

House Bill 780

By: Representatives Quick of the 117th, Ramsey of the 72nd, Williams of the 119th, Ballinger of the 23rd, Rogers of the 10th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 27-5-5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wild
2 animals for which a license or permit is required, so as to exempt the African pygmy
3 hedgehog from wild animal license and permit requirements if certain conditions are met;
4 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 27-5-5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wild animals for
8 which a license or permit is required, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (b)
9 as follows:

10 "(1) Class Mammalia:

11 (A) Order Marsupialia — All species other than those listed in subparagraph (a)(1)(A)
12 of this Code section; except that *Petaurus breviceps* (sugar glider) may be sold,
13 purchased, exhibited, or held as a pet without a license or permit if the owner thereof
14 possesses valid documentation that the animal originated from a source inspected and
15 regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture;

16 (B) Order ~~Insectivora~~ Eulipotyphla (shrews, moles, hedgehogs, etc.) — All species,
17 except that an African pygmy hedgehog (*Atelerix albiventris*) may be sold, purchased,
18 exhibited, or held as a pet without a license or permit; provided, however, that such
19 hedgehog owner shall provide valid documentation that the hedgehog was sexually
20 neutered prior to two months of age and is vaccinated against rabies with a properly
21 administered vaccine approved for use on hedgehogs by the United States Department
22 of Agriculture;

23 (C) Order Dermoptera (flying lemurs) — All species;

24 (D) Order Chiroptera (bats) — All species;

25 (E) Order Primates (monkeys, apes, etc.) — All species except Family Hominidae;

26 (F) Order Edentata (sloths, armadillos, etc.) — All species;

- 27 (G) Order Pholidota (pangolins or scaly anteaters) — All species;
- 28 (H) Order Lagomorpha (rabbits, hares, etc.) — All species except Genus *Oryctolagus*;
- 29 or any other normally domesticated species;
- 30 (I) Order Rodentia (rats, mice, etc.) — All species except Genus *Cavia*; Genus
- 31 *Gerbillus*; Genus *Mesocricetus*; *Mus musculus*; *Rattus rattus*; *Rattus norvegicus*; or
- 32 any other normally domesticated species;
- 33 (J) Order Cetacea (whales, dolphins, etc.) — All species;
- 34 (K) Order Carnivora (weasels, ferrets, cats, bears, wolves, etc.) — All species, except
- 35 that a European ferret (*Mustela putorius furo*) may be sold, purchased, exhibited, or
- 36 held as a pet without a license or permit; provided, however, that the ferret owner can
- 37 provide valid documentation that the ferret was sexually neutered prior to seven months
- 38 of age and is vaccinated against rabies with a properly administered vaccine approved
- 39 for use on ferrets by the United States Department of Agriculture;
- 40 (L) Order Tubulidentata (aardvark) — All species;
- 41 (M) Order Proboscidea (elephants) — All species;
- 42 (N) Order Hyracoidea (conies) — All species;
- 43 (O) Order Sirenia (manatees, dugong) — All species;
- 44 (P) Order Perissodactyla (odd-toed ungulates) — All species;
- 45 (Q) Order Artiodactyla (even-toed ungulates) — All species except *Bison bison*
- 46 (buffalo), *Bubalus bubalis* (water buffalo), and *Llama guanicoe*, *L. glama*, and *L. pacos*
- 47 (llamas);”

48 **SECTION 2.**

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