



# The Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty

The Rt. Rev. James R. Mathes and The Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus have joined with the Humane Society of the United States in endorsing The Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act, a historic ballot initiative that could greatly improve the lives of millions of farm animals in California. Voters will have to make a decision whether to support this initiative in November.

No federal law protects animals from cruelty on the farm, and most states exempt customary agricultural practices – no matter how abusive – from the scope of their animal cruelty statutes. *The measure would simply ensure that farm animals in California are given enough room to turn around and extend their limbs. This modest requirement would prevent three of the most inhumane forms of confinement on factory farms: veal crates, battery cages and gestation crates.*



Gestation Crates for Female Pigs

We hope you will join us in supporting this important and historic initiative.

For more information, please visit, [humanecalifornia.org](http://humanecalifornia.org) or contact the Episcopal Network for Animal Welfare, [enaw.org](http://enaw.org).

**The Episcopal Church** adopted an important resolution on animals at the 2003 General Convention which "encourages its members to ensure that husbandry methods for captive and domestic animals would prohibit suffering in such conditions as puppy mills, and factory farms... [and committed to] educating its members to adhere to ethical standards in the care and treatment of animals [and]... advocating for legislation protecting animals..." (GC 2003 – D016: Support Ethical Care of Animals)

Florida, Arizona, and Oregon have banned gestation crates, and Arizona has also banned veal crates. Major California companies are moving away from supporting battery cages and veal and gestation crates. The entire European Union has banned battery cages, veal crates, and gestation crates.



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