

THE DAIRY PRACTICE COUNCIL 41ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ANIMAL WELFARE CHALLENGE (OHIO'S PERSPECTIVE)

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Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Agenda

- Background
- Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board
- Ongoing efforts
- Ongoing challenges

History

Bans the
confinement
of pigs in
small crates

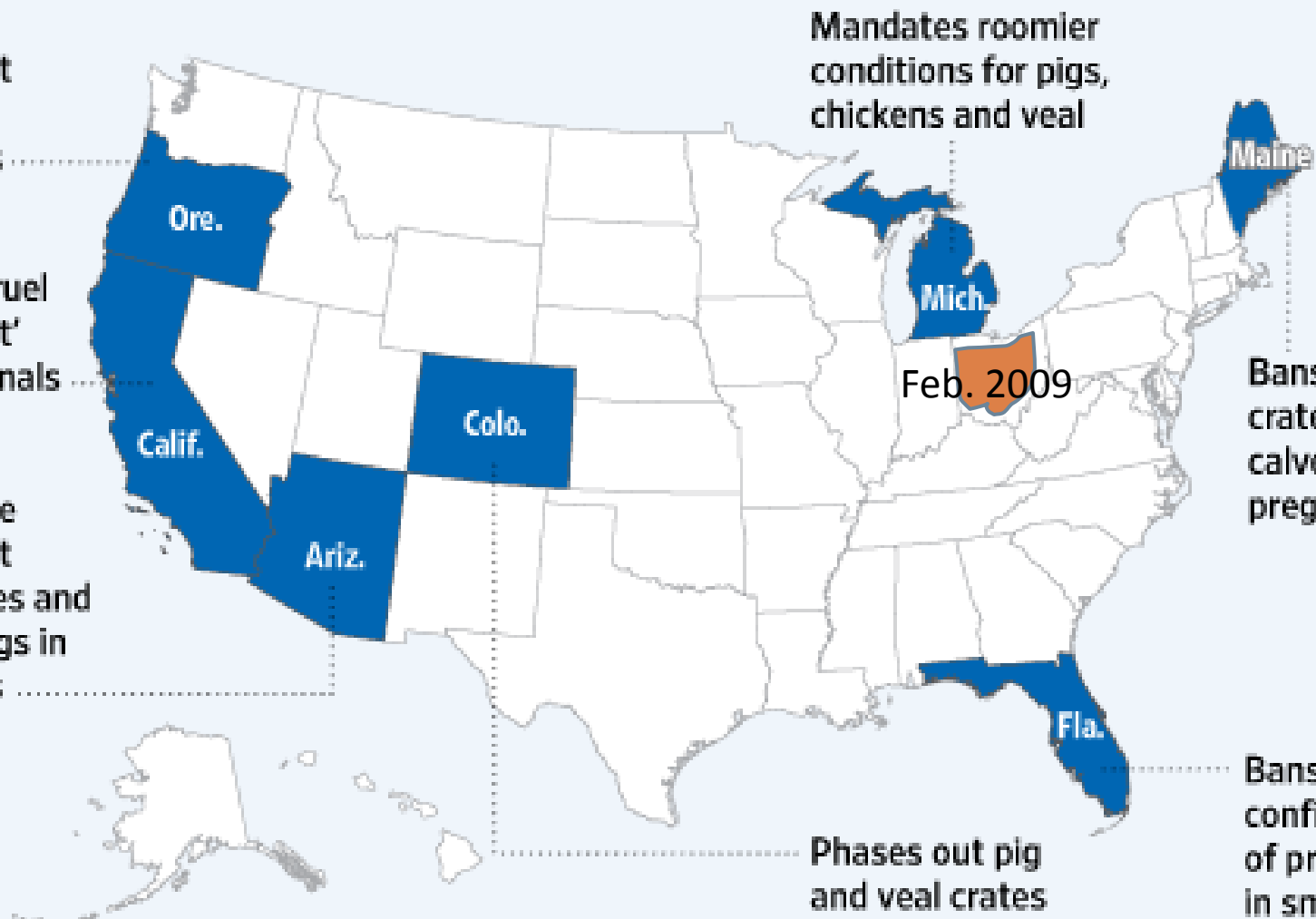
Prohibits 'cruel
confinement'
of farm animals

Prohibits the
confinement
of veal calves and
pregnant pigs in
small crates

Mandates roomier
conditions for pigs,
chickens and veal

Bans small
crates for veal
calves and
pregnant pigs

Bans the
confinement
of pregnant pigs
in small crates



Phases out pig
and veal crates

The Plan – A Proactive Approach

- ❑ Place Ohio Constitutional Amendment on the 2009 ballot – “Issue 2”
- ❑ Creates
 - ▣ Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board
 - ▣ 13 member panel
 - ▣ States how they are named
 - ▣ Describes relationship with General Assembly
 - ▣ Implementing Legislation needed



What will the board do?

Set standards for the care and well-being of livestock and poultry in Ohio:

- Maintain food safety
- Protect locally grown and raised food
- Make decisions based on fact, science and data

In setting standards, they must consider.....

- Overall animal health
- On-farm biosecurity
- Animal disease prevention
- Food safety
- Affordability of food supplies
- Best farm management practices
- Animal morbidity /mortality data



Excellent care for animals

2010: Here They Come Again

- HSUS:
 - ▣ Originally chose not to support and work with board or the process
 - ▣ Proposed their own measure to force board outcomes
- Petition language was certified and started gathering signatures
- To get measure on the November 2010 ballot
 - ▣ 402,275 valid signatures are needed by 6/30
- Established Ohioans for Humane Farms to operate the campaign

Petition Language

- Minimum standards to prevent “inhumane” treatment of farm animals
- Prohibits “tethering or confining any calf raised for veal, pig during pregnancy, or egg-laying hen, . . . In a manner that prevents such animal from lying down, standing up, fully extending his or her limbs, or turning around freely.”
 - Exempts research, exam/treatment for veterinary purposes, exhibitions, slaughter, pregnant sow 7 days prior to expected due date

Petition Language

- Requirement to “ensure that all on-farm killing of cows or pigs be performed in a humane manner using methods explicitly deemed “Acceptable’ by the AVMA”
 - ▣ Includes a “prohibition on strangulation of cows and pigs as a form of euthanasia”
 - Never has been an acceptable form of euthanasia
- Prohibits “engaging in the transport, sale, or receipt, for use in the human food supply, of any cow or calf too sick or injured to stand and walk.”
 - ▣ CFR 309.3 already prohibits non-ambulatory cattle from entering the human food chain

June 30th Agreement

- Gov. Strickland brought all parties to the table; Ohioans for Livestock Care (Farm Bureau, Cattlemen's, Pork, Poultry, Dairy, Soy, Corn) and HSUS.
- Agriculture's negotiation principles:
 - ▣ Ag unity would not be compromised
 - ▣ Maintain support for LCSB, protect its authority and operations
 - ▣ Maintain positive business climate for Ohio farmers - do not put them at a competitive disadvantage
 - ▣ Maintain benefits of bi-partisan support for Ohio agriculture
 - ▣ Continue to forge a partnership between farmers and consumers
- A good faith agreement, list of recommendations

June 30th Agreement

- Avoided a ballot initiative for 2010.
- HSUS will support the mission and purpose of the LCSB.
- Joint funding for research on livestock housing systems.

Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board

- November 2009
 - ▣ Passage of Issue 2; creation of the Ohio Livestock Care Board (OLCSB)
- March 31, 2010
 - ▣ H.B. 414 signed by Gov. Strickland
- April 27, 2010
 - ▣ OLCSB members take oath of office
- May 2010
 - ▣ 6 regional public listening sessions
- June 1, 2010
 - ▣ 1st meeting held to start discussing issues and plan of work.

OLCSB Activities

- Meeting every 2 weeks since June 1, 2010
 - ▣ Averaging more than 1 meeting every other day
- Established a committee structure to assist in the evaluation of standards
 - ▣ Technical Research Advisory Committee (TRAC)
 - ▣ Species-specific subcommittees
- Identified early euthanasia and non-ambulatory animals as priority issues.
- Have voted on an euthanasia document and a civil penalties document which starts the formal part of the rule making process.



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Welcome to the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board

In November of 2009, Ohioans overwhelmingly supported the passage of State Issue 2, approving the creation of the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board. This vote demonstrated Ohioans support for keeping the state's number one industry—food and agriculture—vibrant and strong. The board's purpose is to create state standards for the care and well-being of livestock in Ohio.

The board seeks to serve Ohioans by creating comprehensive livestock care standards that will not only assure better livestock care, but will also support the state's overarching policies to promote safe and affordable food, help prevent the outbreak of both animal and human diseases and will encourage local food production.

Through an open and transparent process, the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board is eager to hear from Ohio citizens regarding this issue. By doing so, the board is hopeful to strengthen the connection between Ohio's farm families and its consumers.



Governor Strickland signs HB 414

Governor Strickland signs legislation creating the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board.

Updates

Response to animal abuse video

The Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board joins its fellow Ohioans, and people all over the world, in expressing anger over the images in the recent video released about the Conklin Dairy Farm. [Read more...](#)

Meetings and Events

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board Meeting
Ohio Department of Agriculture

Monday, June 28, 2010

Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board Veal Subcommittee Meeting

Current News



RSS

Ongoing Efforts

- Ohio Livestock Coalition
 - ▣ Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission
- Quality Assurance Programs in our commodity groups
- OFBF; Center for Food and Animal Issues
 - ▣ Animals for Life Foundation
- The Ohio State University
 - ▣ Animal Sciences Department
 - ▣ College of Veterinary Medicine
 - ▣ The Animal Welfare Centre
 - University of Melbourne, Monash University



Ongoing Challenge



Paul Shapiro HSUS advocates for veganism in 2003.flv.flv

Thank you

QUESTIONS