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8	IN THE UNITED STAT	TES DISTRICT COURT
9	FOR THE EASTERN DIS	TRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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13	THE STATE OF MISSOURI, ex rel., Chris Koster, Attorney General; THE STATE OF	2:14-CV-00341-KJM-KJN
14	NEBRASKA, ex rel. Jon Bruning, Attorney General; THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA,	NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO DISMISS FIRST AMENDED
15	ex rel. E. Scott Pruitt, Attorney General; THE STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel. Luther	COMPLAINT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL HARRIS AND SECRETARY
16	Strange, Attorney General; THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, ex	OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
17	rel. Jack Conway, Attorney General; and TERRY E. BRANSTAD, Governor of the	Date: June 6, 2014
18	State of Iowa,	Time: 10:00 a.m. Courtroom: 3, 15th Floor
19	Plaintiffs,	Judge: Hon. Kimberly J. Mueller Trial Date:
20	. V.	Action Filed: February 3, 2014
20	KAMALA D. HARRIS, solely in her official	
21	capacity as Attorney general of California; KAREN ROSS, solely in her official	
22	capacity as Secretary of the California	
	Department of Food and Agriculture,	
24	Defendants.	
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	Notice of Motion and Motion to Dism	iss First Amended Complaint (2:14-CV-00341-KJM-KJN)

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NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION

TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on June 6, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard before the Honorable Kimberly J. Mueller in Courtroom 3 of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, located at 501 "I" Street, Sacramento, California, Defendants Attorney General Kamala D. Harris, and California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross will move this Court to dismiss Plaintiffs' First Amended Complaint to Declare Invalid and Enjoin Enforcement of AB 1437 and 3 CA ADC § 1350(d)(1) ("Complaint") pursuant to Rules 12(b)(1) and 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. This motion to dismiss is made on the following grounds: (1) plaintiffs lack standing to assert this Complaint; (2) plaintiffs' claims are not justiciable; (3) plaintiffs fail to state a claim upon which relief can be granted under the Commerce and Supremacy Clauses of the United States 12 Constitution, and there is no basis for injunctive relief. 13

This motion is based on this Notice, the Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the 14 concurrently filed Request for Judicial Notice, the Declarations of Anthony S. Herrera and Susan 15 K. Smith, the papers and pleadings on file in this action, and upon such matters as may be 16 presented to the Court at the time of the hearing. 17

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Notice of Motion and Motion to Dismiss First Amended Complaint (2:14-CV-00341-KJM-KJN)

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MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

INTRODUCTION

California law prohibits the sale of eggs for human consumption in California, regardless of their origin, if they are the product of an egg-laying hen confined in violation of certain minimum animal care standards. The state had two main goals in passing this legislation and a separate regulation: protection of farm animal welfare and protection of public health and safety through the prevention of salmonella. The law is based on evidence and legislative findings that farm animals that are treated well and provided with minimum living space are healthier and safer for human consumption. Additionally, evidence and legislative findings demonstrate that reducing salmonella in egg-laying hen flocks causes a directly proportional reduction in human health risk.

In this action against Attorney General Kamala D. Harris and California Food and
Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross, plaintiffs allege that the challenged California law facially
violates the Commerce and Supremacy Clauses of the U.S. Constitution. As a threshold matter,
however, the Complaint should be dismissed because plaintiffs do not have standing to bring this
lawsuit. Furthermore, the Complaint should be dismissed because plaintiffs do not allege enough
facts in support of their constitutional claims. Rather, the Complaint is comprised of little more
than boilerplate legal conclusions that fail to satisfy fundamental pleading requirements.

As a substantive matter, the challenged California law is facially neutral, does not 18 discriminate against interstate commerce and does not regulate extraterritorially. Additionally, ·19 the state law does not expressly or implicitly conflict with federal law, which, in fact, authorizes 20 *more stringent* state laws with respect to the prevention of salmonella. Moreover, plaintiffs' 21 broad preemption claim goes far beyond the express preemption clause in the federal Egg 22 Products Inspection Act and would strike down many consistent state laws, including laws 23 regarding the condition and quality of shell eggs codified in two of the plaintiffs, Missouri and 24 Iowa. Because plaintiffs cannot demonstrate that the challenged California laws are 25 unconstitutional, they cannot state a claim upon which relief is granted. 26

Accordingly, defendants respectfully request that this Court dismiss the Complaint withprejudice.

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STATEMENT OF FACTS

A. The Provisions of AB 1437

AB 1437 provides that "Commencing January 1, 2015, a shelled egg shall not be sold or contracted for sale for human consumption in California if it is the product of an egg-laying hen that was confined on a farm or place that is not in compliance with animal care standards set forth [in Section 25990.]" Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25996 (Deering 2012)¹ ("Shell Egg Law"). Section 25990, approved by the voters in 2008, states that "a person shall not tether or confine any covered animal on a farm, for all or the majority of any day, in a manner that prevents such animal from: "(a) Lying down, standing up, and fully extending his or her limbs; and (b) turning around freely." § 25990.²

For purposes of section 25990, and hence AB 1437, "covered animal" means any pig during pregnancy, calf raised for veal, or egg-laying hen kept on a farm. § 25991(b). "Egglaying hen" means any female domesticated chicken, turkey, duck, goose, or guinea fowl kept for the purpose of egg production. § 25991(c). "Enclosure" means "any cage, crate, or other structure (including what is commonly described as . . . a 'battery-cage' for egg-laying hens) used to confine a covered animal." § 25991(d).

In addition, "fully extending his or her limbs" is defined as "in the case of egg-laying hens,
fully spreading both wings without touching the side of an enclosure or other egg-laying hens."
§ 25991(f). Finally, "turning around freely" is defined as "turning in a complete circle without
any impediment, including a tether, and without touching the side of an enclosure." § 25991(i).
Section 25990's space requirements are subject to several exceptions. § 25992 (noting
exceptions). Under both Proposition 2 and AB 1437, any person who violates the law is guilty of

a misdemeanor, and upon conviction is subject to a fine not greater than \$1,000, or imprisonment

- 24 in the county jail for 180 days or less, or both. § 25993 (Prop. 2); § 25997 (AB 1437).
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¹ Unless otherwise stated, all statutory references are to the California Health and Safety Code.

² Sections 25990 through 25994 were added to the Health and Safety Code by passage of Proposition 2 in the November 2008 general election. Enacted two years later, AB 1437 added Sections 25995 through 25997.1 to the Health and Safety Code. 2010 Cal. Legis. Serv. Ch. 51 (AB 1437) (West).

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B. Shell Egg Food Safety Regulations

The challenged Food and Agriculture regulation provides that egg producers or handlers 2 shall do the following to prevent salmonella enterica serotype enteritidis ("salmonella"): (1) 3 implement the salmonella prevention measures regarding the production, storage, and 4 transportation of shell eggs in accordance with federal law; (2) implement a salmonella 5 environmental monitoring program, including testing for salmonella in "chick papers" (papers in 6 7 which chicks are delivered); (3) implement a vaccination program for salmonella; and (4)beginning January 1, 2015, implement certain size enclosures for egg-laving hens. Cal. Code 8 Regs. tit. 3, § 1350 (2014) ("Shell Egg Regulations" and collectively with Shell Egg Law as 9 "Shell Egg Laws"). The regulation specifies how many square inches per bird are required for 10^{-10} egg-laying hens. Id. at § 1350(d). This regulation was implemented pursuant to California Food 11 and Agriculture Code section 27521(a). Id. at § 1350(a). 12

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C. First Amended Complaint

Six states—Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Alabama, Kentucky and Iowa—brought the Complaint to Declare Invalid and Enjoin Enforcement of AB 1437 and 3 CA ADC § 1350(d)(1) for violating the Commerce and Supremacy Clauses of the United States Constitution ("Compl." or Complaint; ECF #13 Document).³ Plaintiffs allege that they have standing to bring this suit as parens patriae because of their "quasi-sovereign interests in protecting [their] citizens economic health and constitutional rights as well as preserving [their] rightful status within the federal system." Compl. ¶¶ 10, 17, 23, 27, 32; *see also* ¶ 36.

Plaintiffs allege in two separate counts that the Shell Egg Laws are unconstitutional under
the Commerce Clause and preempted by section 1052(b) of the Egg Products Inspection Act
("EPIA;" 21 U.S.C. 1031 et seq.). Compl. ¶¶ 95-105.

³ Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Alabama, and Kentucky bring this action by and through their respective state attorneys general. Iowa appears by and through its Governor, Terry E. Branstad.

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ARGUMENT

I. LEGAL STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO 12(B) MOTIONS

A. Rule 12(b)(1)

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(1) allows a party to raise the defense that a court lacks jurisdiction over the subject matter of a claim for lack of standing. As with a Rule 12(b)(6) motion, courts accept as true all material allegations in the complaint, but, unlike with a Rule 12(b)(6) motion, the burden of proof on a Rule 12(b)(1) motion is on the party seeking to invoke the court's subject matter jurisdiction. *Chandler v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 598 F.3d 1115, 1121-22 (9th Cir. 2010).

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B. Rule 12(b)(6)

A motion to dismiss pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6) tests the legal
sufficiency of the complaint. "To survive a motion to dismiss, a complaint must contain
sufficient factual matter, accepted as true to 'state a claim that is plausible on its face." *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009).

The court accepts as true all material allegations in the complaint and construes the
allegations in the complaint in the light most favorable to the plaintiff. *Lazy Y Ranch Ltd. v. Behrens*, 546 F.3d 580, 588 (9th Cir. 2008). However, a court need not accept as true conclusory
allegations, unwarranted deductions of fact or unreasonable inferences. *Sprewell v. Golden State Warriors*, 266 F.3d 979, 988, *amended by* 275 F.3d 1187 (9th Cir. 2001). A complaint must offer
more than "labels and conclusions" and "a formulaic recitation of the elements of a cause of
action will not do." *Ashcroft*, 556 U.S. at 678 (internal citations omitted).

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II. PLAINTIFFS LACK STANDING TO ASSERT THIS COMPLAINT

Article III of the United States Constitution confines the power of the federal courts to deciding actual "Cases" or "Controversies." One essential aspect of this requirement is that any party invoking the power of a federal court must demonstrate standing to do so. "This requires the litigant to prove that he has suffered a concrete and particularized injury that is fairly traceable to the challenged conduct, and is likely to be redressed by a favorable judicial decision." *Hollingsworth v. Perry*, 133 S. Ct. 2652, 2661 (2013) (citing *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 504

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U.S. 555, 573-76 (1992)). The injury-in-fact requirement refers to an invasion of a legally
protected interest that is concrete, particularized, and actual or imminent. *Vermont Agency of Natural Res. v. United States ex rel. Stevens*, 529 U.S. 765, 771-72 (2000). A generalized interest
in the proper application of law shared by the population at large does not satisfy the injury-infact requirement. *Lujan*, 504 U.S. at 573-76. The "threatened injury" must be "certainly
impending." *Clapper v. Amnesty International USA*, 133 S. Ct. 1138, 1143 (2013).

7 It is "settled doctrine that a State has standing to sue only when its sovereign or quasi-8 sovereign interests are implicated and it is not merely litigating as a volunteer the personal claims 9 of its citizens." Pennsylvania v. New Jersev, 426 U.S. 660, 665 (1976) (denying Pennsylvania's 10 parens patriae suit against New Jersey as nothing more than a "collectivity of private suits against 11 New Jersey for taxes withheld from private parties"). In order to maintain a lawsuit involving 12 parens patriae, a state must do the following: (1) "articulate an interest apart from the interests of 13 particular private parties, *i.e.*, the State must be more than a nominal party" and (2) "The State 14 must express a quasi-sovereign interest." Alfred L. Snapp & Son, Inc. v. Puerto Rico Ex Rel. 15 Barez, 458 U.S. 592, 607 (1982); see also Table Bluff Reservation (Wiyot Tribe) v. Philip Morris, 16 Inc., 256 F.3d 879, 885 (9th Cir. 2001) (parens patriae standing allowed when the sovereign "alleges injury to a sufficiently substantial segment of its population," articulates an interest apart 17 18 from private parties and "expresses a quasi-sovereign interest").

19 As a threshold matter, plaintiffs fail to make even the most basic allegations necessary to 20 establish that there is an injury-in-fact. Notably, plaintiffs fail to allege whether several of the 21 states produce any eggs that are sold in California: Alabama, Nebraska, Oklahoma and 22 Kentucky. Compl. ¶¶ 18, 23, 28 and 33. Although plaintiffs make a statement that Alabama, 23 Nebraska and Kentucky are among the states whose producers' eggs account for 5.6 percent of 24 total California imports (Compl. at ¶ 55), this number includes liquid and dry eggs, commodities 25 not at issue in this lawsuit. Compl. Ex. E at p. 5. And, plaintiffs' own exhibits show that this 26 figure includes thirteen additional states not involved in this litigation. Id.

27 Three of the four states for which this allegation is missing—Alabama, Nebraska, and
28 Oklahoma—do not appear to have any egg handlers registered to sell shell eggs in California.

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See Anthony S. Herrera Declaration in Support of Defendants' Motion to Dismiss ("Herrera 1 Dec.") at ¶ 6. And it appears that Oklahoma sells *no* shell eggs in California at all. *Id* at ¶¶ 6, 12. 2 3 These states are thus asserting a claim for a hypothetical private population that does no business 4 with California or a very small amount. Id. ¶¶ 6-12. These four states have not articulated a 5 "concrete and particularized injury" much less one that is "certainly impending," and thus, have not established standing. Lujan, 504 U.S. at 573-76; Clapper, 133 S. Ct. at 1143. Furthermore, 6 7 with respect to Missouri and Iowa, there is no indication that the egg producers from those states 8 would suffer a concrete and particularized injury from the Shell Egg Laws. See generally Compl. 9 Plaintiffs speculate that some egg producers "can incur massive capital improvement costs to 10 build larger habitats for some or all of their egg-laying hens, or they can walk away from the 11 largest egg market in the country." Compl. ¶6. However, this is complete conjecture because 12 there are no allegations that egg producers in plaintiff states do not already comply with the Shell 13 Egg Laws, or *want* to comply with the Shell Egg Laws if they do not already—the only ones who 14 *could* assert these allegations are the egg producers themselves, and they are not parties to this 15 litigation. Because plaintiffs failed to meet the burden of showing an injury-in-fact, they have 16 failed, at the threshold, to demonstrate standing.

17 But even assuming plaintiffs properly alleged an injury-in-fact, which they have not, 18 plaintiffs would still need to show that they meet the doctrine of parens patriae to bring this 19 lawsuit. Plaintiffs allege that the states have standing because of the "quasi-sovereign interests in 20 protecting [their] citizens' economic health and constitutional rights as well as preserving [their] 21 own rightful status within the federal system." Compl. ¶¶ 10, 17, 22, 27, 32. Governor Branstad 22 of Iowa alleges standing for his state on the basis that "Iowa has quasi-sovereign interests in 23 regulating agricultural activity within its own borders and preserving Iowa's rightful status within 24 the federal system." Compl. ¶ 36. These allegations fail to allege a cognizable theory of parens 25 patriae standing.

First, plaintiffs allege claims that relate to private egg producers who could assert these claims on their own, if they wanted to do so. Plaintiffs have not asserted or alleged an interest apart from the private egg producers. *See generally* Compl. The complaint is silent as to any

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1 separate state interest beyond the alleged violations of federal law that could be prosecuted by 2 private egg producers or associations that represent private egg producers. The Supreme Court 3 has not specified "any definitive limits" on the segment of the population that must be adversely 4 affected, but "more must be alleged than injury to an identifiable group of individual residents." 5 Alfred L. Snapp & Son, Inc., 458 U.S. at 607. For example, as described in Pennsylvania v. New 6 Jersey, a parens patriae suit against a state may not be brought to collect "taxes withheld from 7 private parties" when those private parties could bring the suits themselves. 426 U.S. at 666 8 (noting that the "critical distinction, articulated in Art. III, § 2, of the Constitution, between suits 9 brought by 'Citizens' and those brought by 'States' would evaporate" if states were allowed to 10 bring suits to redress private grievances). Similarly, here, if egg producers selling eggs in 11 California deem the Shell Egg Laws violative of their constitutional rights, the egg producers or a 12 collection of producers could assert these claims. The states have no separate interest in asserting 13 what is essentially a private grievance.

Second, plaintiffs have not stated a "quasi-sovereign" interest. Although the Supreme Court did not give a definition of "quasi-sovereign" interest, it noted that the characteristics of such a claim fall into two categories: "First, a State has a quasi-sovereign interest in the health and well-being—both physical and economic—of its residents in general. Second, a State has a quasi-sovereign interest in not being discriminatorily denied its rightful status within the federal system." *Alfred L. Snapp & Son, Inc.*, 458 U.S. at 607.

20 Far from alleging an "injury to a sufficiently substantial segment of its population" (Table 21 Bluff Reservation, 256 F.3d at 885), plaintiffs have not articulated anything beyond a miniscule 22 general economic complaint limited to a small subset of their population. While there is no set 23 minimum for the population that has to be impacted, plaintiffs' allegations of impact on a tiny 24 subset (or no subset in the case of Oklahoma) is clearly not enough—even at the pleading stage. 25 Nor have plaintiffs made the kind of allegations showing that the private egg producers are being 26 discriminated against in such a manner as would create state standing. See Alfred L. Snapp & Son, 27 Inc., 458 U.S. at 609 (finding parens patriae standing where the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico 28 alleged employment discrimination against its citizens in violation of federal law). In Alfred L.

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Snapp & Son, Inc., Puerto Rico alleged that the named defendants discriminated against Puerto 1 Ricans in favor of foreign laborers, in violation of federal law, and that Puerto Ricans were 2 denied the benefits of access to domestic work opportunities that federal laws were designed to 3 secure for United States workers. Id. at 608. The Supreme Court held that Puerto Rico had a 4 separate state interest in "securing residents from the harmful effects of discrimination" beyond 5 6 the workers' interests. Id. at 609; see also at 605-606 (listing cases where states alleged 7 discriminatory action in parens patriae suits or stated an interest in abatement of public nuisances). 8 As described more fully below, there is no discriminatory impact or effect of the challenged 9 legislation.

The burden is on plaintiffs to demonstrate standing, but they have failed to allege an injury
to a "sufficiently substantial segment of [their] population." The general allegation of damage to
a states' economy, without more detailed allegations of harm to a substantial segment of their
population. is not enough for parens patriae standing. This complaint should be dismissed at the
outset for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

III. THE COMPLAINT MUST BE DISMISSED BECAUSE PLAINTIFFS' CLAIMS ARE NOT JUSTICIABLE

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17 A court's role is to adjudicate live "cases and controversies" consistent with the powers 18 granted to the judiciary in Article III of the Constitution. Here, plaintiffs seek a declaratory 19 judgment pursuant to the Declaratory Judgment Act, which provides that in "a case of actual 20 controversy within its jurisdiction, ... any court of the United States, upon the filing of any 21 appropriate pleading, may declare the rights and other legal relations of any interested party 22 seeking such declaration." 28 U.S.C. § 2201(a). The "actual controversy" requirement of section 23 2201 refers to the type of cases and controversies that are justiciable under Article III. 24 MedImmune, Inc. v. Genentech, Inc., 549 U.S. 118, 126-127 (2007).

In a declaratory judgment action, "[t]he mere existence of a statute, which may or may not
ever be applied to plaintiffs, is not sufficient to create a 'case or controversy' within the meaning
of Article III, and is thus insufficient to satisfy the 'actual controversy' requirement of the
Declaratory Judgment Act." Western Mining Council v. Watt, 643 F.2d 618, 627 (9th Cir.1981)

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(citations omitted). Although plaintiffs make conclusory allegations that their states' egg producers will have to "incur massive capital improvement costs to build larger habitats for some or all of their egg-laying hens, or they can walk away from the largest egg market in the country" (Compl. ¶ 6), they cannot challenge the validity of the Shell Egg Laws because they have not alleged imminent or even a likely prosecution for violating the statute. *See generally* Compl.

6 The court can thus make no reasonable inference that any of the states or their producers 7 would suffer prosecution. "[W]hile it is well-established that an individual need not await 8 prosecution under a law or regulation before challenging it, we require a genuine threat of 9 imminent prosecution and not merely an imaginary or speculative fear of prosecution." Sacks v. 10 Office of Foreign Assets Control, 466 F.3d 764, 772-73 (9th Cir. 2006) (citations and quotations 11 omitted). Here, the speculation is twice-removed because the plaintiff states are assuming that 12 their egg producers will want to sell eggs in California but will not want to comply with the 13 California law. There are no allegations supporting this speculation, and the claims are thus not 14 iusticiable.

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IV. PLAINTIFFS FAIL TO STATE A VALID CLAIM UNDER THE COMMERCE OR SUPREMACY CLAUSES

17 Plaintiffs bring a facial challenge to the Shell Egg Laws on the grounds that the laws 18 purportedly violate the Commerce and Supremacy Clauses of the United States Constitution. In 19 order to succeed on a facial challenge, Plaintiffs "must establish that no set of circumstances 20 exists under which the [regulation or statute] would be valid." United States v. Salerno, 481 U.S. 21 739, 745 (1987); see also Chemical Specialties Mfrs. Ass'n, Inc. v. Allenby, 958 F.2d 941, 943 22 (9th Cir. 1992). Plaintiffs cannot prevail by suggesting that in some future hypothetical situation 23 constitutional problems may possibly arise as to the particular *application* of the statute. Rather, 24 they must show that the statute is unconstitutional in all of its applications. See Washington State 25 Grange v. Washington State Republican Party, 552 U.S. 442, 450 (2008). Where, as here, a 26 statute has a "plainly legitimate sweep," a facial challenge must fail. Id. at 449 (citation and internal quotations omitted). Indeed, plaintiffs have failed to state any cause of action under these 27 28 clauses, let alone facts demonstrating a total and fatal conflict with their prohibitions. See id.

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Plaintiffs' Commerce Clause Claim Fails And Should Be Dismissed.

The Commerce Clause authorizes Congress to "regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States" U.S. Const. art. I, § 8, cl. 3. The Commerce Clause includes an implied limitation on the states' authority to adopt legislation that affects commerce. This implied limitation is often referred to as the negative or dormant Commerce Clause. *Healy v. Beer Inst.*, 491 U.S. 324, 326 n.1 (1989). "The modern law of what has come to be called the dormant Commerce Clause is driven by concern about economic protectionism that is, regulatory measures designed to benefit in-state economic interests by burdening out-of-state competitors." *Dept. of Rev. of Ky. V. Davis*, 553 U.S. 328, 337-338 (2008) (internal citations omitted). However, its restrictions are "by no means absolute" and "[s]tates retain authority under their general police powers to regulate matters of legitimate local concern, even though interstate commerce may be affected." *Maine v. Taylor*, 477 U.S. 131, 138 (1986) (citations and quotations omitted). "As long as a State does not needlessly obstruct interstate trade or attempt to place itself in a position of economic isolation, it retains broad regulatory authority to protect the health and safety of its citizens and the integrity of its natural resources." *Id.* at 151 (citations and quotations omitted).

Whether state legislation violates the dormant Commerce Clause is generally analyzed 17 under a two-tiered approach. Brown-Forman Distillers Corp. v. N.Y. State Liquor Auth., 476 U.S. 18 573, 578-79 (1986). A statute is essentially per se invalid if it directly regulates or discriminates 19 against interstate commerce. Id. at 579. On the other hand, when a statute is nondiscriminatory 20 and "has only indirect effects on interstate commerce and regulates evenhandedly, [the Court has] 21 examined whether the State's interest is legitimate and whether the burden on interstate 22 commerce clearly exceeds the local benefits." Id. (citing Pike v. Bruce Church, Inc., 397 U.S. 23 137, 142 (1970)). 24

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1. Plaintiffs have not alleged discrimination against interstate commerce.

For purposes of the dormant Commerce Clause, discrimination "simply means differential treatment of in-state and out-of-state economic interests that benefits the former and burdens the

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latter." Oregon Waste Systems, Inc. v. Department of Environmental Quality, 511 U.S. 93, 99 (1994). But plaintiffs have not alleged that the Shell Egg Laws discriminate in favor of in-state interests. Compl. ¶56-61 (specifying the costs to California egg producers associated with complying with the requirements of Proposition 2). At most plaintiffs allege that egg producers in California were afforded more notice to comply with the provisions of AB 1437 while acknowledging that all egg producers were given four and one half years to comply with AB 1437. Compl. ¶ 67. And there are no allegations that the Shell Egg regulations discriminate in any way as they apply to all egg producers equally. See generally Compl.

Here, the Shell Egg Laws require that all eggs sold in California meet certain standards, 10 regardless of origin. There is no distinction between eggs produced in or out of state. A statue that bans the sale of both intrastate and interstate products is not discriminatory. Ass'n des Eleveurs de Canards Et D'Oies Du Quebec v Harris., 729 F.3d 937, 948 (9th Cir. 2013); see also 12 Pacific Northwest. Venison Producers v. Smitch, 20 F.3d 1008, 1012 (9th Cir. 1994) (holding that 14 "[a]n import ban that simply effectuates a complete ban on commerce in certain items is not discriminatory, as long as the ban on commerce does not make distinctions based on the origin of 15 the items"). 16

17 Plaintiffs allege that the public health purposes of AB 1437 are pretextual and the bill's true 18 purpose was to protect California farmers from the market effects of Proposition 2. Compl. ¶ 68-75.⁴ This conclusory claim is not supported by the legislative findings or the law. First, 19 20 AB 1437 had two purposes: protection of farm animal welfare and protection of public health 21 and safety through the prevention of salmonella. §§ 25996, 25997; see also Request for Judicial 22 Notice (filed herewith) at pp. 9, 28, 30-37, 39-62 (HSUS Report), 66-98 (PEW report), 115-122, 23 255. Second, a "statute that 'treats all private companies exactly the same' does not discriminate 24 against interstate commerce." Ass'n des Eleveurs de Canards, 729 F.3d at p. 948. Regardless of 25 origin, all shell eggs (and those that produce and handle the shell eggs) are treated exactly the 26 same. Even if AB 1437 were discriminatory—it is not --the combined effect of Proposition 2 and 27 ⁴ There are no allegations regarding discriminatory impact of the Shell Egg regulations. See generally Compl.

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AB 1437 taken in total is to subject in-state and out-of-state commerce to equivalent burdens, an effect that does not violate the Commerce Clause. Id. at p. 949 (interpreting the interplay 2 3 between various state provisions and finding that there is no discrimination against out-of-state 4 commerce).

Plaintiffs have not alleged discrimination here; nor have they alleged that any burden on 5 6 them is not equivalent to any burden on California producers. In-state and out-of-state producers 7 are subjected to equivalent standards under the California law. There is no discrimination against 8 interstate commerce.

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Plaintiffs fail to allege that the Shell Egg Laws regulate interstate 2. commerce.

11 The terms of the Shell Egg laws regulate only eggs sold in California. Plaintiffs' Complaint 12 is devoid of any allegations that the Shell Egg laws regulate interstate commerce. See generally 13 Compl. Plaintiffs acknowledge that the provisions of the Shell Egg Laws impose burdens on egg 14 farmers in California (Compl. ¶ 58-59, 64-67), but fail to make the same allegations regarding 15 egg farmers *outside* of California. Rather, plaintiffs' allegations of discrimination revolve around 16 the theory that California egg farmers had more time to prepare for AB 1437 than did out of state 17 farmers. (Compl. ¶ 67.) But all egg farmers (in or out of state) were given an adequate time to 18 prepare for the law-at least four-and-one-half years. Additionally, the Shell Egg Laws regulate 19 only shell eggs sold for human consumption in California. There is no allegation, nor could there 20 be, that AB 1437 regulates other egg products, such as liquid or dry eggs, or shell eggs sold out of 21 state.

22 Moreover, a statute impermissibly regulates extraterritorial conduct in violation of the 23 Commerce Clause where it "has the undeniable effect of controlling commercial activity 24 occurring wholly outside the boundary of the State." Healy v. Beer Inst., 491 U.S. at 336 25 (invalidating a statute under the Commerce Clause because it had the practical effect of 26 controlling prices in other states) (emphasis added). Plaintiffs make no allegation, and could not 27 in good faith do so, that the Shell Egg Laws either directly, or indirectly, control commerce

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occurring wholly outside of California because the laws only control the sale of eggs *in* California.

3 Plaintiffs allege that in regulating the method of production of eggs sold in the state. California is "attempting to regulate agricultural practices beyond its own borders." Compl. ¶ 7. 4 5 But even assuming that the statute may have an effect on industries outside of California, "[t]he 6 mere fact that state action may have repercussions beyond state lines is of no judicial significance 7 so long as the action is not within that domain which the Constitution forbids." Freedom 8 Holdings Inc. v. Spitzer, 357 F.3d 205, 220-21 (2d Cir. 2004). A statute is not "invalid merely 9 because it affects in some way the flow of commerce between the States." Nat'l Ass'n of 10 Optometrists, 682 F.3d at 1148 (citation omitted). "States may not mandate compliance with 11 their preferred policies in wholly out-of-state transactions, but they are free to regulate commerce 12 and contracts within their boundaries with the goal of influencing the out-of-state choices of 13 market participants." See Rocky Mountain Farmers Union v. Corev, 730 F.3d 1070, 1103 (9th 14 Cir. 2013) (finding California "properly based its regulation on the harmful properties of fuel. It 15 does not control the production or sale of ethanol wholly outside California").

California has not "projected its regulatory regime" into other states, and other states are
free to take any action they deem appropriate with respect to the shell eggs and chickens
producing eggs in their states. *Healy*, 491 U.S. at 336-37. Much like the fuel standards at issue
in *Rocky Mountain Farmers Union v. Corey*, the Shell Egg Laws do not control the production or
sale of shell eggs wholly outside California. On its face, the Shell Egg Laws do not offend the
dormant Commerce Clause because they does not regulate commerce outside of the state.

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3. *Pike* balancing is not required here, but even if it were, the Shell Egg Laws serve a legitimate local purpose and the benefits outweigh any burden on interstate commerce.

Application of the balancing test articulated in *Pike v. Bruce Church, Inc.*, 397 U.S. at 142, is unnecessary because plaintiffs have not alleged that there is a substantial burden on interstate commerce. Application of the *Pike* test requires that a plaintiff first establish a substantial burden on interstate commerce. *See, e.g., Ass 'n des Eleveurs de Canards*, 729 F.3d at 952 (finding that state law did not substantially burden interstate commerce and thus no need to use balancing test).

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First, most statutes "that impose a substantial burden on interstate commerce do so because they are discriminatory" (Ass'n des Eleveurs de Canards, 729 F.3d at 952), but as discussed above, the Shell Egg Laws are not discriminatory. Second, "less typically, statutes impose significant burdens on interstate commerce as a consequence of 'inconsistent regulation of activities that are inherently national or require a uniform system of regulation."" Id. (citations omitted).

6 As the Ninth Circuit has also noted, a "state regulation does not become vulnerable to 7 invalidation under the dormant Commerce Clause merely because it affects interstate commerce." 8 Nat'l Ass'n of Optometrists, 682 F.3d at 1148. Rather, "[a] critical requirement for proving a 9 violation of the dormant Commerce Clause is that there must be a substantial burden on interstate commerce." Id. (emphasis in original). Burdens on commerce that result from regulations 10 11 pursuant to the state's police power to protect the public health and safety are generally not 12 regarded as significant even if they involve some loss of trade. See id. (citing Great Atl. & Pac. 13 Tea Co. v. Cottrell, 424 U.S. 366, 371 (1976)). Indeed, the Supreme Court "generally has 14 supported the rights of states to 'impose even burdensome regulations in the interest of local 15 health and safety." Id. (quoting H.P. Hood & Sons, Inc. v. Du Mond, 336 U.S. 525, 535 (1949)).⁵ Here, plaintiffs make conclusory statements about possible burdens on interstate 16 17 commerce, asserting that farmers in plaintiff states can incur massive capital improvement costs 18 to build larger habitats for some or all of their egg-laying hens or they can walk away from the 19 largest egg market in the country. Compl. ¶ 6, 88. But interstate commerce is not burdened 20 "merely because a non-discriminatory regulation precludes a preferred, more profitable method of 21 operating in a retail market." Nat'l Ass'n of Optometrists, 682 F.3d at 1154. Additionally, it 22 appears some plaintiff states do not even have egg producers selling in the largest egg market in

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⁵ The Supreme Court has noted that many cases that have "purported to apply the undue burden test (including *Pike* itself) arguably turned in whole or in part on the discriminatory character of the challenged state regulations." *General Motors Corp. v. Tracy*, 519 U.S. 278, 299 n.12 (1997). As the Ninth Circuit has noted, "Because the purpose of the Commerce Clause is to 25 protect the nation against economic Balkanization, legitimate regulations that have none of these 26 effects [of discriminating against or regulating interstate commerce] arguably are not subject to invalidation under the Commerce Clause." Pacific Northwest Venison Producers, 20 F.3d at 1015 (internal citations omitted).

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the country, California, nor is there any indication they seek to sell in California. See Complaint $\P\P$ 11-41. Moreover, it is speculative to assume what Missouri and Iowa egg farmers would choose to do—if they do not already comply with the California law. Compl. \P 88. Certainly, plaintiffs did not allege in definitive terms that there would be a substantial burden on interstate commerce—if there would be any burden at all.

For all these reasons, plaintiffs' have not met the "heavy burden" to demonstrate that the Shell Egg Laws facially violate the Commerce Clause and this claim should be dismissed.

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Plaintiffs Preemption Claim Fails and Should Be Dismissed.

9 Federal law may preempt state law in one of two ways. Congress may either explicitly 10 state its intent to preempt state law in the direct language of a statute, or Congress may imply its 11 unstated intent to preempt through the structure and purpose of a statute. California v. ARC 12 America Corp., 490 U.S. 93, 100 (1989); Jones v. Rath Packing Co., 430 U.S. 519, 525 (1977). 13 Express preemption occurs when Congress states in explicit terms its intent to preempt state law. *Id.* Implicit preemption can itself take two forms: field preemption or conflict preemption. That 14 15 is, Congress may either occupy a field by passing a statutory scheme so extensive that it covers an 16 entire legislative field, or Congress may enact a federal law which makes compliance with state 17 law impossible. Fidelity Federal Sav. & Loan Ass'n v. de la Cuesta, 458 U.S. 141, 153 (1982); 18 Hillman v. Maretta, 133 S. Ct. 1943, 1950 (2013) ("conflict" preemption is when "compliance 19 with both federal and state regulations is impossible'... or when the state law 'stands as an 20 obstacle to the accomplishment and execution of the full purposes and objectives of Congress."").⁶ 21

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1. There is a strong presumption against preemption

Preemption analysis "starts with the assumption that the historic police powers of the States
[are] not to be superseded by [a] Federal Act unless that [is] the clear and manifest purpose of
Congress." *California v. ARC America Corp.*, 490 U.S. at 101 (quoting *Rice v. Santa Fe Elevator Corp.*, 331 U.S. 218, 230 (1947)). Only if Congress intended to preempt state law will

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 6 Plaintiffs have not and cannot allege a conflict preemption theory. Compl. $\P\P$ 102-105.

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compliance with state law be excused. See Retail Clerks Int'l Ass'n v. Schermerhorn, 375 U.S. 96, 103 (1963) ("The purpose of Congress is the ultimate touchstone.").

There is a strong presumption against preemption. See, e.g., Cipollone v. Liggett Group, Inc., 505 U.S. 504, 518 (1992). This is particularly true where the state law concerns traditional areas that come within the police power, such as health and safety laws. Wyeth v. Levine, 555 U.S. 555, 565 (2009) ("In all pre-emption cases and particularly in those in which Congress has 'legislated . . . in a field which the States have traditionally occupied,' . . . we 'start with the assumption that the historic powers of the States were not to be superseded by the Federal Act 9 unless that was the clear and manifest purpose of Congress") (citations omitted); see also Altria 10 Group, Inc. v. Good, 555 U.S. 70, 77 (2008) (presumption applies in express preemption case); see also Florida Lime & Avocado Growers, Inc. v. Paul, 373 U.S. 132, 144 (1963) (food safety deemed "a matter of peculiarly local concern"); United States v. Stevens, 559 U.S. 460, 469 (2010) 12 (states have a long history of regulating animal cruelty). 13

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The Shell Egg Laws are not expressly preempted by federal law 2.

15 Here, there is no express preemption of the Shell Egg Laws. Plaintiffs allege that the EPIA 16 preempts the challenged state Shell Egg Laws. 21 U.S.C. § 1031 et seq.; Compl. ¶¶ 76-81, 103. But plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause claim, like their Commerce Clause claim, is based largely on 17 18 legal conclusions and does not satisfy the pleading burden. See Iqbal, 556 U.S. at 680-81 19 (citations omitted). Plaintiffs assert that AB 1437's welfare standards are "in addition to or different from the official federal standards" in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 1052(b). Compl. ¶¶ 81, 20 21 103. Plaintiffs seem to assume that the scope of the EPIA preemption clause encompasses the 22 state law and regulation at issue here, but the Shell Egg Laws are not within the scope of the 23 preemption clause in 21 U.S.C. § 1052(b), and are in fact, specifically provided for by federal law.

24 The Federal Drug Administration has jurisdiction over the safety of foods generally, 25 including shell eggs. See 21 U.S.C. § 301, et seq. (Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act 26 ("FFDCA")). FDA also has the authority to prevent the spread of communicable diseases under 27 the Public Health Service Act, including salmonella in shell eggs. See 42 U.S.C. § 201 et seq; see 28 also 63 Fed. Reg. 27502 at 27508. The USDA and FDA share authority under the EPIA. See 21 16

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U.S.C. § 1034; see also 21 U.S.C. §1052(b). The preemption clause at issue here⁷ states:

[N]o State or local jurisdiction may require the use of standards of quality, condition, weight, quantity, or grade which are in addition to or different from the official Federal standards. . . . However, any State or local jurisdiction may exercise jurisdiction with respect to eggs and egg products for the purpose of preventing the distribution for human food purposes of any such articles which are outside of such a plant and are in violation of any of said Federal Acts or any State or local law consistent therewith. Otherwise the provisions of this chapter shall not invalidate any law or other provisions of any State or other jurisdiction in the absence of a conflict with this chapter.

7 21 U.S.C. § 1052(b). Plaintiffs' sole allegations regarding preemption focus on the phrase, "no 8 State or local jurisdiction may require the use of standards of quality, condition, weight, quantity, 9 or grade which are in addition to or different from the official Federal standards" and plaintiffs allege that California law violates this provision. Compl. ¶ 79, 80-81. However, contrary to 10 plaintiffs' interpretation, "official standards" is defined as the "standards of quality, grades, and 11 12 weight classes for eggs . . . under the Agricultural Marketing Act." 21 U.S.C. § 1033(r); see also 7 C.F.R. § 57.1 (definition of "official standards" is same and available from Poultry Programs, 13 AMS); 7 C.F.R. § 56.1 ("official standards" defined as the official U.S. standards, grades, and 14 15 weight classes for shell eggs maintained by and available from Poultry Programs, AMS). 16 Pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Act, *voluntary* standards were codified to grade certain 17 characteristics of shell eggs—standards, grades and weight classes. (United States Standards, Grades, and Weight Classes for Shell Eggs; found at www.ams.usda.gov (July 20, 2000) (noting 18 19 differences for grades of eggs such as "AA" grade or "B" grade.)

Contrary to plaintiffs' conclusory allegations, the Shell Egg Regulations at issue here do not
regulate the "standards of quality, condition, weight, quantity, or grade." Rather, the Shell Egg
Regulations specify that in accordance with California Food and Agricultural Code section
27521(a) and 21 C.F.R. § 118.3, egg producers or handlers are to implement certain salmonella
prevention measures laws. Cal. Code Regs., tit. 3, § 1350. The prevention measures include

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⁷ Plaintiffs did not allege that section 1052(a) of the EPIA preempts state law, nor could they. Section 1052(a) applies to the premises, facilities, and operation of any "official plant" and official plant is defined to only include "a place of business where egg products are processed."
27 21 U.S.C. §§ 1033(v), 1052(a). "Egg product" is defined to include "dried, frozen or liquid eggs" and does not include shell eggs. 21 U.S.C. § 1033(f) and (g).

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enclosure size specifications, as well as a vaccination program and testing for salmonella in the "chick papers" (papers in which chicks are delivered). Id. None of these state regulations conflict with the EPIA provisions, or the "official standards" set out by the AMA-nor do plaintiffs allege that they do. See generally Compl.

Similarly, the California Shell Egg Law is not expressly preempted by federal law. The state law specifies that "it is the intent of the Legislature to protect California consumers from the 7 deleterious, health, safety, and welfare effects of the sale and consumption of eggs derived from egg-laying hens that re exposed to significant stress and may result in increased exposure to disease pathogens, including salmonella" by enforcing the specified animal welfare care 10 standards. \S 25995(e); see also \S 25996, 25990, 25991(c). The statute regulates the point of sale of shell eggs in California. § 25996. Nothing in this statute is inconsistent with the "standards of quality, condition, weight, quantity, or grade" of shell eggs specified by federal law—nor have plaintiffs pointed to any inconsistency. See Compl. ¶¶ 76-81. Plaintiffs 14 misconstrue the phrase "standards of quality, condition, weight, quantity, or grade" to completely encompass the general USDA definitions of "quality" as "the inherent properties of any product 16 which determines its relative degree of excellence" and "condition" as "any characteristic 17 affecting a product's merchantability including, but not being limited to, the following: The state 18 of preservation, cleanliness, soundness, wholesomeness, or fitness for human food of any product; 19 or the processing, handling, or packaging which affects such product." Compl. ¶ 80 (citing 7 20 C.F.R. § 57.1). However, there is no support for this reading of the phrase, which ignores the 21 statutory definition of "official standards" and ignores EPIA's authorization of consistent state 22 laws.

The preemption clause at issue here—section 1052(b)—provides a floor, not a ceiling for 23 24 shell egg regulation and specifically allows additional regulation by the states that is *consistent* 25 with federal law. Ignoring this explicit authorization for states to enact consistent laws would 26 render many state laws preempted, including laws in plaintiffs Iowa and Missouri. See Mo. Ann. 27 Stat. § 196.321 (2014) (standards and grades of eggs to be fixed by director provided that the 28 quality, standards grades "shall not be lower than those established by the United States

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Department of Agriculture"); Iowa Code §§ 196 *et seq.* (providing for the quality and storage of shell eggs and conduct of egg handlers; violation is punishable by misdemeanor); Iowa Admin Code 481-36.1(196) at 36.12 (provides "no person known to be affected by a communicable or infectious disease shall be permitted to come in contact with [shell eggs]" and "personnel engaged in egg handling operations shall maintain a high degree of personal cleanliness and shall conform to good hygienic practices during working periods").

7 Additionally, a stated purpose of the challenged California laws is to reduce salmonella. a 8 goal that is authorized by federal regulations, and not preempted, as long as the state laws 9 established are not "less stringent than those required by [21 C.F.R. § 118]." 21 C.F.R. § 118.12(d); see also 74 Fed. Reg. 33030, 33091 (FDA regulations do not preempt state and local 10 laws, regulations that establish "more stringent requirements with respect to prevention of 11 12 [salmonella] in shell eggs during production, storage, or transportation"). Federal regulations 13 promulgated by the FDA specifically authorize salmonella prevention measures in the production, 14 storage and transportation of shell eggs, and in doing so, the FDA specifies that states have a role 15 to play as long as the states do not implement less stringent regulations. 21 C.F.R. § 118. 16 Plaintiffs' allegations do not assert that the regulations and state statute challenged here provide 17 *less* stringent requirements than federal law. In fact, plaintiffs do not state a claim with respect to 18 the salmonella prevention regulations specified in federal law because federal law not only does 19 not preempt state law here, it asks for state compliance and authorizes state laws that would 20 require additional and more stringent salmonella prevention measures.

Thus, plaintiffs have failed to allege an express preemption claim because the California
laws at issue do not address the federal standards of "quality, condition, weight, quantity, or
grade" as alleged in the complaint. Rather, the California laws focus is on public safety
(salmonella prevention) and animal welfare—areas of law expressly not preempted by federal law.

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3. The Shell Egg Laws are not implicitly preempted by federal law

With respect to field preemption, plaintiffs' conclusory allegations state that "Congress
evidenced its intention to occupy the entire field of regulations governing the quality and
conditions of eggs by imposing uniform national standards." Compl. ¶ 104. This is wrong as a

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	matter of law, as described above. There is no evid	ence (or allegations from plaintiffs) that			
	Congress intended to preempt the entire field of she	ell egg production, handling and transportation.			
	As pointed out above, federal law authorizes state laws that are consistent with federal laws				
	regarding the "quality, condition, weight, quantity, or grade" of shell eggs. Moreover, several				
	federal regulations specifically authorize state laws that are more stringent than federal laws and				
	regulations in the prevention of salmonella with res	pect to shell eggs. Neither the EPIA or the			
	regulations promulgated by the FDA with respect to	o salmonella prevention in shell eggs are "so			
	pervasive as to make reasonable the inference that (Congress left no room for the States to			
	supplement [them]." Rice, 331, U.S. at p. 230; see	also Fidelity Federal Sav. & Loan Ass 'n, 458			
	U.S. at 153. To the contrary, federal laws and regu	lations contemplate consistent state laws and			
	regulations that are more strict than federal law – pr	recisely what the California law does. There is			
	no implicit preemption and the plaintiffs' claim for preemption should be dismissed.				
	CONCLUSION				
	For the foregoing reasons, defendants respectfully request that the Court dismiss the First				
	Amended Complaint in its entirety without leave to	amend.			
	· ·				
	Dated: April 9, 2014	Respectfully submitted,			
		KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California			
		MARK R. BECKINGTON Supervising Deputy Attorney General			
		/s/ Susan K. Smith			
		SUSAN K. SMITH Deputy Attorney General			
		Attorneys for Attorney General Kamala D. Harris and California Department of Food and Agriculture			
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Case Name: State of Missouri, ex rel., et al., v. Kamala D. Harris, et al.

No. 2:14-CV-00341-KJM-KJN

I hereby certify that on <u>April 9, 2014</u>, I electronically filed the following documents with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system:

NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO DISMISS FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL HARRIS AND SECRETARY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

I certify that **all** participants in the case are registered CM/ECF users and that service will be accomplished by the CM/ECF system.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on April 9, 2014, at Los Angeles, California.

Angela Artiga Declarant /s/ Angela Artiga Signature

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