



Consumer Federation of America

March 6, 2012

**Consumer Federation of America Statement on
Egg Products Inspection Act Amendments of 2012**

The Consumer Federation of America (CFA) is an association of nearly 300 nonprofit consumer organizations that was established in 1968 to advance the consumer interest through research, advocacy and education. CFA supports H.R. 3798, the Egg Products Inspection Act Amendments of 2012, which would require the production-method labeling of egg cartons, prohibit excessive henhouse ammonia levels, stop the forced starvation molting of laying hens, and nearly double hens' allotted living space. Together, these changes would advance the consumer interest by improving the housing and treatment of egg laying hens, and providing consumers with specific information about the conditions under which eggs were produced.

National surveys show the public expresses abundant concern about the treatment of farm animals. The labeling on all egg cartons nationwide to inform consumers of the method used to produce the eggs, as provided in H.R. 3798 – “eggs from caged hens,” “eggs from hens in enriched cages,” “eggs from cage-free hens,” or “eggs from free-range hens” – empowers consumer choice, helping shoppers avoid eggs raised under conditions that compromise animal welfare. The legislation’s requirement to increase hens’ allotted living space may also improve food safety by reducing the stocking density in cages, which has been associated with higher *Salmonella* risk in livestock.

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