March 30, 1999

3100 '99 APR -5 A10:55

Dear Folks,

I am writing to urge you most strongly to make a decision to ban the forced molting of "laying" hens. Molts last about 12 days during which time the hens are not fed; when the chickens are finally fed, many choke to death because they try to eat too much too soon. This is total cruelty and must be stopped.

Besides being cruel to the birds forced molting increases the spread of Salmonella Enteritidis infection.

So for the sake of humans and innocent birds I urge you to grant the petition filed under docket #98P-0203/CP

Sincerely for the Humane Treatment of all God's Creatures

98P-0203

C 708

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