



MISSOURI ALLIANCE FOR ANIMAL LEGISLATION
E-NEWS - May 21, 2013

HJR 11 - RIGHT TO FARM LEGISLATION
CHRONICLE

Introduced

HJR 11 mandates that the state could not enact laws that place an undue economic burden on livestock owners, and regulations must be based on generally scientific principles, and laws affecting livestock (including dogs and cats) could only be enacted by the General Assembly. This would have repealed the state's prohibition on cockfighting and could have led to the repeal of the Canine Cruelty Prevention Act.

House Committee

Amended and combined with HJR 7. New language preserved the current law against cockfighting but still threaten the Canine Cruelty Prevention Act.

House Floor

HJR 11 was amended to protect all *current* laws on animals including the Canine Cruelty Prevention Act. An amendment was voted down that would have preserved future ballot initiatives on dogs and cats and companion animals.

Senate Committee

Language was added to protect the local control of factory farms.

Senate Floor

Numerous senators engaged in a filibuster against HJR 11. Senator Sifton proposes an amendment to exclude dogs and cats. Senator LeVota immediately requests a roll call vote on Senator Sifton's amendment in an effort to embarrass those senators that would vote against the welfare of dogs. The sponsor of HJR 11 calls for a recess to avoid a roll call vote on dogs. During recess, a compromise is reached whereby the sponsor agrees to protect future ballot initiatives on all animals. Upon conclusion of recess, Senator Lamping introduces the agreed upon amendment to protect the right to conduct ballot initiatives. This amendment passes.

Conference Committee

HJR 11 is sent to a Conference Committee since the Senate version of the bill is now different than the House version. The Committee accepts the amendment protecting ballot initiatives but removes the provision protecting local control that was added in the Senate Committee.

Senate Floor

HJR 11 returns to the Senate floor with protection for ballot initiatives but no protection for local control of factory farms. Some senators, who previously opposed HJR 11, are satisfied now that future ballot initiatives are protected. Senator Justus, however, continues to oppose HJR 11 because protection for local control is removed. Senator Justus engages other senators in an effort to talk down the bill. The sponsor subsequently meets with Senator Justus and together they work out language to ensure the local control of factory farms. Since this language was not approved by the Conference Committee it is sent back to them for approval.

Conference Committee

The Committee approves of the right for counties and local municipalities to regulate factory farms but tweaks the local control language. It is then sent back to the House and Senate for their approval.

Senate Floor

A handful of senators talk against HJR 11, as they believe there is no need for such legislation, but no attempts are made to filibuster it and it eventually passes 28-6.

House Floor

Passes overwhelmingly in the House and now goes to the voters for their approval in 2014.

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