



Rhode Island Livestock Welfare & Care Standards Advisory Council

Rhode Island Livestock and Care Standards Advisory Council Minutes February 12, 2014

Members Present: Chairman Scott Marshall, State Vet, Secretary Al Bettencourt, RI Farm Bureau, Joe Warzycha, RISPCA, Christie Smith, Potter League, Rick Rhodes, URI, Debora Bresch, ASPCA

Guests: Eli Berkowitz, Ken Klippen, Bruce Friedrich, Chris Hannafin and Ken Ayars.

Members Not Present: Louis Vinagro, RI Raised Livestock,

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:05

Discussion of bills to ban or limit Battery Cages for chickens:

A presentation on a proposal drafted by the ASPCA to ban battery cages, was made by Debora Bresch with supporting testimony by Bruce Friedrich. Presentations opposing a bill that would ban battery cages were made by Eli Berkowitz and Ken Klippen. Chris Hannafin also made comments. Council members asked questions of all presenters. The council also considered S-2139, a bill that has been introduced into the RI General Assembly, but that has not been referred to the Council, that would ban the use of battery cages. The Council decided not to take any action on S-2139 until they were asked to by the RI General Assembly. The Council also decided to table the proposal by the ASPCA for further discussion at the next meeting.

Guidelines for Animal Care: The proposed adoption of Guidelines on Animal Care will be discussed at a future meeting.

Adjournment: The next meeting was scheduled for March 19th at 1:00. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00.

Respectfully Submitted:

Al Bettencourt
Secretary