

FROM THE DESK OF CHRISTINE CHAVEZ

December 6, 2006

San Diego City Council
10th Floor
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Support for a ban on foie gras due to extreme animal cruelty

Dear Members of the Natural Resources and Culture Committee:

I am writing to encourage you to support the proposed ordinance to end the sale of foie gras in San Diego.

My grandfather, Cesar Chavez, founded the United Farm Workers, and he used his voice to speak out not only against exploitation of workers in the fields, but also against animal cruelty, which he saw as being cut from the same fabric: violence. My colleagues and I continue his work based on the example he set.

Our society is negatively affected by cruelty wherever it occurs. Animal cruelty, like abuse of any vulnerable group, impacts all of society.

Foie gras is produced by forcibly inserting metal pipes down the throats of ducks or geese to feed them massive quantities of food which enlarge their livers to 10 times normal size, resulting in ruptured internal organs, inability to walk, and other debilitating injuries. **This process is so cruel that it has been banned in 15 countries, and the sale and production of foie gras will be illegal in California starting in 2012.**

There is no justification for this abuse, and I urge you to vote in favor of banning the sale of foie gras in San Diego without waiting six more years for the state law to go into effect. If you have any questions please contact me at 213-216-3519.

Sincerely,

Christine Chavez
ActionImpact.org