
SENATE BILL 6628

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Thibaudeau, Goings and Prentice

Read first time 01/20/2000. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Rural Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to egg-laying hens; adding a new section to chapter
2 69.25 RCW; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

5 (1) Egg-laying hens are frequently subjected to cramped living
6 quarters;

7 (2) These cramped cages often lead to needless suffering for the
8 hens;

9 (3) The cramped conditions may cause health problems for the hens;

10 (4) Cramped living conditions for egg-laying hens, in battery
11 systems of cages, are cruel and should be improved; and

12 (5) Egg-laying hens should live in cages of adequate size to
13 accommodate their behavioral needs and allow them to move about within
14 the cage.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 69.25 RCW
16 to read as follows:

1 (1) No egg handler nor dealer shall, as of July 1, 2005, keep any
2 egg-laying hen in a cage with less than eighty-six square inches of
3 floor space per hen.

4 (2) The director shall adopt necessary rules to implement and
5 enforce this section.

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