

May 11, 2023

Supreme Court Rejects Hog Farmers' Arguments Against California's Proposition 12

The Supreme Court has ruled against the nation's hog farmers in their challenge against California's Proposition 12 (Prop 12), a measure that prohibits the sale of pork from sows confined in gestation crates. The Court determined that Prop 12 does not violate the Constitution's Commerce Clause.

The Supreme Court's opinion was not unanimous, with justices presenting their reasoning in separate opinions on the various arguments raised by the petitioners. The American Farm Bureau Federation and National Pork Producers Council sought to overturn the 9th Circuit's decision, contending that compliance with Prop 12 would impose significant costs to the pork industry.

This Supreme Court ruling has broader implications, beyond animal housing and will be of interest to the Farm Bureau membership.

Arkansas Farm Bureau is deeply disappointed by Court's decision to uphold Prop 12. The ruling will likely have a significant and adverse impact on our state's swine producers, including but not limited to increased compliance costs that will be particularly challenging for small and medium-sized producers. Additionally, the impact will reach grocery shelves, where consumers will likely pay a premium for pork products in order to address these extensive compliance regulations.



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