

# Will Chicago Flip-Flop on Animal Cruelty?



CITIZENS INITIATIVE FOR THE BANNING OF FORCE FEEDING

**O**N APRIL 26, CHICAGO'S CITY COUNCIL BECAME A GLOBAL LEADER IN THE fight against cruelty when—by a landslide vote of 48 to 1—it joined California and 15 countries in passing laws against “foie gras.” Chicagoans believe shoving pipes down birds’ throats and force-feeding them until their livers expand more than 10 times their normal size is just too inhumane to swallow.

**Now some lawmakers want to flip-flop and bring animal cruelty back to Chicago.**

**JOIN MANY OTHERS IN SPEAKING OUT AGAINST FORCE-FEEDING!**

*“I was proud ... that the city of Chicago had banned the sale of foie gras. Now I understand the foie gras ban is in danger of repeal. Someone on the City Council spoke of fearing that Chicago would become a ‘laughingstock.’ I fear the opposite. Because Chicago, for once, has led the nation in conscience legislation. But if that vote is now reversed, we will become the first major city in the country to vote for cruelty to animals.”*

—Paul Harvey

*“If anyone, anywhere is singling out Chicago’s recent ban on foie gras and using it as an excuse to laugh at the way we do things here, that person is an idiot.... Since when do we cave in to peer pressure from lesser cities? ... I’ll tell you what will turn us into a laughingstock: If our City Council repeals an ordinance that it passed 48-1 in April because the aldermen suffer from fragile self-esteem.”*

—Eric Zorn, The Chicago Tribune

*“Certainly, a sort of industrial use of creatures, so that geese are fed in such a way as to produce as large a liver as possible ... this degrading of living creatures to a commodity seems to me in fact to contradict the relationship of mutuality that comes across in the Bible.”*

—Pope Benedict XVI

*“This process is a cruel abuse of the ... responsibility given to human[s] ... to care for the creation entrusted to them. As such it violates the dignity of those involved in the manufacturing process as well as those who engage in its commerce.”*

—Dr. John M. Haas, President,  
National Catholic Bioethics Center

*“The cruelty inflicted on animals in the production of foie gras is unspeakable: It is undeniably disgusting in the eyes of God and in the eyes of any civilized person.... We are obligated to make sure that ... we do not live in a city or a society that allows for morally disgusting procedures to exist or be encouraged.”*

—Rabbi Asher Lopatin, Anshe Sholom  
B’nai Israel Congregation, Chicago

**The Humane Society of the United States, the nation’s largest animal protection organization with nearly 10 million members and supporters—including 65,656 in the city of Chicago—joins Farm Sanctuary in urging lawmakers to keep the ban on foie gras and reject any attempt at repeal.**

**Please call 311 to thank your alderman for voting against cruelty. Tell your alderman that repealing this humane law would be just as tough to swallow as the cruel force-feeding of birds.**



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES**

2100 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037  
202-452-1100 ■ www.hsus.org