
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 196

AN ACT CONCERNING THE HARVESTING OF RABBITS FOR THE LOCAL FOOD SUPPLY.

SUMMARY

This bill generally imposes inspection standards on rabbit processing facilities and deems certain inspected facilities as approved food sources for human consumption.

Specifically, the bill makes the agriculture commissioner the state official in charge of inspecting rabbit producers and processing facilities. It defines a “producer” as a farmer who breeds, raises, or keeps up to 1,000 rabbits in a year for food production purposes. The bill requires that inspections done by the commissioner or his designated agent be consistent with federal health, sanitation, and safety regulations. It also designates a rabbit processing facility that passes inspection as an approved food source for household consumers, restaurants, hotels, boarding houses, and retail food establishments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2024

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 15 (03/20/2024)