



HB 374 ATTEMPTS TO SUPPRESS FREE SPEECH ABOUT FARM ANIMALS



A bill introduced early in the legislative session seeks to hold a person liable for voicing concerns about the safety of food from animals raised on factory farms. The language in this bill is similar to an existing law in Texas that resulted in Oprah Winfrey being sued for speaking out about Mad Cow disease. While Oprah had the financial resources to prevail in the lawsuit filed against her, this bill is clearly intended to intimidate other individuals from speaking out. HB 374 is a blatant attempt to quell criticism of unhealthy practices at factory farms such as the excessive and injudicious use of antibiotics on pigs raised for human consumption. Pigs in factory farms often require large doses of antibiotics due to the unsanitary and stressful living conditions.



HB 374 is a clear example of the bills the Alliance will be confronting this year in the Legislature. This is why your support and help is so badly needed this year. Please contact your state representative and state senator and let them know that you oppose HB 374 and any other efforts to deny citizens their right to free speech. We will keep you abreast of this bill as well as other harmful legislation that has been introduced to weaken our laws protecting animals.

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