



## 2010 LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING & LOBBYING COMPETITION PROBLEM

You are a lobbyist for Americans for Farm Animal Welfare (AFAW), a national organization with 780,000 members, whose mission is to advance protections for farm animals through litigation, legislation, and public education campaigns. AFAW's programs include public education regarding modern farming methods that intensely confine animals and deprive them of their natural behaviors, development of demand for cage-free eggs, crate-free meat and vegetarian alternatives, and support for like-minded producers through grants, funding of scientific research, and market capacity building. While not identifying itself as a "vegetarian organization," AFAW embraces all efforts to shift consumer demand away from inhumane farming methods. Your CEO, Bart Barker, is a well-known, outspoken ethical vegan but your Executive Vice President, Cecily Swiner, has her own small farm where she produces heritage species of pork using hoop barns and slaughters her animals onsite. AFAW has a strong and developing following within the academic community, a small but committed cadre of producers who have taken a stand against industry giants in favor of humane methods, and a loyal and growing network of activists who are trained in grassroots organizing, coalition-building and lobbying at the local, state and federal level.

The Coalition's executive director tells you to develop the case for and introduce a federal bill to prohibit three types of confinement – confinement of egg-laying hens in battery cages, confinement of sows in gestation crates, and confinement of veal calves in veal crates. California recently passed a ballot measure, the California Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act (Proposition 2) that you can model your law after. You are instructed to:

1. Draft a bill that will ban battery cages, gestation crates and veal crates;
  - Determine the appropriate vehicle for an amendment
  - Set appropriate penalties
  - Establish an appropriate phase-in period
2. Create a one-page fact sheet for your bill; and
3. Approach members for their sponsorship, cosponsorship, and their votes.

### Rules:

- The length of the bill is discretionary, but 1-5 pages is appropriate.
- Inclusion of "findings" at the beginning of the bill is also discretionary. Findings are included to be persuasive, but they are sometimes attacked by legislators and opponents of a bill.
- Your bill number is designated by Congress H.R. 220.
- You must submit a draft of your bill and fact sheet by email to Laura Handzel, Competition Administrator, at [lhandezel@lclark.edu](mailto:lhandezel@lclark.edu) by midnight (12:00 a.m.) Pacific Standard Time on January 22, 2010. You will be lobbying for your bill on the day of the competition: Saturday, February 6, 2010.

For further assistance (including background information, competition rules, sample fact sheets, and tips for lobbying), visit the links provided on the competition website:  
[www.nationalanimallawcompetitions.org](http://www.nationalanimallawcompetitions.org).



## LOBBYING ROUNDS

### ROUND 1

**ROOM TBA on competition website – You are meeting with Representative Chapman (D-CA) and his staff to request that he introduce your bill.**

**REPRESENTATIVE CHAPMAN (D-CA)** – A moderate Democrat with a very strong pro-animal and human rights record, Rep. Chapman’s district is suburban, with some urban areas, and she is the Chairman of the Government Oversight Committee. She grew up on a family farm where she was responsible for caring for the chickens and pigs and always felt that while it was an idyllic lifestyle and her animals did not suffer, it was still hard to send them to slaughter. She decided to develop an offshoot of the family business, cultivating organic grapes and became an extremely successful winegrower. The family farm is now known as “Chapman Hills Vintners” - known as the home of one of California’s most famous brands of pinot noir. Her daughter, Pamela Chapman, just recently became a well-known Hollywood actress and visits her in DC with her entourage of celebrity friends and groupies, attracting mostly welcome attention to her causes. Pamela is a People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) star – posing naked to demonstrate her commitment against fur and gaining world-wide attention to her cause. She has just agreed to do a PSA for AFAW about farm animal welfare.

Rep. Chapman has never been the lead on an animal protection bill before, but has a 100% voting record on the Humane Scorecard (a publication produced by The Humane Society of the United States and the Humane Society Legislative Fund ranking members according to their votes and cosponsorship). She is well-respected among her peers for her congeniality and passionate oratory style, as well as for her ability to organize her party around critical votes. She went to Trinity College in Washington D.C. where she became good friends with Nancy Pelloni, now the Speaker of the House. They are delighted to be serving in Congress together.

**Background information for your meeting:** You have already spoken with the Chief of Staff for Republican Representative Bill Scott, a pro-animal legislator in his first term representing an urban district of Washington state, and he is interested in being the Republican lead with Representative Chapman as the Democratic lead, if she will agree to be the primary lead and to do most of the legwork on the bill (gathering cosponsors, lobbying the chair for a hearing, organizing a briefing, etc). Representative Scott’s district is home to the West Coast’s largest organic farm. He has taken a personal interest in the issue after adopting a pot belly pig, Norman. He also sits on the Agriculture Committee. You have learned that he is a close personal friend of Representative Billie Neckred (D-MN), chair of the House Agriculture Committee, and they frequently take quail hunting trips in Texas together.

**Your goal for the meeting with Rep. Chapman: You are seeking her commitment to be the primary Democratic sponsor of your bill.**



## **ROUND 2**

**ROOM TBA on competition website – You are meeting with Representative Williams to ask her to cosponsor your bill.**

At this stage, H.R. 220, the Chapman-Scott bill, has been introduced and you now have 45 cosponsors in the House and 10 in the Senate. You need to build your cosponsor list to get the bill ready for committee and floor action.

**REPRESENTATIVE MARY SUE WILLIAMS (R-MO):** From the 1<sup>ST</sup> district of Missouri, an extremely rural district with several agricultural industries, Rep. Williams is a moderate Republican with many donors from the agriculture community. Some industry leaders have been vocal about animal rights groups who are trying to shut down their businesses, and one farm there was recently exposed when a local activist took footage illegally showing chickens being tortured to death and pigs with large open wounds immobilized in gestation crates. Through a high donor, you have attempted to secure the support, or at least the neutrality, of the state Department of Agriculture, but have not been able to obtain a meeting with them yet. You do have a strong advocate for your cause in the state's Republican party leadership, Mr. Foghorn, who sits on your board and who has provided tremendous financial support to the Republican party and to Rep. Williams. He holds lavish fundraising events for her in St. Louis where he advocates for animal adoption from shelters and organic farming methods. He always has someone from your group attending and handing out fact sheets about animal welfare. He is a former veterinarian and has strong relationships with others in the Veterinary Caucus. He also is a bit of an eccentric, with many rescued animals living in his own home with him and his wife. His wife is from an elite and wealthy family in the state and they own many of the major newspapers in the state. Rep. Williams has aspirations to run for an open Senate seat in the next election cycle, so she is in intense campaign mode and is looking for positive press – especially in the more urban areas of her state.

**Your goal for the meeting with Rep. Williams: You are seeking her cosponsorship of H.R. 220. You've secured a 10 minute personal meeting with the Representative through Mr. Foghorn, who will not be able to attend.**



### **ROUND 3**

**ROOM TBA on competition website – You are meeting with Representative Neckred, the Chair of the House Agriculture Committee, to request a hearing and a mark-up (a vote) for your bill.**

At this stage, your bill has been introduced and has 222 cosponsors in the House and 48 in the Senate, but has not had a hearing or a mark-up yet.

**Representative Billie Neckred (D-AL):** The chairman of the House Agriculture Committee is a known adversary of your organization. She is generally offended by any organization that wants to promote animal protection and reacts defensively to legislation that “elevates animals over people,” as she often will tell the press. Her rural Alabama district is one where you have 81 members and you have a good relationship with the local newspaper (the editor of the *Huntsville Times* is one of your biggest supporters). Chairman Neckred has often cited information from the Center for Consumer Freedom’s website when your bills come up, claiming that animal protection groups are extremist and are connected to terrorism. The Chairman is a very religious person who respects Christian conservative values and she is known for her primary political agenda of protecting the agriculture industry and corporate interests. You know that Matthew Scully has written *Dominion*, a book that might be useful for your meeting. You are well aware, given her past hostilities to your organization, that this meeting will be difficult, but you hope to neutralize her concerns enough that she will allow the bill to pass, even if you cannot win her support. While she and Representative Chapman have differing views, they are fairly good friends, so you have hope she will be interested in helping the bill for the friendship’s sake, if not for her own reasons.

**Your goal for the meeting with Rep. Neckred: You want her to give your bill a fair hearing and allow a vote out of the House Agriculture Committee.**



## **FINAL ROUND**

**ROOM TBA on competition website - You are requesting a “Yes” vote on the House floor from a legislator who has not yet signed on as a cosponsor.**

At this stage, your bill has been introduced and has 222 cosponsors in the House and 48 in the Senate, but the Chair in each committee is not willing to move the bill. You know you need to bypass the committee structure if you wish to pass your legislation.

Your research indicates that the government provides \$5 million of federal money to national industry associations for the purchase of battery cages and gestation cages at large, factory farms as a form of agricultural aid.

The House Agriculture Appropriations bill is coming to the floor next week and you are going to attempt to convert your bill to an amendment to the appropriations bill to be offered on the House floor using this language: *“No funds provided in this Act may be used for the purchase of battery cages for egg-laying hens or crates for pregnant sows or veal calves.”*

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THIS LEGISLATOR WILL BE PROVIDED BEFORE THE FINAL ROUND OF THE COMPETITION.**