

VICTORY FOR CHICKENS



A federal judge has dismissed a lawsuit brought by 6 states, including Missouri, which sought to overturn California rules requiring more space for egg-laying hens. Missouri, as well as other Midwestern and Southern states, export a large number of eggs to California. Currently, more than 90% of egg laying hens are crammed into tiny cages with space smaller than a sheet of paper on which to live. Starting in January, any facility that ships eggs to California has to comply with the increased space requirements including enough space for the birds to at least extend their wings.

Agricultural groups in Missouri were opposed to providing hens with more space and pressured state officials to sue California so that they could continue to keep hens in cramped quarters. Fortunately, the court ruled in favor of the chickens and anyone producing eggs for California will now have to provide their birds with humane living space.



Current housing for most hens