

**STATEMENT OF OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED “AG-GAG” LAWS
FROM BROAD SPECTRUM OF INTEREST GROUPS**

We, the undersigned group of civil liberties, public health, food safety, environmental, food justice, animal welfare, legal, workers’ rights, journalism, and First Amendment organizations and individuals, hereby state our opposition to proposed whistleblower suppression laws, known as “ag-gag” bills, being introduced in states around the country. These bills seek to criminalize investigations of farms that reveal critical information about the production of animal products.

These bills represent a wholesale assault on many fundamental values shared by all people across the United States. Not only would these bills perpetuate animal abuse on industrial farms, they would also threaten workers’ rights, consumer health and safety, law enforcement investigations and the freedom of journalists, employees and the public at large to share information about something as fundamental as our food supply. We call on state legislators around the nation to drop or vote against these dangerous and un-American efforts.

American Civil Liberties Union

Center for Science in the Public Interest

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)

Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana

Amnesty International

Clean Water Network

Animal Legal Defense Fund

Compassion In World Farming

Animal Welfare Institute

Compassion Over Killing

Association of Prosecuting Attorneys

The Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund

A Well-Fed World

Consumer Federation of America

Best Friends Animal Society

Consumers Union

Brighter Green

The Cornucopia Institute

Buckeye Forest Council

Defending Dissent Foundation

Center for Constitutional Rights

Earth Policy Institute

Center for Effective Government

Earth Save

Center for Food Safety

Environmental Integrity Project

Center for Justice & Democracy

Equal Justice Alliance

Farm Animal Rights Movement
Farm Forward
Farm Sanctuary
Farm-to-Consumer Legal Defense Fund
Farmworker Justice
Food and Water Watch
Food Chain Workers Alliance
Food Empowerment Project
Government Accountability Project
Green Environmental Coalition
Hoosier Environmental Council
Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association
Human Rights Watch
Illinois Environmental Council
In Defense of Animals
International Labor Rights Forum
League of Humane Voters
Mercy For Animals
National Consumers League
National Council for Occupational Safety and Health
National District Attorneys Association
National Employment Law Project
National Freedom of Information Coalition
National Press Photographers Association
National Young Farmers' Coalition
Natural Resources Defense Council
Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest
Ohio Environmental Council
Organic Consumers Association
Public Justice Center
R Street Institute
Sierra Club
Slow Food USA
Socially Responsible Agricultural Project
Southern Poverty Law Center
Stewards of the Land
Student Action With Farmworkers
STOP (Stop Foodborne Illness)
T. Colin Campbell Foundation
The Farmworker Support Committee
The Humane Society of the United States
Unitarian Universalist Animal Ministry
United Farm Workers
United Food and Commercial Workers International Union
United Support and Memorial for Workplace Fatalities
Whistleblower Support Fund
Youth for Environmental Sanity