

**ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT PERTAINING TO PROPOSED
SECTION 34: THE KEEPING OF HENS WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE
CITY OF NEW HAVEN**

TITLE VI, VOLUME III OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES
ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO
TITLE VI,
VOLUME III, NEW HAVEN ZONING ORDINANCE, OF THE CODE OF
ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS: The City of New Haven desires to encourage healthy eating habits, and

WHEREAS: The City has an interest in encouraging residents to take steps toward living an environmentally sustainable lifestyle, and

WHEREAS: Properly kept hens produce eggs of higher quality than many commercial products while also reducing the waste stream by recycling kitchen scraps and naturally reducing pests

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the keeping of hens, within the boundaries of the City of New Haven be permitted and regulated as follows:

Section 34 Keeping of Hens

(a) *Statement of purpose.* This regulation is intended to make provision for the limited keeping of female chickens, henceforth referred to as hens, on certain residential properties for the health, convenience and personal enjoyment benefits afforded by such use, in a manner which preserves the quality of life of the surrounding neighborhood.

(b) No more than six (6) hens may be kept on any property located in the following Residence zoning districts as a non-commercial accessory use:

RM-2
RS-1
RS-2
RM-1

(c) Such use shall be confined to an enclosure of no more than 200 square feet in area,

located in a rear yard and at least 25 feet from any street line.

(d)Any portion of the enclosure located closer than ten feet to a property boundary shall be screened by either a fence or a landscaped buffer of at least four (4) feet in height.

(e)Any structure in or covered portion of an enclosure used for this purpose shall be located at least 10 feet from any lot line. All such structures shall be constructed and all food products kept so as to prevent offensive odors and the presence of pests and predators.

(f)No hens may be kept inside any structure used for residential purposes

(g)Notwithstanding the above requirements, hens may be kept on model farms and parklands for educational purposes under the ownership of a non- profit or public entity recognized by the City.

Amend Section 12 (b)(1)c to add:

c. Agriculture, including tilling of the soil and orchards but excluding the keeping of livestock and commercial greenhouses and nurseries **except for the keeping of hens per Section 34 of this Ordinance.** No substance producing odor or dust shall be stored within 200 feet of any lot line unless completely enclosed