

Senate proposal of amendment

H. 877.

An act relating to miscellaneous agricultural subjects

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill by striking out Sec. 10, effective date, and its reader assistance heading in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof reader assistance headings and six new sections to be Secs. 10–15 to read as follows:

* * * Animals at Large * * *

Sec. 10. 24 V.S.A. § 2291 is amended to read:

§ 2291. ENUMERATION OF POWERS

For the purpose of promoting the public health, safety, welfare, and convenience, a town, city, or incorporated village shall have the following powers:

* * *

(21) To regulate, by means of a civil ordinance adopted pursuant to chapter 59 of this title, subject to the limitations of 13 V.S.A. § 351b and the requirement of 13 V.S.A. § 354(a), and consistent with the rules adopted by the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, pursuant to 13 V.S.A. § 352b(a), the welfare of animals in the municipality. Such ordinance may be enforced by humane officers as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 351, if authorized to do so by the municipality.

* * *

(30) To regulate by means of an ordinance adopted pursuant to chapter 59 of this title regarding the control of livestock running at large. As used in this subdivision:

(A) “Livestock” has the same meaning as in 6 V.S.A. § 761.

(B) “Livestock running at large” means any livestock found or being on any public land or public way, or land belonging to a person other than the owner of the livestock, without the landowner’s permission.

(C) “Public way” has the same meaning as in section 2501a of this title.

Sec. 11. 20 V.S.A. chapter 191, subchapter 1 is amended to read:

Subchapter 1. General Provisions

§ 3341. CATTLE, HORSES, SHEEP, GOATS, OR SWINE

A person who knowingly permits cattle, horses, sheep, goats, or swine to run at large in a public highway or yard belonging to a public building without

the consent of the selectboard shall be fined by a law enforcement officer or by a municipal officer or employee not more than ~~\$10.00~~ \$100.00 nor less than ~~\$3.00~~ \$50.00 for each animal running at large.

§ 3342. PUBLIC PARK, COMMON, OR GREEN

A person who permits cattle, horses, sheep, goats, or swine to run at large in a public park, common, or green without the consent of the selectboard shall be fined by a law enforcement officer or by a municipal officer or employee not more than ~~\$25.00~~ \$100.00 nor less than ~~\$5.00~~ \$50.00 for each animal running at large.

§ 3343. YARD OF ~~TOWNHOUSE~~ MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CHURCH, OR SCHOOLHOUSE

A person who turns cattle, horses, sheep, goats, or swine into a yard ~~belonging to a townhouse~~ of a municipal building, church, or schoolhouse, which is properly enclosed, or knowingly permits them to run in such a yard, shall be fined by a law enforcement officer or by a municipal officer or employee not more than ~~\$10.00~~ \$100.00 nor less than ~~\$3.00~~ \$50.00 for each animal running at large.

§ 3344. BURIAL GROUND

A person who knowingly turns cattle, horses, sheep, goats, or swine into a properly enclosed burial ground, or who knowingly permits them to run within a properly enclosed burial ground, shall be fined ~~\$25.00~~ by a law enforcement officer or by a municipal officer or employee not more than \$100.00 nor less than \$50.00 for each animal running at large.

§ 3345. LAND OR PREMISES OF ANOTHER

A person who knowingly permits ~~his or her~~ the person's cattle, horses, sheep, goats, swine, or domestic fowls to go upon the lands or premises of another, after the latter has given the owner notice thereof, shall be fined by a law enforcement officer or by a municipal officer or employee not more than ~~\$10.00~~ \$100.00 nor less than ~~\$2.00~~ \$50.00 for each animal running at large. Such person shall also be liable for the damages suffered, which may be recovered in a civil action.

§ 3346. BULLS

The owner or keeper of a bull may be fined by a law enforcement officer or by a municipal officer or employee not more than \$100.00 nor less than \$50.00 if such bull is more than nine months old and found unattended outside the premises owned or occupied by the owner or keeper of such bull and shall be liable to a party damaged by such bull while outside the premises of such owner or keeper. The damages may be recovered in a civil action.

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Sec. 12. [Deleted.]

* * * Hemp; Cannabis Regulation * * *

Sec. 13. 6 V.S.A. § 562(4) is amended to read:

(4)(A) “Hemp products” or “hemp-infused products” means all products with the federally defined tetrahydrocannabinol concentration level for hemp derived from, or made by, processing hemp plants or plant parts, which are prepared in a form available for commercial sale, including cosmetics, personal care products, food intended for animal or human consumption, cloth, cordage, fiber, fuel, paint, paper, construction materials, plastics, and any product containing one or more hemp-derived cannabinoids, such as cannabidiol.

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (A) of this subdivision (4), “hemp products” and “hemp-infused products” do not include any substance, manufacturing intermediary, or product that:

(i) is prohibited or deemed a regulated cannabis product by administrative rule of the Cannabis Control Board; or

(ii) contains more than 0.3 percent total tetrahydrocannabinol on a dry-weight basis.

(C) A hemp-derived product or substance that is excluded from the definition of “hemp products” or “hemp-infused products” pursuant to subdivision (B) of this subdivision (4) shall be considered a cannabis product as defined by 7 V.S.A. § 831(3); provided, however, that a person duly licensed or registered by the Cannabis Control Board lawfully may possess such products in conformity with the person’s license or hemp processor registration.

Sec. 14. 20 V.S.A. § 2730(b) is amended to read:

(b) The term “public building” does not include:

* * *

(5) A building that is used in the outdoor cultivation of cannabis by a person licensed pursuant to 7 V.S.A. chapter 33 in accordance with such chapter and related rules with fewer than the equivalent of 10 full-time employees who are not family members and who do not work more than 26 weeks a year.

* * * Effective Date * * *

Sec. 15. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.