



HOUSE BILL 553: Ordinances Regulating Animals

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Agriculture	Date:	April 21, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. McGrady, Whitmire, Langdon, Dixon	Prepared by:	Layla Cummings
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H553-CSTS-3		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) for House Bill 553 would limit the authority of cities and counties to enact ordinances regulating standards of care for farm animals.*

CURRENT LAW: The General Statutes authorize cities and counties to, by ordinance to:

- Define, regulate, prohibit, or abate acts, omissions, or conditions detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of its citizens and the peace and dignity of the county; and may define and abate nuisances.
- Define and prohibit the abuse of animals.
- Regulate, restrict, or prohibit the possession or harboring within the city of animals which are dangerous to persons or property.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS would limit the authority of cities and counties to enact ordinances regulating standards of care for farm animals. Under the PCS, “farm animals” include the following domesticated animals: cattle, oxen, bison, sheep, swine, goats, horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, hinnies, llamas, alpacas, lagomorphs, ratites, and poultry; and “standards of care for farm animals” includes the construction, repair, or improvement of farm animal shelter or housing, restrictions on the type of feed or medicines that may be administered to farm animals, and exercise and social interaction requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective when it becomes law.

O. Walker Reagan
Director



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