

Senate Bill 183

By: Senators Harp of the 16th, Bulloch of the 11th, Hudgens of the 47th and Gillis of the 20th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 1 of Article 1 of Chapter 4 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to control of infectious or contagious  
3 diseases in livestock, so as to change certain provisions relating to notices and reporting  
4 required for certain diseases; to prohibit knowingly introducing into this state certain animal  
5 diseases, syndromes, chemicals, poisons, or toxins; to require reports of certain diseases,  
6 syndromes, conditions, or acts related thereto; to provide punishments for certain violations;  
7 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Part 1 of Article 1 of Chapter 4 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating  
11 to general provisions relative to control of infectious or contagious diseases in livestock, is  
12 amended by striking Code Section 4-4-6, relating to notice and reporting required for certain  
13 diseases, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

14 "4-4-6.

15 (a) Any person who knowingly introduces into this state any foreign animal disease or any  
16 animal disease, syndrome, chemical, poison, or toxin that may pose a substantial threat of  
17 harm to the animal industries in this state shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and  
18 aggravated nature.

19 (b)(1) Any person who makes a clinical diagnosis or laboratory confirmation of or who  
20 reasonably suspects the presence or occurrence of any of the following diseases,  
21 syndromes, or conditions in animals shall report the same immediately to the state  
22 veterinarian or the United States Department of Agriculture area veterinarian in charge:

23 (A) African Horse Sickness;

24 (B) African Swine Fever;

25 (C) Avian Influenza;

26 (D) Classical Swine Fever (Hog Cholera);

- 1 (E) Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (*Mycoplasma mycoides mycoides*);  
 2 (F) Contagious Ecthyma (Soremouth);  
 3 (G) Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD, any type);  
 4 (H) Heartwater (*Cowdria ruminantium*);  
 5 (I) Lumpy Skin Disease;  
 6 (J) Newcastle Disease (Exotic);  
 7 (K) Nipah Virus;  
 8 (L) Peste des Petits Ruminants;  
 9 (M) Plague (*Yersinia pestis*);  
 10 (N) Rift Valley Fever;  
 11 (O) Rinderpest;  
 12 (P) Screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*, *C. bezziana*);  
 13 (Q) Sheep Pox and Goat Pox;  
 14 (R) Swine Vesicular Disease;  
 15 (S) Vesicular or Ulcerative Conditions;  
 16 (T) Vesicular Exanthema; or  
 17 (U) Vesicular Stomatitis (VS, any type).

18 (2) Any person who reasonably suspects the presence or occurrence of any vesicular  
 19 diseases, mucosal diseases, or abortion storms of unknown etiology in livestock;  
 20 undiagnosed bovine central nervous system conditions; unusual number of acute deaths  
 21 in livestock; unusual myiasis or acarasis (flies, mites, ticks, etc.) in animals; or any  
 22 apparently highly infectious or contagious animal condition of unknown etiology shall  
 23 report the same immediately to the state veterinarian or the United States Department of  
 24 Agriculture area veterinarian in charge.

25 (3) Any person who makes a laboratory confirmation of any of the following diseases,  
 26 syndromes, or conditions in animals shall report the same within 24 hours or by the close  
 27 of the next business day, whichever last occurs, to the state veterinarian or the United  
 28 States Department of Agriculture area veterinarian in charge:

- 29 (A) Aflatoxins;  
 30 (B) Akabane Virus Disease;  
 31 (C) Anthrax (*Bacillus anthracis*);  
 32 (D) Aujeszky's Disease (Pseudorabies);  
 33 (E) Avian Chlamydiosis (Psittacosis and Ornithosis, *Chlamydia psittaci*);  
 34 (F) Avian Infectious Encephalomyelitis;  
 35 (G) Avian Paramyxovirus Infection;  
 36 (H) Babesiosis (in livestock, any species);  
 37 (I) Bluetongue;

- 1 (J) Borna Disease;  
 2 (K) Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy;  
 3 (L) Brucellosis (*Brucella. abortus, B. ovis, B. suis B. mellitensis*);  
 4 (M) Camel Pox Virus;  
 5 (N) Caseous Lymphadenitis (*Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis*);  
 6 (O) Chronic Wasting Disease;  
 7 (P) *Clostridium perfringens* Epsilon Toxin;  
 8 (Q) Coccidioidomycosis (*Coccidioides immitis*);  
 9 (R) Contagious Agalactia (*Mycoplasma agalactiae, M. capricolum capricolum, M.*  
 10 *putrefaciens, M. mycoides mycoides, M. mycoides mycoides LC*);  
 11 (S) Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (*Mycoplasma capricolum capripneumoniae*);  
 12 (T) Contagious Equine Metritis (*Taylorella equigenitalis*);  
 13 (U) Dourine (*Trypanosoma equiperdum*);  
 14 (V) Enterovirus Encephalomyelitis (porcine);  
 15 (W) Ephemeral Fever;  
 16 (X) Epizootic Lymphangitis (*Histoplasma farciminosum*);  
 17 (Y) Equine Encephalomyelitis (Eastern, Western, Venezuelan, West Nile Virus);  
 18 (Z) Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA);  
 19 (AA) Equine Morbillivirus (Hendra virus);  
 20 (BB) Equine Piroplasmosis (Babesiosis, *Babesia (Piroplasma) equi, B. caballi*);  
 21 (CC) Equine Rhinopneumonitis (Type 1 and 4);  
 22 (DD) Equine Viral Arteritis;  
 23 (EE) Feline Spongiform Encephalopathy;  
 24 (FF) Glanders (*Burkholderia [Pseudomonas] mallei*);  
 25 (GG) Hemorrhagic Septicemia (*Pasteurella multocida*);  
 26 (HH) Japanese Encephalitis Virus;  
 27 (II) Ibaraki;  
 28 (JJ) Infectious Laryngotracheitis (other than vaccine induced);  
 29 (KK) Infectious Petechial Fever (*Ehrlichia ondiri*);  
 30 (LL) Louping Ill (Ovine encephalomyelitis);  
 31 (MM) Maedi-Visna/Ovine Progressive Pneumonia;  
 32 (NN) Malignant Catarrhal Fever (Bovine Malignant Catarrh) (AHV-1, OHV-2);  
 33 (OO) Mange (in livestock)(*Sarcoptes scabiei* var *bovis* and *ovis, Psoroptes ovis,*  
 34 *Chorioptes bovis, Psorergates bos* and *ovis*);  
 35 (PP) Menangle virus;  
 36 (QQ) Melioidosis (*Burkholderia [Pseudomonas] pseudomallei*);  
 37 (RR) Nairobi Sheep Disease;

- 1 (SS) Paratuberculosis (*Mycobacterium avium paratuberculosis*);  
 2 (TT) Perkinsosis (*Perkinsus marinus* and *P. olseni*);  
 3 (UU) Pullorum Disease (*Salmonella pullorum*);  
 4 (VV) Q Fever (*Coxiella burnetti*);  
 5 (WW) Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease (Calicivirus disease);  
 6 (XX) Rabies;  
 7 (YY) Ricin Toxicosis (toxin from *Ricinus communis*);  
 8 (ZZ) Salmonella enteritidis;  
 9 (AAA) Salmonellosis in equine (*Salmonella typhimurium*, *S. agona*, *S. anatum*, etc.);  
 10 (BBB) Scrapie;  
 11 (CCC) Shigatoxin;  
 12 (DDD) Staphylococcal Enterotoxins;  
 13 (EEE) Sweating Sickness;  
 14 (FFF) T-2 Toxin;  
 15 (GGG) Theileriosis (*Theileria annulata*, *T. parva*);  
 16 (HHH) Transmissible Mink Encephalopathy;  
 17 (III) Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (all types);  
 18 (JJJ) Trypanosomiasis (*Trypanosoma congolense*, *T. vivax*, *T. brucei brucei*, *T. evansi*);  
 19 (KKK) Tuberculosis (*Mycobacterium bovis*, *M. tuberculosis*);  
 20 (LLL) Tularemia (*Francisella tularensis*);  
 21 (MMM) Ulcerative Lymphangitis (*Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis*); or  
 22 (NNN) Wesselsbron Disease.
- 23 (4) Any person who makes clinical diagnosis or laboratory confirmation of Botulism  
 24 (*Clostridium botulinum* toxin) in animals shall report the same immediately to the state  
 25 veterinarian or the United States Department of Agriculture Area veterinarian in charge.  
 26 (5) Any person, including without limitation any veterinarian or veterinary diagnostic  
 27 laboratory or practice personnel, person associated with any livestock farm, ranch, sales  
 28 establishment, transportation, or slaughter facility, as well as any person associated with  
 29 a facility licensed under Chapter 10 of this title, the 'Bird Dealers Licensing Act,' or under  
 30 Article 1 of Chapter 11 of this title, the 'Animal Protection Act,' who shall fail to report  
 31 any disease, syndrome, or condition specified in this subsection as required by this  
 32 subsection shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.
- 33 (c) The Commissioner is authorized to declare certain other animal diseases and  
 34 syndromes to be diseases requiring notice and to require the reporting thereof to the  
 35 department in a manner and at such times as may be prescribed by the Commissioner. The  
 36 department shall require that such data be supplied as is deemed necessary and appropriate

1 for the prevention and control of certain diseases and syndromes as are determined by the  
2 Commissioner.

3 (d) Any person who reasonably suspects the intentional use of any chemical or nuclear  
4 agent, microorganism, virus, infectious substance, or any component thereof, whether  
5 naturally occurring or bioengineered, to cause death, illness, disease, or other biological  
6 malfunction in an animal shall report such suspicion immediately to the state veterinarian  
7 or the United States Department of Agriculture area veterinarian in charge.

8 (e) All such reports and data submitted to the state veterinarian or the department pursuant  
9 to this Code section shall be deemed confidential and shall not be open to inspection by the  
10 public; provided, however, that the Commissioner may release such reports and data in  
11 statistical form, for valid research purposes, and for other purposes as deemed appropriate  
12 by the Commissioner.

13 ~~(b)~~(f) Any person, including, but not limited to, any veterinarian or veterinary diagnostic  
14 laboratory and or practice personnel and any person associated with any livestock farm,  
15 ranch, sales establishment, transportation, or slaughter facility, as well as any person  
16 associated with a facility licensed under Chapter 10 of this title, the 'Bird Dealers Licensing  
17 Act,' or under Article 1 of Chapter 11 of this title, the 'Animal Protection Act,' submitting  
18 reports or data in good faith to the department in compliance with this Code section shall  
19 not be liable for any civil damages therefor.

20 ~~(c) Any person violating any provision of this Code section shall be guilty of a~~  
21 ~~misdemeanor."~~

## 22 SECTION 2.

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