

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8699

To amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to develop an enforcement mechanism with respect to certain provisions relating to the transport of animals, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2024

Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. SCHIFF) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to develop an enforcement mechanism with respect to certain provisions relating to the transport of animals, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Humane Transport
5 of Farmed Animals Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TRANSPORT OF ANIMALS.**

2 Section 80502 of title 49, United States Code, is
3 amended—

4 (1) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
5 section (f); and

6 (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(d) ENFORCEMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
9 the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary of
10 Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of Agri-
11 culture, shall develop a mechanism for conducting inves-
12 tigations or inspections, including the inspection of any
13 vehicle or vessel transporting animals or any written or
14 electronic records associated with such transport of ani-
15 mals, to determine whether any rail carrier, express car-
16 rier, or common carrier, a receiver, trustee, or lessee of
17 one of such carriers, or an owner or master of a vessel
18 transporting animals has violated or is violating this sec-
19 tion.

20 “(e) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.—To carry out sub-
21 section (d), the Secretary of Transportation and the Sec-
22 retary of Agriculture may promulgate such rules and regu-
23 lations, and issue such orders or guidance, as are nec-
24 essary.”.

1 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF CER-**
2 **TAIN ANIMALS.**

3 Section 10406 of the Animal Health Protection Act
4 (7 U.S.C. 8305) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “The Secretary may prohibit”
6 and inserting the following:

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may prohibit”;
8 and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(b) PROHIBITION.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—No person shall move in
12 interstate commerce livestock that are unfit to trav-
13 el.

14 “(2) UNFIT DEFINED.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of para-
16 graph (1), the term ‘unfit to travel’ means, with
17 respect to the movement of livestock, that such
18 livestock are deemed unfit to travel pursuant to
19 Article 7.3.7(3), Chapter 7.3 of the World
20 Organisation for Animal Health’s Terrestrial
21 Animal Health Code, including successive
22 changes.

23 “(B) INCLUSIONS.—Such term includes
24 livestock that—

25 “(i) are sick, injured, weak, disabled,
26 or fatigued;

1 “(ii) are unable to stand unaided or
2 bear weight on each leg;

3 “(iii) are blind in both eyes;

4 “(iv) cannot be moved without causing
5 additional suffering;

6 “(v) are newborn with a navel that
7 has not been fully healed;

8 “(vi) are pregnant and that would be
9 in the final 10 percent of their gestation
10 period at the planned time of unloading;

11 “(vii) have given birth within the pre-
12 vious 48 hours and are traveling without
13 their offspring; or

14 “(viii) have a body condition that
15 would result in poor welfare because of the
16 expected climatic conditions.

17 “(3) EXCEPTION.—Nothing in this subsection
18 shall be construed to limit the movement in inter-
19 state commerce of any livestock for purposes of pro-
20 viding veterinary care to such livestock.”.

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