

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007
4

As Engrossed: H3/5/07 H3/14/07

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1761

5 By: Representatives Ragland, M. Martin, Norton, George, R. Green, King, Pyle, *Burris*
6 By: *Senator Whitaker*
7
8

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF ANIMAL PRODUCERS;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12 THE FREEDOM-TO-FARM ACT.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 2, Chapter 1 is amended to add an
20 additional subchapter to read as follows:

21 2-1-301. Goals of the Freedom-to-Farm Act.

22 The General Assembly:

23 (1) Recognizes the contributions that animal production by
24 hobbyists, commercial producers, and home food providers have made to this
25 state;

26 (2) Encourages animal production, since they are a major part of
27 the culture, customs, and economy of this state;

28 (3) Recognizes that protecting the right of production and sale
29 of animals is integral to ensuring the economic growth and general welfare of
30 this state;

31 (4) Recognizes that economic concerns and excessive regulation
32 have caused many Arkansas families to abandon the production of animals; and

33 (5) Desires, through the Freedom-to-Farm Act, to encourage and
34 protect home food production, direct farm-to-consumer sales, hobby
35 production, off-farm commercial sales, and businesses that serve animal
36 producers.



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2 2-1-302. Definitions.

3 (1) "Animal" means any living creature except a human or an
4 insect other than a honeybee;

5 (2) "Electronic identification device" means any insertable or
6 attachable apparatus that can emit frequencies that can be read by a
7 frequency reader or scanner;

8 (3) "Premise" means a location at which an animal is grown,
9 held, or sold.

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11 2-1-303. Exemption from registration and permitting.

12 Unless a law or rule to the contrary was in effect before January 1,
13 2007, for an animal producer to participate in any activity on or off the
14 animal producers' premise, including without limitation the transfer of
15 property, a state, county, or city agency shall not require that the animal
16 producer:

17 (1) Register the animal producers' premise;

18 (2) Have a premises identification; or

19 (3) Use electronic identification devices on or in animals.

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21 2-1-304. Voluntary compliance.

22 Nothing in this subchapter shall prohibit or restrict an animal
23 producer from voluntarily complying with a program conducted by a public
24 agency that may require premise registration, animal identification, or both.

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26 /s/ Ragland, et al
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