

House Bill 273

By: Representatives Quick of the 117<sup>th</sup>, Ramsey of the 72<sup>nd</sup>, Williams of the 119<sup>th</sup>, Ballinger of the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Brockway of the 102<sup>nd</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

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

"(1) Class Mammalia:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## SECTION 2.

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