



**CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY OF CHICAGO**  

---

**COUNCIL CHAMBER**  
SECOND FLOOR, CITY HALL  
TELEPHONE: 312-744-6800

**Alderman Moore Seeks to Take Foie Gras Off The Menu  
of Chicago Restaurants**

(April 6, 2005) Saying the unethical treatment of animals should be completely distasteful to everyone in Chicago, Alderman Joe Moore (49<sup>th</sup>) today introduced a measure that seeks to pull foie gras off the menu of some of the city's most fashionable and trendy restaurants.

While praising Chicago's premier chef, Charlie Trotter, for his decision to stop serving the controversial delicacy at his establishments, Alderman Moore said that such voluntary efforts simply do not go far enough.

"The public needs to be informed about the cruelty that birds must undergo before consumers may feast on this dish, Alderman Moore said.

"Birds, in particular geese and ducks, are inhumanely forced fed, via a pipe inserted through their throats several times a day in order to fatten the livers," Alderman Moore said. "The process that is required to produce this so-called delicacy is totally unacceptable and I want to make this dish both unpopular and unavailable."

According to a recent Zogby poll, almost eighty-percent of Americans, when educated about foie gras, support a ban on the force-feeding of birds. The State of California has already adopted legislation banning the force-feeding of birds and the State of Illinois is considering similar action.

Under Alderman Moore's proposal, violators would face fine ranging from \$250 to \$500.

###

## ORDINANCE

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chicago is a home rule unit government pursuant to the 1970 Illinois Constitution, Article VII, Section 6 (a); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to its home rule power, the City of Chicago may exercise any power and perform any function relating to its government and affairs including protecting the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chicago is home to many famous restaurants offering the finest cuisine and dining experiences to their customers; and

**WHEREAS**, millions of people visit Chicago every year, attending cultural events and dining in our legendary restaurants; and

**WHEREAS**, recently the media has shed light on the unethical practices of the care and preparation of the livers of birds; and

**WHEREAS**, birds, in particular geese and ducks, are inhumanely force fed, via a pipe inserted through their throats several times a day, in order to produce a rare delicacy, foie gras, for restaurant patrons; and

**WHEREAS**, arguably our City's most renowned chef, Charlie Trotter, has stopped serving the delicacy, foie gras, in his restaurants; and

**WHEREAS**, similar legislation requiring the ethical treatment of birds is being introduced throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of California passed legislation prohibiting the act of force feeding birds as well as banning the sale of the product made from this inhumane treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Illinois is currently considering a similar ban of the practice of force feeding and the resulting product; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a recent Zogby poll, nearly 80 percent of Americans, when educated about foie gras, support a ban on the force feeding of birds; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of the City of Chicago and those who visit here have come to expect, and rightfully deserve, the highest quality in resources, service and fare; and

**WHEREAS**, by ensuring the ethical treatment of animals, who are the source of the food offered in our restaurants, the City of Chicago is able to continue to offer the best in dining experiences; and now, therefore,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:**

**SECTION 1.** The above recitals are expressly incorporated herein and made part hereof as though fully set forth herein.

**SECTION 2.** Chapter 7-39 of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago is hereby amended by creating new sections underscored as follows:

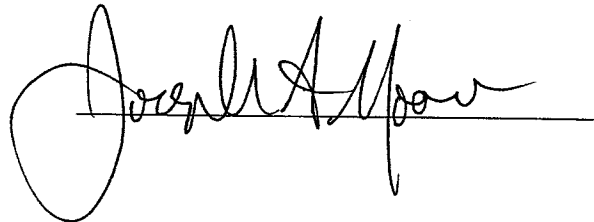
7-39-001 Food Establishments – Banned Items

All food dispensing establishments, as defined in section 4-8-010 of the Municipal Code, shall prohibit the sale of foie gras.

7-39-005 Violation – Penalty

Any business that violates any provision of this Chapter shall be fined not less than \$250 and no more than \$500 for each offense, and a separate and distinct offense shall be deemed to have been committed for each and every day on which any business shall be guilty of such violation.

**SECTION 3.** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect 90 days after its passage and publication.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph M. Moore", written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and includes a large loop at the beginning.