

## **GO CAGE-FREE IN 5777**

## The United States is reaching a tipping point on eggs.

With one small change, you can make a real difference in improving the lives of millions of hens. We're close to winning, but we need you!



**Why care about cage-free eggs?** More than 90% of hens in the U.S. are packed into tiny cages. Barely able to move, they suffer injuries, disease, and extreme distress. Cage-free hens can walk, spread their wings, and lay eggs in nesting spaces and generally live far better lives than caged hens. There's more we can do for hens, but cage-free is where we start!

**Is this a Jewish issue?** Jewish tradition mandates compassion for all creatures, and the mitzvah of *tza'ar ba'alei chayim* specifically forbids causing animals unnecessary suffering. Mistreating hens clearly contradicts this value. Jewish organizations serve large amounts of food and can make a tangible impact by changing the eggs they buy.

**Why now?** Four states have passed legislation forbidding cruel battery cages on farms, with more to come. In November, Massachusetts will vote on a ban on even *selling* such eggs, which could have a massive ripple effect. The industry is on the verge of change, and consumer pressure right now can tip the scales.

- ★ Buy Cage-Free Eggs: Visit BuyingPoultry.com to find cage-free brands, or look for "USDA Certified Organic," "Certfied Humane," or "Animal Welfare Approved" on egg cartons at the grocery store.
- ★ Take the Pledge: Commit your Jewish organization or household to going cage-free this year with a simple <u>pledge</u> on Hazon's website.

## Visit hazon.org/cage-free to start your switch to cage-free!

Questions? Contact Hazon at <u>foodeducation@hazon.org</u> or Jewish Initiative for Animals at <u>JI4A.org</u>.