



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 8719



Offered by:

REP. GRESKO, 121st Dist.
REP. CALLAHAN, 108th Dist.
SEN. LOPES, 6th Dist.
SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6726

File No. 274

Cal. No. 183

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF LIVESTOCK AND CERTAIN RABBIT PROCESSING FACILITIES."

1 Strike lines 69 to 73, inclusive, in their entirety and insert the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "(8) "Owner-shipper statement" means a document that meets the
4 requirements of 9 CFR 86.1, and that is signed by the owner or shipper
5 of the livestock and contains a statement certifying that the animals are
6 being transported for purposes stipulated on such form in accordance
7 with Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations;"

8 In line 202, strike "Brucellosis" and insert "Tuberculosis" in lieu
9 thereof

10 In line 427, strike "Every two years thereafter, each"

11 Strike lines 428 and 429 in their entirety and insert the following in

12 lieu thereof:

13 "Thereafter, each registered milk producing herd shall be
14 surveillance tested for tuberculosis and brucellosis by the department at
15 a frequency to be determined by the state veterinarian."

16 Strike section 27 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

17 "Sec. 27. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) The Commissioner of
18 Agriculture shall be the state official in charge of inspecting any
19 producer and any producer that also operates as a rabbit processing
20 facility. Any inspection conducted pursuant to this section by the
21 commissioner, or the commissioner's designated agent, shall be
22 consistent with the requirements of any applicable provision of the
23 Code of Federal Regulations, including, but not limited to, any health,
24 sanitary and safety-related provision. Rabbit processing facilities that
25 have passed Department of Agriculture facility inspections pursuant to
26 this section shall be designated as approved food sources for household
27 consumers, restaurants, hotels, boarding houses and retail food
28 establishments. For purposes of this section, "producer" means any
29 person, firm or corporation engaged in the breeding, raising or keeping
30 of not more than six hundred rabbits in a calendar year for the purpose
31 of food production.

32 (b) Not later than January 1, 2025, the Department of Agriculture shall
33 submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
34 general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General
35 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment on
36 the implementation of the provisions of subsection (a) of this section."

37 In line 849, after "animals" insert "which are not cosigned for
38 immediate slaughter,"

39 In line 852, after "commissioner" insert "or, alternatively, such dairy
40 or breeding animals shall be examined by a licensed accredited
41 veterinarian who shall issue an interstate health certificate for such
42 animal at the expense of the licensee"

43 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
44 internal references accordingly:

45 "Sec. 501. Subsection (c) of section 22-342 of the general statutes, as
46 amended by section 3 of senate bill 1069 of the current session, as
47 amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A", is repealed and the
48 following substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

49 (c) The commissioner, the Chief Animal Control Officer or any state
50 animal control officer may at any time inspect any kennel including all
51 facilities of any kennel in which dogs are bred or housed or cause it to
52 be inspected by a Connecticut licensed veterinarian appointed by the
53 commissioner. If, in the judgment of the commissioner, such kennel is
54 not being maintained in good repair and in a sanitary and humane
55 manner or if the commissioner finds that communicable or infectious
56 disease or other unsatisfactory conditions exist in the kennel, he may
57 issue such orders as he deems necessary for the correction of such
58 conditions and may quarantine the premises and animals. If the owner
59 or keeper of such kennel fails to comply with such orders, the
60 commissioner shall revoke or suspend the kennel license of such owner
61 or keeper. [Each] On or after July 1, 2023, each such kennel [shall] may
62 be inspected annually by an animal control officer appointed pursuant
63 to section 22-331 or 22-331a with jurisdiction in the municipality in
64 which such kennel is located, or upon receipt of any complaint about
65 such kennel. Such inspection shall include an evaluation of: (1) The
66 sanitary conditions in which the dogs are kept, (2) the dogs' access to
67 proper and wholesome food, potable water, exercise and veterinary care
68 when necessary, including rabies vaccinations, and (3) records of
69 veterinary care and records of the transfer of dogs or puppies to new
70 owners. Any crate or other enclosure in which any dog is kept for more
71 than four hours shall be clean and in good repair, such that the crate or
72 enclosure does not pose a hazard to the dog, and shall be of sufficient
73 size as to allow the dogs to stand, sit, lie down, turn around and make
74 normal postural movements. If any animal control officer finds
75 conditions exist in such kennel that may adversely affect the health,
76 safety or welfare of any dog, such animal control officer may issue such

77 orders as are necessary for the correction of such conditions. If such
78 animal control officer suspects a communicable or infectious disease is
79 present, such officer may order the licensee to consult a Connecticut
80 licensed veterinarian at such licensee's expense to address the suspected
81 health condition. The licensee shall implement any order of the animal
82 control officer to correct any condition that may adversely affect the
83 health, safety or welfare of any such dog, and shall follow any
84 recommendation of such veterinarian, as applicable. A municipality
85 may suspend, revoke or refuse to issue any local kennel license under
86 this section for cause.

87 Sec. 502. Subsection (b) of section 22-357 of the general statutes is
88 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
89 *passage*):

90 (b) If any dog or livestock does any damage to either the body or
91 property of any person, the owner or keeper, or, if the owner or keeper
92 is a minor, the parent or guardian of such minor, shall be liable for the
93 amount of such damage, except when such damage has been occasioned
94 to the body or property of a person who, at the time such damage was
95 sustained, was committing a trespass or other tort, or was teasing,
96 tormenting or abusing such dog or livestock. If a minor, on whose behalf
97 an action under this section is brought, was under seven years of age at
98 the time such damage was done, it shall be presumed that such minor
99 was not committing a trespass or other tort, or teasing, tormenting or
100 abusing such dog or livestock, and the burden of proof thereof shall be
101 upon the defendant in such action. In an action under this section
102 against a household member of a law enforcement officer to whom has
103 been assigned a dog owned by a law enforcement agency of the state,
104 any political subdivision of the state or the federal government for
105 damage done by such dog, it shall be presumed that such household
106 member is not a keeper of such dog and the burden of proof shall be
107 upon the plaintiff to establish that such household member was a keeper
108 of such dog and had exclusive control of such dog at the time such
109 damage was sustained.

110 Sec. 503. Section 22-364 of the general statutes is repealed and the
111 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

112 (a) No owner or keeper of any dog or livestock shall allow such dog
113 or livestock to roam at large upon the land of another and not under
114 control of the owner or keeper or the agent of the owner or keeper, nor
115 allow such dog or livestock to roam at large on any portion of any public
116 highway and not attended or under control of such owner or keeper or
117 [his] an agent of such owner or keeper, provided nothing in this
118 subsection shall be construed to limit or prohibit the use of hunting dogs
119 during the open hunting or training season. The unauthorized presence
120 of any dog or livestock on the land of any person other than the owner
121 or keeper of such dog or livestock or on any portion of a public highway
122 when such dog or livestock is not attended by or under the control of
123 such owner or keeper, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of the
124 provisions of this subsection. Violation of any provision of this
125 subsection shall be an infraction.

126 (b) Any owner or keeper of any dog who, knowing of the vicious
127 propensities of such dog and having violated the provisions of
128 subsection (a) of this section within the preceding year, intentionally or
129 recklessly violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall
130 be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more
131 than six months, or both, if such dog, while roaming at large, causes
132 physical injury to another person and such other person was not teasing,
133 tormenting or abusing such dog.

134 (c) Any owner or keeper of any livestock who has violated subsection
135 (a) of this section two or more times within any six-month period and
136 who has not made a concerted effort or attempt to confine such livestock
137 to the property of such owner or keeper shall be guilty of a class D
138 misdemeanor.

139 Sec. 504. Section 22-364a of the general statutes is repealed and the
140 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

141 (a) Any person who intentionally or recklessly releases a domestic

142 animal that enters upon the real property of another person and causes
143 damage to such real property in an amount in excess of one hundred
144 dollars shall have committed an infraction.

145 (b) Any person who intentionally or recklessly releases any livestock
146 that enters upon the real property of another person and causes damage
147 to such real property in an amount in excess of two hundred fifty dollars
148 shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 27	October 1, 2023	New section
Sec. 501	from passage	22-342(c)
Sec. 502	from passage	22-357(b)
Sec. 503	from passage	22-364
Sec. 504	from passage	22-364a