  
~~enurges~~ supermarkets, restaurant ~~s-companies~~, and other ~~Berkeley food food corporations with~~

~~locations in Berkeley, CA~~ purveyors to implement the requirements of Proposition 12 as soon as possible

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council takes the monitoring and enforcement of animal cruelty laws seriously, and is committed to ensuring compliance of this important law.~~