



OUR HONOR

# WELFARE CONSEQUENCES OF GESTATION CRATE CONFINEMENT



## VETERINARIANS OPPOSE THE EATS ACT

Gestation crates deny pigs the ability to engage in almost every natural behavior.

# 200

Number of times pregnant mother pigs turn around each day.

# 1980s-1990s

Free-range and group-pen systems are the historical norm. long-term confinement in gestation crates were rare until the late 1980s or early 1990s.

# 300lbs

average weight of gilts who have not given birth.

# 4

Number of pregnancies before death. Some may have as many as 14.

# 525-790lbs

Weight range of mother pigs

**PROPOSITION 12 CONDEMNS AS "CRUEL" THE ACT OF "CONFINING A BREEDING PIG WITH LESS THAN 24 SQUARE FEET OF USABLE FLOOR SPACE PER PIG." CAL. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25991(E)(3).**

# 2.0-2.3ft x 6.6-6.9ft

**AVERAGE GESTATION CRATE SIZE**

# 112 -115 days

**GESTATION LENGTH**

Mother pigs are confined to gestation crates for the duration of their pregnancy.

# 92.6%

Of gestation crate confined mother pigs exhibited stereotypies.

# 75%

Sham chewing is a stereotype that occupies 50-75% of a confined mother pig's waking hours.

Gestation crates cause physical suffering. As female pigs expand in pregnancy, crates press more and more against their bodies, causing discomfort, lesions or pressure sores, and rectal prolapse. Pigs develop urinary-tract infections because the unnatural "dog-sitting position" that crates require "helps to force (their own) fecal material into the(ir) vagina(s)."