

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 339

4  
5 By: Senator Caldwell  
6 By: Representative Hawk

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING WORKING ANIMAL  
10 PROTECTION; TO PROVIDE FOR WORKING ANIMAL PROTECTION  
11 IN COUNTIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING WORKING ANIMAL  
16 PROTECTION; AND TO PROVIDE FOR WORKING  
17 ANIMAL PROTECTION IN COUNTIES.

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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-54-1105(d), concerning ordinances  
23 enacted by a municipality regarding animal care, public health, or public  
24 safety, is amended to read as follows:

25 (d) This section does not prohibit a municipality from establishing or  
26 altering an ordinance regarding animal care, public health, ~~or~~ public safety,  
27 or the sale of dogs and cats.

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29 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 14, Chapter 16, Subchapter 1, is  
30 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

31 14-16-119. Working animal protection – Definition.

32 (a)(1) As used in this section, “working animal” means a nonhuman  
33 animal used for the purpose of performing a specific duty or function in  
34 commerce or animal enterprise, including without limitation human service,  
35 transportation, education, competition, or exhibition.

36 (2) As used in this section, “working animal” does not mean



1 poultry, swine, dairy cows, beef cattle, sheep, goats, or other similar  
2 nonperformance production enterprise.

3 (b)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the  
4 right to utilize a working animal for the benefit and welfare of the working  
5 animal or the individual the working animal serves is guaranteed.

6 (2) A county shall not enact an ordinance that terminates, bans,  
7 effectively bans, or creates an undue hardship relating to the job or use of  
8 a working animal or animal enterprise in commerce, service, legal hunting,  
9 agriculture, husbandry, transportation, ranching, entertainment, education,  
10 or exhibition.

11 (c) This section does not alter state laws or rules that regulate  
12 animal care, public health, or public safety, including without limitation §  
13 5-62-101 et seq. and § 14-54-103.

14 (d) This section does not prohibit a county from establishing or  
15 altering an ordinance regarding animal care, public health, public safety, or  
16 the sale of dogs and cats.

17 (e) This section supersedes a county ordinance, resolution, or rule  
18 that conflicts with this section but does not supersede a county zoning  
19 ordinance under § 14-17-201 et seq.

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