



Agenda

Animal Law Symposium: State Confinement Laws and the Future of Farmed Animal Policy

April 5-6, 2024

Friday, April 5th, 2024

9:00 a.m. PT / 12:00 p.m. ET - Introductory remarks

Chris Green, Executive Director, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

Kim Kelly, Legislative Affairs Program Director, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

9:00 – 10:15 a.m. PT / 12:00 – 1:15 p.m. ET - Panel 1

Laying the Groundwork for Farmed Animal Protection: State-level Anti-confinement Initiatives

Over the past two decades, states have enacted numerous laws and regulations to prohibit the extreme confinement of farmed animals. This has been accomplished by state legislatures, state regulatory agencies, and via ballot initiative. Though the process has been different in each state, these laws and regulations have helped to shift the animal agriculture industry toward a model that reduces both animal suffering and the risk of zoonotic disease transmission. This panel will discuss the current landscape of state-level anti-confinement laws and the processes for passing and protecting those laws, with a special emphasis on how the ballot initiative process can be utilized to protect farmed animals.

Josh Balk, Chief Executive Officer, *The Accountability Board*

Brian Hackett, Director of Government and Community Relations, *Associated Humane Societies*

Stephanie Harris, Senior Legislative Affairs Manager, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

Moderator: Chris Green, Executive Director, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. PT/1:15 – 1:30 p.m. ET – Break

10:30 – 11:45 a.m. PT / 1:30 – 2:45 p.m. ET - Panel 2

Protecting State Laws: Litigation to Defend Proposition 12 and Question 3

California's Proposition 12, which prohibits the raising of and sale of products from mother pigs, chickens used in egg production, and calves raised for veal in extreme confinement, has been the subject of litigation, rising all the way to the Supreme Court of the United States. In May 2023, the Supreme Court ruled that Proposition 12 was constitutional, validating the law and setting precedent for others like it. Massachusetts' Question 3, a similar law, is currently being challenged. This panel explores the legal challenges, constitutional considerations, and litigation strategy employed by those defending state anti-confinement laws.

Scott Ballenger, Assistant Professor of Law, *University of Virginia School of Law*

Rebecca Cary, Special Counsel, Farm Animals, *The Humane Society of the United States*

Kelsey Eberly, Senior Attorney, *FarmSTAND*

Ashton MacFarlane, Brooks Institute Emerging Scholars Fellow, *Harvard Law School*

Moderator: Amanda Howell, Managing Attorney, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

Saturday, April 6th, 2024

9:00 – 10:30 a.m. PT / 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. ET - Panel 1

Congressional Response: The EATS Act and Other Efforts to Negate State-level Progress for Farmed Animals

Litigation isn't the only threat to state-level anti-confinement laws. Legislation designed to preempt and invalidate these laws has been introduced in several Congresses, culminating in the most recent, "Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act," which could nullify hundreds of state-level agriculture laws. This panel discusses the EATS Act, how it could jeopardize laws like California's Proposition 12, how the Farm Bill factors in, and the history of this legislation.

Ann Linder, Associate Director of Policy & Research, *Harvard Law School*

Kelley McGill, Legislative Policy Fellow with the Brooks McCormick Jr. Animal Law & Policy Program, *Harvard Law School*

Alicia Prygoski, Strategic Legislative Affairs Manager, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

Ann Sherman, Solicitor General, *Michigan Department of the Attorney General*

Moderator: Chris Green, Executive Director, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. PT/1:30 – 1:45 p.m. ET –Break

10:45 – 12:00 p.m. PT / 1:45 – 3:00 p.m. ET - Panel 2

Looking Ahead: The Future of Farmed Animal Confinement Bans and Advocacy Efforts to Protect Them

There is significant momentum for state-level bans on extreme confinement of farmed animals, and states continue to introduce and pass these laws. At the same time, litigation and legislative efforts to invalidate them continue as well. This panel examines the future of farmed animal confinement bans at the state level, what experts anticipate at the federal level with the current Farm Bill process underway, and the role that advocates can play in protecting and advancing state and local laws to protect farmed animals.

Alexandra Bookis, Senior Manager of U.S. Government Affairs, *Farm Sanctuary*

Matt Rossell, Campaigns Manager, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

Gabriel Wildgen, Director of Public Policy, *The Humane League*

Moderator: Kathleen Schatzmann, Strategic Legislative Affairs Manager, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*

Conclusory remarks

Chris Green, Executive Director, *Animal Legal Defense Fund*