

SENATE BILL 1914
By Burks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 14, Part 2, relative to animals and certain offenses involving animals.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-210, is amended by deleting from subsection (c) the language "or otherwise".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-210, is further amended by deleting subsections (a) and (d) in their entirety and relettering accordingly:

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-201, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

() "Livestock" means all equine as well as animals which are being raised primarily for use as food or fiber for human utilization or consumption including, but not limited to, cattle, sheep, swine, goats, and poultry;

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 14, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section____. No entry onto the property of another, arrest, interference with usual and customary agricultural or veterinary practices, confiscation, or any other action authorized by this part or any other provision of law shall be taken in response to an allegation that this part has been violated with regard to livestock unless, prior to or at the same time as such action, the livestock in question is examined by the county

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agricultural extension agent of such county or a graduate from an accredited college of agriculture with a specialty in livestock. If the extension agent or livestock specialist does not have probable cause to believe that a violation of this part has occurred with regard to such livestock, no action against the owner of such livestock described above shall be taken.

SECTION 5 Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-202(e)(2), is amended by deleting the subpart in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(2) It is an offense for a person other than a law enforcement officer acting with probable cause to knowingly interfere with the performance of any such agricultural practices permitted by subdivision (e)(1).

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997, the public welfare requiring it.