1509 Ponce de Leone Ave,
Atlanta, G.A. 30307

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Lyle D. Jaffe, Dockets Management
FDA/DHHS, 12420 Parklawn Dr., Room
1-23, Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Lyle D. Jaffe,

MY name is Carl Becker and I an a student at the Paideia School. I heard about the starved and abused hens. Their lives are already bad enough. They are stuffed into a little house and starved for up to two weeks so that they would lay more eggs. They are tricked into laying more eggs by not receiving food and water for weeks.

Researchers have found hundreds of thousands of hens dying slowly from starvation. After the hens receive this horrible treatment, they grow weak and lose up to 35 Percent of their body weight. By doing this it throws the hens' cycle off. They lose their feathers which brings their weak bodies back into laying cycle. To stop the hens from pecking each other from desperation, the workers slice

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off the chicks' beak with a hot blade; sometimes they cut off parts of the birds' tongues or faces.

There are 260 million hens in North America are suffering from this kind of treatment. The hens are scared and crowded into cages with rotting corpses and manure covered feathers. They try and try to eat, but their trays are empty. Some even eat feathers if they get too hungry. Forced molting weakens their bones. It's so bad that it was banned from Great Britain and most European countries in 1987. They also can not starve the hens for more than 24 hours.

I object to the forced molting of laying hens! Please put a stop to this cruel procedure.

Sincerely,

Carl Becker

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