

Senate Bill 183

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

AS PASSED SENATE

**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) Babesiosis (in livestock, any species);
 35 (G) Bluetongue;
 36 (H) Borna Disease;
 37 (I) Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy;

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

1 (SS) Pullorum Disease (*Salmonella pullorum*);

2 (TT) Q Fever (*Coxiella burnetti*);

3 (UU) Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease (Calicivirus disease);

4 (VV) Rabies;

5 (WW) Ricin Toxicosis (toxin from *Ricinus communis*);

6 (XX) Salmonella enteritidis;

7 (YY) Salmonellosis in equine (*Salmonella typhimurium*, *S. agona*, *S. anatum*, etc.);

8 (ZZ) Scrapie;

9 (AAA) Shigatoxin;

10 (BBB) Staphylococcal Enterotoxins;

11 (CCC) Sweating Sickness;

12 (DDD) T-2 Toxin;

13 (EEE) Theileriosis (*Theileria annulata*, *T. parva*);

14 (FFF) Transmissible Mink Encephalopathy;

15 (GGG) Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (all types);

16 (HHH) Trypanosomiasis (*Trypanosoma congolense*, *T. vivax*, *T. brucei brucei*, *T.*
17 *evansi*);

18 (III) Tuberculosis (*Mycobacterium. bovis*, *M. tuberculosis*);

19 (JJJ) Tularemia (*Francisella tularensis*);

20 (KKK) Ulcerative Lymphangitis (*Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis*); or

21 (LLL) Wesselsbron Disease.

22 (4) Any person who makes clinical diagnosis or laboratory confirmation of Botulism
23 (*Clostridium botulinum* toxin) in animals shall report the same immediately to the state
24 veterinarian or the United States Department of Agriculture Area veterinarian in charge.

25 (5) Any person, including without limitation any veterinarian or veterinary diagnostic
26 laboratory or practice personnel, person associated with any livestock farm, ranch, sales
27 establishment, transportation, or slaughter facility, as well as any person associated with
28 a facility licensed under Chapter 10 of this title, the 'Bird Dealers Licensing Act,' or under
29 Article 1 of Chapter 11 of this title, the 'Animal Protection Act,' who shall fail to report
30 any disease, syndrome, or condition specified in this subsection as required by this
31 subsection shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

32 (c) The Commissioner is authorized to declare certain other animal diseases and
33 syndromes to be diseases requiring notice and to require the reporting thereof to the
34 department in a manner and at such times as may be prescribed by the Commissioner. The
35 department shall require that such data be supplied as is deemed necessary and appropriate
36 for the prevention and control of certain diseases and syndromes as are determined by the
37 Commissioner.

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

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

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

18 ~~(c)~~(g) Any person violating any provision of this Code section shall be guilty of a
 19 misdemeanor who knowingly and willingly makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent report
 20 in any matter within the jurisdiction of the state veterinarian or the department under this
 21 Code section shall be subject to the provisions of Code Section 16-10-20."

22 SECTION 2.

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