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Dear FDA,

I was appalled and extremely 5806 '99 AUG 13 P4:52 to read about the chicken industries' common and inhumane practice of starving chickens for 14 days in order to increase egg production.

By allowing this cruel practice, you are not only destroying the hens natural immune system, but also are jeopardizing human health.

Scientic studies have shown that eggs produced under these unnatural and cruel conditions are often diseased and contain unacceptable levels of bacteria which lead to salmonella poisonings. Why do you continue to allow this dangerous practice to occur? As the official regulatory agency, I urge you to immediately ban the forced molting practices that presently exist in the uncaring factory farms of America, where money and profit are the main concern.

Animals are sentient, feeling creatures. Although they cannot talk for themselves, they have a fundamental right to a cruel-free and stress-free existence. Please vote to end this practice. Your reply would be appreciated. Carmela Turi

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ C192

See File Number: 97P-0197/ C193

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