

House Bill 1317

By: Representatives Sims of the 167th, Boggs of the 168th, Stokes of the 92nd and Snow of the 2nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 11 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to animal
2 protection, so as to provide for definitions; to provide that it shall be unlawful for any person
3 to load, unload, or transport any nonambulatory livestock that has not been humanely
4 euthanized except under certain conditions and for certain purposes; to require humane
5 handling and humane euthanization of certain nonambulatory livestock; to provide for
6 penalties; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 11 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to animal
10 protection, is amended by adding at the end thereof a new Article 3 to read as follows:

11 "ARTICLE 3

12 4-11-50.

13 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

14 (1) 'Humanely euthanize' means to kill an animal by firearm, captive bolt gun, or
15 chemical means that immediately renders the animal unconscious with this state
16 continuing until the animal's death.

17 (2) 'Humanely handled' means that a nonambulatory animal shall be moved only on a
18 sled, sling, stoneboat, or other sled-like or wheeled conveyance which provides full body,
19 head, and limb support and, in no event shall a nonambulatory animal be dragged, pushed
20 with a tractor, forklift, or other equipment or otherwise moved in a way that could cause
21 pain or injury.

22 (3) 'Livestock' means cattle, swine, sheep, goats, farm raised deer, farm raised buffalo,
23 or ratites.

24 (4) 'Nonambulatory' means unable to stand or walk without assistance.

1 (5) 'Person' means any individual, partnership, firm, joint stock company, corporation,
2 association, trust, estate, or other legal entity. The knowledge and actions of persons
3 employed by, or agents acting on behalf of, individuals, corporations, or principals shall
4 be imputed to such individuals, corporations, or principals.

5 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to load, unload, or transport any nonambulatory
6 livestock that has not been humanely euthanized except for the purpose of transporting the
7 livestock to a veterinary clinic or to the owner's facility to provide necessary treatment to
8 render the livestock ambulatory, so long as the livestock is humanely handled.

9 (c) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed as prohibiting a person from giving,
10 selling, or transferring any dead livestock to a renderer or other entity as permissible under
11 the law.

12 (d) Any person violating subsection (b) of this Code section shall be guilty of a
13 misdemeanor."

14 **SECTION 2.**

15 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.