

HOUSE BILL 247
By West

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 14, Part 2, relative to the use of animals traditionally or commonly kept as pets or companions for certain purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 14, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 39-14-2__.

(a) It is an offense for a person to knowingly possess, import into this state, sell, buy, give away, or accept any carcass or part of any carcass of any animal traditionally or commonly kept as a pet or companion with the sole intent of using or having another person use any part of that carcass for food.

(b) It is an offense for a person to knowingly possess, import into this state, sell, buy, give away, or accept any animal traditionally or commonly kept as a pet or companion with the sole intent of killing or having another person kill that animal for the purpose of using or having another person use any part of the animal for food.

(c) This section shall not be construed to interfere with the production, marketing, or disposal of any livestock, poultry, fish, shell fish, or any other agricultural commodity produced in this state. Nor shall this section be construed

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to interfere with the lawful killing of wildlife, or the lawful killing of any other animal under the laws of this state pertaining to game animals.

(d) A violation of this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997, the public welfare requiring it.